PHOTOSTORYTELLING
JMC:3630

Fall 2016
Adler W332
M 5:30–9:05pm

Instructor
Kevin Ripka
Office: W341
Office Hours: TuTh 11am–12:30pm & by appointment
Phone: 319.335.3431 kevin-ripka@uiowa.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION
The purpose of this course is to initiate students into the medium of still photography and provide the necessary skills to conceive and execute photographic projects. Besides covering basic photographic techniques, the course is intended to expand students' understanding of photography as a means of visual communication. This is an intensive course that challenges all participants, including those who might have previous photographic experience. Weekly critiques include discussion of student work as well as analysis of the work of contemporary photojournalism documentary and editorial photographers. Students are expected to complete weekly shooting assignments, examine the work of numerous photographers, and produce an extensive final project of their choosing. Grades are based on weekly assignments, the final project, and class participation.

OBJECTIVES AND GOALS OF THE COURSE

• Understand the technical aspects of photography and a digital workflow
• Gain skills in composition, emotional impact, and critique of photography

SJMC LEARNING OBJECTIVES
The School of Journalism and Mass Communication is committed to your academic and professional success. In line with this commitment, we have identified particular learning outcomes that every student should obtain by the time they earn a JMC degree. You can find more information about these learning outcomes here: http://clas.uiowa.edu/sjmc/undergraduate-programs/sjmc-assessment-plan. We regularly assess the curriculum to determine whether students are achieving these outcomes.

This course contributes to these learning outcomes by helping you achieve proficiency in understanding and applying the principles and laws of freedom of speech and press in real space and cyberspace. The following outcomes are this course's learning objectives:

Law and Ethics Learning Goal
Students will demonstrate knowledge of the main areas of media law, including libel, invasion of privacy, obscenity, commercial speech, intellectual property, and the freedom of the press.

Media Literacy Learning Goal
Students will learn how to create and disseminate media messages in various forms.

Writing and Storytelling Learning Goal
Students will demonstrate the ability to gather factual story elements, and to evaluate and express them in logical, narrative forms for multiple media and audiences.

Multiculturalism Learning Goal
Students will demonstrate sensitivity to and understanding of the cultures, histories, perspectives, and socio-economic and political situations of diverse groups.

Media History Learning Goal
Students will demonstrate knowledge of technological innovations in print and electronic communication and their impact on media publishing industries for mass audiences, showing an awareness of their distinct political, social, and economic contexts and uses.
TEXTS
Carroll, Henry. Read This If You Want To Take Great Photographs. Laurence King Publishing, 2014.

Carroll, Henry. Read This If You Want To Take Great Photographs Of People. Laurence King Publishing, 2015.

NOTE: You will use the lynda.com website often during this class. You can log in with your UIOWA ID. Look for the institutional login at the bottom of the login page.

NECESSARY EQUIPMENT & MATERIALS

PHOTOGRAPHY EQUIPMENT*
DSLR Camera
Zoom lens (wide to telephoto) OR wide, normal, and telephoto lenses
SD Card(s) - minimum 16GB
Backup Storage - 1TB recommended
Cords to connect camera (USB) or memory card reader

OTHER MATERIALS
Mounting/Poster Board (for Week 1 homework assignment)
Tracing Paper (for Week 2, about 10 pages)

* The school will loan you the DSLR camera, lens, and an SD card, but you are welcome to provide your own.

EXPECTATIONS
This is a workshop class where each piece of information will be presented and then applied. However, all information is cumulative and you will need to retain the information in one section to successfully do well on subsequent sessions. If you do not understand something, or miss a class, the onus is on you to found out further about the subject or ask for clarification or repetition.

According to the student handbook, students in a four-credit course should expect to spend 8 hours outside of class time on the course.

COURSE ATTENDANCE
Students are expected to attend all classes. However, you are allowed two absences for any reason. Because this class meets once a week, after two absences, your grade will be reduced by one letter grade for each absense.

PARTICIPATION
Students are expected to participate and attend all classes.

PHONES
DO NOT USE DURING CLASS. Leave them in your pockets/purses/bags.

ABOUT GRADING
C is an average grade. Each assignment you start with a zero and earn an A.

