



Ringling College of Art + Design

**Englewood  
Art Center**

## Fall/Spring Program | 2017 - 2018 Syllabus

**Course Title:** Digital Photography I

**Instructor:** Spencer Pullen

**Days:** Tuesdays

**Time:** 12:30 – 3:30 pm

**Date(s):**

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### Course Description:

Capture powerful digital photographs by using the wide array of camera functions available beyond the automatic settings. Fundamental photography principles will be introduced. Students will be encouraged to explore the aesthetics of digital photography and master the terminology associated with the medium. This course includes classroom learning and field experience.

### Course Goals:

- Comprehend advanced techniques
- Utilizing custom settings such as white balance, file formats, and continuous shooting
- Utilize fundamental principles such as rule of thirds, depth of field (DOF) and leading lines

### Class 1:

#### Fundamental Follies & Camera Equipment Safari

- During the first class, we will discuss the fundamentals of photography such as ISO, aperture, shutter speed and how these work together to produce a properly exposed image. Custom settings such as white balance, file formats, continuous shooting and auto focus will be covered. Other fundamental principals such as rule of thirds, depth of field (DOF) and leading lines will also be covered.
- We will discuss different kinds of equipment and accessories and what the best application is for them as well as how to use them. Accessories from simple cable releases to more advanced tools such as compact flash backups will be shown. Also, entry level to professional level of options will be discussed. Homemade options verses more expensive accessories will be explained.

### Class 2:

#### Field of Dreams (Session One)

- Now that the student is knowledgeable, it's time for a field trip. We will go as a group of an off site location to get some real world practice. There will be time for group learning as well as individual exploration.
  - *Class Project: Best shots from the field trip (3 images)*

### Class 3:

#### Light at the End of the Tunnel

- This week we will be looking at different lighting options such as flashes, studio lighting and flashlights. We will cover the pros and cons of different types of flashes and how to adjust them for different lighting scenarios. Studio lights will be demonstrated to show how professionals use soft light to get flattering images from food to portraits.

#### **Class 4:**

##### Field of Dreams (Session Two)

- This will be our second field trip. We will go on location again and practice what we have learned in the classroom. There will be time for individual instruction.
  - *Class Project: Best shots from the field trip (3 images)*

#### **Class 5:**

##### Digital Workflow Overload

- With the invention of digital cameras there is a new issue that has to be dealt with. How does a person deal with all these photos? This week we will go over different strategies to keep anyone sane. The complete workflow will be demonstrated from getting the images off the card to burning to a CD or DVD for archiving.

#### **Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:**

- Understand ISO, aperture, and shutter speeds for different scenarios
- Utilize the rule of thirds, depth of field (DOF), and leading lines
- Understand which pieces of equipment/accessories are better used for different scenarios
- Set up and understand different lighting and flash options and when best to use them
- Take the fundamentals presented in the class and apply them out in the field on a photography shoot

#### **Required Materials:**

All students must bring their digital cameras with fully charged batteries, memory card, camera transfer cable, and the camera manual. If a student does not have a manual for their camera they can go to the manufacturer's website, look for their model camera to download and printout a copy of their manual prior to class.

Students should also bring a tripod for composing clean, steady shots. Also students are recommended but not required to purchase/bring a cable/electronic release.

**Purpose of this Syllabus:** The purpose of this syllabus is to inform students of the goals, activities, and specific policies of the course, as well as outline the students' responsibilities in the learning process. It is the responsibility of the instructor to communicate this information in a clear and specific manner to students the first day of class. Since a syllabus is developed by an instructor before the class begins, it is considered a plan and is subject to revisions based on the judgment of the instructor. Course activities, projects and deadlines can be revised. It is the responsibility of the student to fully understand the requirements of the course after such information is presented by the instructor. This syllabus is a preliminary outline of the class/workshop and can be changed at the discretion of the instructor.

**Health and Safety:** Ringling College of Art and Design and its divisions are committed to providing students, faculty, instructors and staff with a safe and healthful learning and work environment and to comply will all applicable safety laws and regulations and safe work practices.