

AART1700: Foundations in Digital Photography

Newcastle City Precinct
Semester 1 - 2024



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEWCASTLE
AUSTRALIA

The School of Humanities, Creative Industries and Social Sciences is committed to providing an inclusive environment in which all cultures are accorded respect and all students and staff are expected to act with honesty, fairness, trustworthiness and accountability in dealings with others. The School recognises and respects the unique histories and cultures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, their unbroken relationship with the lands and the waters of Australia over millennia, and the validity of Aboriginal ways of knowing. We are dedicated to reconciliation and to offering opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to access and succeed in higher education.

OVERVIEW

Course Description	This course introduces the basic skills required to investigate the expressive potential of digital photography. Using tone, colour and light as exploratory tools, students will be introduced to a broad range of photographic techniques. This foundation experience also considers the basic technical, historical and conceptual dimensions of photography. Students will develop an understanding of how the technology of the camera mediates our perception of reality and conditions photographic communication.
Academic Progress Requirements	Nil
Contact Hours	Newcastle City Precinct Lecture Face to Face On Campus 1 hour(s) per week(s) for 1 week(s) starting Week 1 Lecture Face to Face On Campus 1 hour(s) per week(s) for 1 week(s) starting Week 7 Tutorial Face to Face On Campus 2 hour(s) per week(s) for 5 week(s) starting Week 2 Tutorial Face to Face On Campus 2 hour(s) per week(s) for 5 week(s) starting Week 8
Unit Weighting Workload	10 Students are required to spend on average 120-140 hours of effort (contact and non-contact) including assessments per 10 unit course.

COURSE OUTLINE

CONTACTS

Course Coordinator	Newcastle City Precinct Dr Simone O'Callaghan Simone.Ocallaghan@newcastle.edu.au (02) 4913 8096 Consultation: email for consultation
Teaching Staff	Other teaching staff will be advised on the course Canvas site, if required.
School Office	School of Humanities Creative Industries and Social Sciences NU Space, Level 4 409 Hunter Street Newcastle HCISS@newcastle.edu.au +61 4985 4500

SYLLABUS

Course Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fundamental technical processes in digital photography• Creative image production including: camera operation, rendering of light, image editing and print production• Critical analysis of key historical, conceptual, ethical, and theoretical issues that underpin contemporary photomedia practice• Introduction to the development of effective research methodologies.• Engagement in various aspects of Photomedia practice in response to project briefs• Occupational health and safety and safe work practices.
Course Learning Outcomes	<p>On successful completion of this course, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Demonstrate an understanding and working knowledge of digital cameras2. Display a working knowledge of the processes involved in producing digital photographs3. Apply photographic compositional techniques4. Understand visual vocabulary5. Demonstrate an understanding of historical and contemporary perspectives in photomedia practice6. Demonstrate an awareness of safe and responsible work practices
Course Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 16GB or 32GB SD card, for capturing your images• Research Journal in the form of an unlined sketchbook, for recording sketches, class notes, photographs and independent research material• USB 'thumb' drive with a minimum capacity of 16GB for saving your working and finished digital files• Optional – 35mm, digital camera. If you do not have a 35mm digital camera, you can borrow one from our equipment booking service.

SCHEDULE

Week	Week Begins	Topic	Learning Activity	Assessment Due
1	26 Feb	Introduction + Assessment Briefs	Lecture	
2	4 Mar	Camera Craft 1 – Manual Controls	Tutorial + photo shoot	
3	11 Mar	Camera Craft 2 – Composition & Colour	Tutorial + photo shoot	
4	18 Mar	Camera Craft 3 – Lighting & Studio	Tutorial + photo shoot	A2: Camera Craft Portfolio - 24th March
5	25 Mar	Post Processing and Image Editing 1	Tutorial	
6	1 Apr	Post Processing and Image Editing 2 <i>Monday = Easter Monday, no tutorials this week</i>	Online Activity	
7	8 Apr	Creative Approaches 1 – Truth, Proof & Fiction A3: Assessment Brief Recap	Lecture	
Mid-Semester Recess				
Mid-Semester Recess				
8	29 Apr	Work in Progress Presentations - A3: Photo Series	Tutorial	A3: Formative feedback in tutorials
9	6 May	Creative Approaches 2 – People <i>+ Supported mac lab and bookable studio time to work on A3: Photo Series</i>	Tutorial	
10	13 May	Creative Approaches 3 – Storytelling & Series <i>+ Supported mac lab and bookable studio time to work on A3: Photo Series</i>	Tutorial	
11	20 May	One to One Consultations on A1 and A3 <i>+ Supported mac lab and bookable studio time to work on A3: Photo Series</i>	Tutorial	A1: Journal Canvas Submission - 26th May
12	27 May	Peer Review Activity COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE <i>+ Supported mac lab and studio time, if available after activity, to work on A3: Photo Series</i>	Tutorial	A1: Journal Peer Review – in tutorials
13	3 Jun	Pin Up A3: Photo Series in UNHG01 during normal tutorial time	Pin Up	A3: Photo Series Project Pin Up - tutorial timeslot A3: Photo Series Project Canvas Submission 9th June
Examination Period				
Examination Period				

ASSESSMENTS

This course has 3 assessments. Each assessment is described in more detail in the sections below.

