



MERCER
COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

COURSE OUTLINE

Course Number	Course Title	Credits
PHO 251	DOCUMENTARY PHOTOGRAPHY	3
Hours:	Co- or Pre-requisite	Implementation Semester & Year
Lecture/Lab/Other 1/4/0	PHO 103 OR PHO 203 with a minimum C grade	SPRING 2022

Catalog description:

Emphasizes techniques and strategies for long- and short-term location assignment shooting. Students are afforded digital lab time and opportunities to gain practical experience covering news and events for The College Voice and to work with journalism students. A photographic/video essay is developed throughout the semester.

General Education Category:

Not GenEd

Course coordinator:

Michael Chovan-Dalton, 609-570-3835, daltonm@mccc.edu

Required texts & Other materials:

Free Online Video Tutorials from Various Sources / External Hard Drive

Wait until the first class meeting before purchasing supplies.

Course Student Learning Outcomes (SLO):

Upon successful completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Utilize the video and audio capabilities of a modern digital camera and microphone (ILG 4; PLO 1)
2. Explain privacy vs. public concerns when recording (ILG 1; PLO 3)
3. Demonstrate editing and sequencing of still and moving images, and audio tracks (ILG 4; PLO 2, 4)
4. Evaluate how well a sequence communicates a concept (ILG 11, PLO 4)
5. Create, Criticize and Defend Documentary piece in a group setting (ILG 11, PLO 5, 6)
6. Understand and evaluate advantages and differences for an LLC and private business (ILG 11)

Course-specific Institutional Learning Goals (ILG):

Institutional Learning Goal 1. Written and Oral Communication in English. Students will communicate effectively in both speech and writing.

Institutional Learning Goal 4. Technology. Students will use computer systems or other appropriate forms of technology to achieve educational and personal goals.

Institutional Learning Goal 11. Critical Thinking: Students will use critical thinking skills understand, analyze, or apply information or solve problems.

Program Learning Outcomes for Photography (PLO)

1. Demonstrate proficiency with photographic capture devices;
2. Process, manipulate, and print images in photographic labs;
3. Identify and explain the significant events in art history as well as contemporary practices;
4. Integrate different techniques and approaches to photography and digital imaging;
5. Analyze and evaluate images in the context of group critiques;
6. Create a portfolio for education transfer.

Units of study in detail – Unit Student Learning Outcomes:

Unit I [The Hardware and Software] [Supports Course SLO # 1, 3]

Learning Objectives

The student will be able to:

- Identify and utilize the optimal video settings on a DSLR for the subject matter
- Utilize Video editing software for proper sequencing and storytelling
- Identify and utilize the proper microphones for the subject matter

Unit II [The Business] [Supports Course SLOs # 2, 6]

Learning Objectives

The student will be able to:

- Identify when a model release is necessary or appropriate
- Identify public versus private spaces when photographing
- Describe common misperceptions of fair use rules
- Demonstrate uploading images for copyright protection to copyright.gov
- Identify how to start and the differences and benefits between an LLC and a private business

Unit III [The Documentary] [Supports Course SLOs # 1-5]

Learning Objectives

The student will be able to...

- Research for a long term photographic/Video project
- Negotiate for the rights to photograph people and places
- Edit photographs for informational and aesthetic value
- Collaborate with fellow students on final project

Evaluation of student learning:

50% – Assignments/Quizzes

Photo assignments require that you integrate many of the skills and techniques demonstrated in class. The assignment will reinforce technical concepts and require you to investigate what you want to photograph and how you want to treat the subject matter. You will be graded on both technical and creative aspects of your work. Quizzes will test your comprehension of assigned readings and lectures.

50% – Final Presentation

Your final documentary presentation will be assessed for its technical quality, image quality, and storytelling quality.