ASSIGNMENT TIMELINESS
Ours is a world of deadlines. All assignments should be completed by the due date. Assignments are due in the class as noted in the course schedule, and, if you are more than 20 minutes late to the class, your assignment will be considered late. Late projects will lose half of a letter grade for this first day, and half a letter grade each additional day (24 hours) late. The class start time is considered the start of a new day.
GRADING & ASSIGNMENTS
Grading will be based on 5 weekly assignments, a large final project, a presentation paper, and completion of exercises started in class. The following is the breakdown:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Weightage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignments</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Project</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>Pass/Fail (half-letter reduction of final grade)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tech Exploration Exercise</td>
<td>Pass/Fail (Lose 10pts on first assignment)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ASSIGNMENT GRADING
Grades for the photographic work will be calculated by the following criteria:

A: EXCELLENT  The student will:
- Go above and beyond the minimum requirements
- Spend 3-4 hours taking photos
- Exhibit distinguished work in both technical and aesthetic value
- Actively participate in class, providing constructive criticism of his/her own work as well as his/her classmates

B: AVERAGE  The student will:
- Do more than the minimum requirements
- Spend 2-3 hours taking photos
- Exhibit good work in both technical and aesthetic value
- Moderately participate in class, providing good criticism of his/her own work as well as his/her classmates

C: AVERAGE  The student will:
- Meet the minimum requirements for each assignment
- Spend 1-2 hours taking photos
- Exhibit competent work in both technical and aesthetic value
- Minimally participate in class providing basic criticism of his/her own work as well as his/her classmates

D: BELOW AVERAGE The student will:
- Do less than the minimum requirements
- Spend less than one hour taking photos
- Exhibit poor work in both technical and aesthetic value
- Rarely participate in class providing no criticism of his/her own work or his/her classmates

F: FAILURE  The student will:
- Do far less than the minimum requirements
- Exhibit poor work in both technical and aesthetic value
- Never participate in class
ASSIGNMENTS

All assignments will require a group of selected images with captions and contact sheets of the entire shoot. All selected photos and contact sheets should be uploaded to ICON by 5pm of the day due so I may prepare them for in-class presentation.

1) THROUGH YOUR LENS
   Answer the question: How would you honestly represent Iowa City? Base this on your feelings of what the city means to you. (If you are a commuter, you can also choose to use your town.) This is part a diary of you and part a diary of the city. Put together a cohesive, thematic essay. We should be able to feel your deepest opinion about the city. Show 7 photos.

2) TENSION
   Tension can have many meanings: space (time or distance), juxtaposition, drama, emotion (stress, anxiety), straining, stretching, potential. Select one of those meanings and create a series of images. Show 7 photos.

3) ENVIRONMENTAL PORTRAITURE & SELF PORTRAIT
   Take environmental portraits of 2 different people. You will need to set up at least a 1/2 hour photo shoot with each person (1 hour would be better, but most people perhaps won't give you that much time). I suggest you first contact them and do some research as to what they do, where they work, etc. to plan out before you begin the photo session to make it go smoothly. Show 6 photos (3 each subject). Also, take a self portrait to tell the story of you. Show 1 photo.

4) THE SOCIAL LANDSCAPE ON SOCIAL MEDIA
   You will produce (at minimum) seven photographs on a single topic relevant to our times and publish them through social media (preferably Instagram). If possible, you should publish one a day and shoot numerous times over the course of the week. You can use a smart phone or class approved camera to produce your work. Show at least 7 photos. #nofilter

5) THE STORY OF AN EVENT
   Cover an event. Put together 10 images that help tell the story of that event. Put together a narrative essay. This assignment can be done any week to accommodate an event in which you are interested. You will do whichever assignment you replace as assignment #5. Show 7–10 photos.

FINAL PROJECT

For the final project you must select an essay you can complete over multiple weeks. Each week during the last third of the semester, you will show photographs from the previous week’s shooting and we, as a class, will critique.

The final project will require a minimum of 25 photos with captions.

Your final project topic needs to be approved by Oct. 24.

All selected photos and contact sheets should be uploaded to ICON by 5pm of the day due so I may prepare them for in-class presentation.
Administrative Home
The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences is the administrative home of this course and governs matters such as the add/drop deadlines, the second-grade-only option, and other related issues. Different colleges may have different policies. Questions may be addressed to 120 Schaeffer Hall, or see the CLAS Academic Policies Handbook.

Electronic Communication
University policy specifies that students are responsible for all official correspondences sent to their University of Iowa e-mail address (@uiowa.edu). Faculty and students should use this account for correspondence (Operations Manual, III.15.2. Scroll down to k.11).

Accommodations for Disabilities
The University of Iowa is committed to providing an educational experience that is accessible to all students. A student may request academic accommodations for a disability (which include but are not limited to mental health, attention, learning, vision, and physical or health-related conditions). A student seeking academic accommodations should first register with Student Disability Services and then meet with the course instructor privately in the instructor’s office to make particular arrangements. Reasonable accommodations are established through an interactive process between the student, instructor, and SDS. See http://sds.studentlife.uiowa.edu/ for information.

Academic Honesty
All students taking CLAS courses have, in essence, agreed to the College’s Code of Academic Honesty: “I pledge to do my own academic work and to excel to the best of my abilities, upholding the IOWA Challenge. I promise not to lie about my academic work, to cheat, or to steal the words or ideas of others; nor will I help fellow students to violate the Code of Academic Honesty.” Any student committing academic misconduct is reported to the College and placed on disciplinary probation or may be suspended or expelled (CLAS Academic Policies Handbook).