	Assessment Name	Due Date	Involvement	Weighting	Learning Outcomes
1	A1: Journal	Canvas Submission: 11:59pm Sunday 26 th May 2024 Peer Review: Tutorials during Week 12, commencing 27 th May 2024	Individual	20%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
2	A2: Camera Craft Portfolio	Canvas Submission: 11:59pm, Sunday 24 th March	Individual	30%	1, 2, 3, 4, 6
3	A3: Photo Series Project	Pin Up in UNHG01: Tutorial time slot during Week 13, commencing 3 rd June 2024 Canvas Submission: 11:59pm, Sunday 9 th June 2024	Individual	50%	1, 2, 3, 4, 6

Late Submissions

The mark for an assessment item submitted after the designated time on the due date, without an approved extension of time, will be reduced by 10% of the possible maximum mark for that assessment item for each day or part day that the assessment item is late. Note: this applies equally to week and weekend days.

Assessment 1 – Journal 20 %

Assessment Type	Journal
Description	An evaluation of the student's own learning that includes narrative and critical/ analytical thinking. Full brief provided as per schedule above, and subsequently on Canvas.
Weighting	20%
Length	2000 words
Due Date	Canvas Submission – 11:59pm, Sunday 26 th May 2024 Peer Review – tutorials during Week 12, commencing 27 th May 2024
Submission Method	Online via Canvas
Assessment Criteria	See Rubric provided on Canvas
Return Method	Not Returned
Feedback Provided	Online – 3 weeks after submission date (excluding holidays).

Assessment 2 - Camera Craft Portfolio 30 %

Assessment Type	Portfolio: 5 Photographs
Description	A student compilation of work with a coherent structure, collected over a period of time. Full brief provided as per schedule above, and subsequently on Canvas.
Weighting	30%
Length	5 Photographs
Due Date	11:59pm, Sunday 24 th March
Submission Method	Online via Canvas
Assessment Criteria	See Rubric provided on Canvas
Return Method	Not Returned
Feedback Provided	Online – 3 weeks after submission date (excluding holidays).

Assessment 3 – Photo Series Project 50 %

Assessment Type	Project: 8 Photographs
Description	A tangible product where theory is applied to produce a model, a design or other creative work. Full brief provided as per schedule above, and subsequently on Canvas
Weighting	50%
Length	8 Photographs
Due Date	Pin Up in UNHG01 – tutorial time slot during Week 13, commencing 3 rd June 2024 Canvas Submission – 11:59pm, Sunday 9 th June 2024
Submission Method	Pin Up in UNHG01
Assessment Criteria	See Rubric provided on Canvas
Return Method	Collect by date provided in Tutorials.
Feedback Provided	Online – 3 weeks after submission date (excluding holidays).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Grading Scheme

This course is graded as follows:

Range of Marks	Grade	Description
85-100	High Distinction (HD)	Outstanding standard indicating comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an outstanding level of academic achievement; mastery of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
75-84	Distinction (D)	Excellent standard indicating a very high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a very high level of academic ability; sound development of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
65-74	Credit (C)	Good standard indicating a high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a high level of academic achievement; reasonable development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
50-64	Pass (P)	Satisfactory standard indicating an adequate knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an adequate level of academic achievement; satisfactory development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
0-49	Fail (FF)	Failure to satisfactorily achieve learning outcomes. If all compulsory course components are not completed the mark will be zero. A fail grade may also be awarded following disciplinary action.

*Skills are those identified for the purposes of assessment task(s).

Communication Methods

Communication methods used in this course include:

- Canvas Course Site: Students will receive communications via the posting of content or announcements on the Canvas course site.
- Email: Students will receive communications via their student email account.
- Face to Face: Communication will be provided via face to face meetings or supervision.

Course Evaluation

Each year feedback is sought from students and other stakeholders about the courses offered in the University for the purposes of identifying areas of excellence and potential improvement.

Oral Interviews (Vivas)

As part of the evaluation process of any assessment item in this course an oral examination (viva) may be conducted. The purpose of the oral examination is to verify the authorship of the material submitted in response to the assessment task. The oral examination will be

conducted in accordance with the principles set out in the [Oral Examination \(viva\) Procedure](#). In cases where the oral examination reveals the assessment item may not be the student's own work the case will be dealt with under the [Student Conduct Rule](#).

Academic Misconduct

All students are required to meet the academic integrity standards of the University. These standards reinforce the importance of integrity and honesty in an academic environment. Academic Integrity policies apply to all students of the University in all modes of study and in all locations. For the Student Academic Integrity Policy, refer to <https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=35>.

Adverse Circumstances

The University acknowledges the right of students to seek consideration for the impact of allowable adverse circumstances that may affect their performance in assessment item(s). Applications for special consideration due to adverse circumstances will be made using the online Adverse Circumstances system where:

1. the assessment item is a major assessment item; or
2. the assessment item is a minor assessment item and the Course Co-ordinator has specified in the Course Outline that students may apply the online Adverse Circumstances system;
3. you are requesting a change of placement; or
4. the course has a compulsory attendance requirement.

Before applying you must refer to the Adverse Circumstance Affecting Assessment Items Procedure available at:

<https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=236>

Important Policy Information

The Help button in the Canvas Navigation menu contains helpful information for using the Learning Management System. Students should familiarise themselves with the policies and procedures at <https://www.newcastle.edu.au/current-students/respect-at-uni/policies-and-procedures> that support a safe and respectful environment at the University.

This course outline was approved by the Head of School. No alteration of this course outline is permitted without Head of School approval. If a change is approved, students will be notified and an amended course outline will be provided in the same manner as the original.

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