CLAS Final Examination Policies
The date and time of every final examination is announced by the Registrar generally by the fifth week of classes. No exams of any kind are allowed during the last week of classes. All students should plan on being at the UI through the final examination period. It is the student’s responsibility to know the date, time, and place of the final exam.

Making a Suggestion or a Complaint
Students with a suggestion or complaint should first visit with the instructor (and the course supervisor), and then with the departmental DEO. Complaints must be made within six months of the incident (CLAS Academic Policies Handbook).

Understanding Sexual Harassment
Sexual harassment subverts the mission of the University and threatens the well-being of students, faculty, and staff. All members of the UI community have a responsibility to uphold this mission and to contribute to a safe environment that enhances learning. Incidents of sexual harassment should be reported immediately. See the UI Comprehensive Guide on Sexual Harassment for assistance, definitions, and the full University policy.

Reacting Safely to Severe Weather
In severe weather, class members should seek appropriate shelter immediately, leaving the classroom if necessary. The class will continue if possible when the event is over. For more information on Hawk Alert and the siren warning system, visit the Public Safety website.
# COURSE SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>LECTURE/EXERCISE</th>
<th>HOMEWORK ASSIGNED</th>
<th>READING ASSIGNED</th>
<th>SUNSET</th>
<th>TWILIGHT ENDS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AUGUST</td>
<td></td>
<td>Technical Exploration Exercise</td>
<td>Read This If You Want To Take Great Photographs - First half</td>
<td>8:59PM</td>
<td>9:27PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Course Syllabus/Overview, Snapshots vs. Photostories, André Kertész &amp; Henri Cartier-Bresson, Camera Tour, Intro to the variables of a photograph, Tech Talk: Exposure, Depth of Field, Lens &amp; Focal Length</td>
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<td>29</td>
<td>Light (Quantity, Quality, Direction, Temperature), Composition Exercise: Tracing compositions (shape, line) &amp; light patterns <strong>BRING TRACING PAPER FOR THIS CLASS</strong></td>
<td>Select your photographer for presentation.</td>
<td>Read This If You Want To Take Great Photographs - Second half</td>
<td>8:46PM</td>
<td>9:14PM</td>
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<td>SEPTEMBER</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Exercise: One hour photo shoot (exploring composition techniques &amp; light), Digital Workflow with Lightroom &amp; Photoshop, Critiquing Photography</td>
<td>Complete your presentation</td>
<td></td>
<td>8:22PM</td>
<td>8:49PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Presentations (photographers and their work), Lighting Workshop (finding natural light, understanding strobe), Building a shot list (types of shots to create an essay), Introduction to Assignment 1: Through your lens &amp; Assignment 5: Cover an event</td>
<td>ASSIGNMENT 1: Through your lens (or do Cover an Event assignment)</td>
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<td>8:12PM</td>
<td>8:39PM</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td>Assignment 1 Critique, Introduction to Assignment 2: Tension (or do Cover an Event assignment)</td>
<td>ASSIGNMENT 2: Tension (or do Cover an Event assignment)</td>
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<td>OCTOBER</td>
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<td>ASSIGNMENT 3: Environmental portraiture &amp; self portrait (or do Cover an Event assignment)</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Assignment 2 Critique, Introduction to Assignment 3: Environmental portraiture &amp; self portrait</td>
<td>ASSIGNMENT 3: Environmental portraiture &amp; self portrait (or do Cover an Event assignment)</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Assignment 3 Critique, Introduction to Assignment 4: Social landscape on social media</td>
<td>ASSIGNMENT 4: Social landscape on social media (or do Cover an Event assignment)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
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| 17   | Assignment 4 Critique                                               | ASSIGNMENT 5: Cover an Event  
(or do Cover an Event assignment)  
Select your final project topic. |
| 24   | Assignment 5 Critique, Final project approval meetings               | Begin making arrangements for your final project (scouting, make contacts,  
etc.) |
| 31   | Open time                                                           | Final project. Come prepared with at least 10 photos to show and a contact  
list of all the previous week’s shoot. |

**NOVEMBER**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Description</th>
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| 7    | Final project critique                                               | Final project. Come prepared with at least 10 photos to show and a contact  
list of all the previous week’s shoot. |
| 14   | Final project critique                                               | Final project. Come prepared with at least 10 photos to show and a contact  
list of all the previous week’s shoot. |
| 21   | Final project critique                                               | Final project. Come prepared with at least 10 photos to show and a contact  
list of all the previous week’s shoot. |
| 28   | Final project critique                                               | Do any final shooting, make final selects, write & hone captions, order and  
prepare final presentations |

**DECEMBER**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</table>
| 5    | Final project presentations                                         | Final project. Come prepared with at least 10 photos to show and a contact  
list of all the previous week’s shoot. |