

Napa High School
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C3
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2017-2018 Syllabus
Photography I

Our vision is to transform lives and instill lifelong learning. To actualize this vision we are committed to three goals:

Prepare all students for college and careers.

Provide equitable access and opportunities.

Instill 21st century skills.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This college prep course is an introduction to digital photographic techniques and focuses on the student's ability to translate creative ideas into visual terms. In addition to photographic composition and the tools and techniques of photography, students will study historical work and contemporary artists. Students are required to do independent work in the form of reports and papers on techniques, materials and individual photographers. The course covers the history of photography, use of the camera, composition, concentrating on digital photography as an art form, computer technology in digital photography and methods to present finished work as professional photographers practice on a daily basis.

OVERVIEW:

This course is designed to develop skills in photographic design and printing in the digital format. The first semester we will be working digitally to develop skills in a pixel-based format. Printers, inks, and paper have evolved to the point that we are able to not only match continuous tone photographic quality, but also so we can extend traditional possibilities. Many darkroom activities are made easier and more powerful in the digital realm. We will use Adobe Photoshop CS5 as our primary image-editing tool. In addition, students will learn how to intelligently talk about photographs through art criticism and written/verbal critiques.

The second semester we will continue to build on our digital knowledge through shooting digitally and by using Photoshop for more advanced projects. Each semester will end with a photo portfolio final project in which students will put their best work together (digitally & through print if the lab donation is paid... read on for more information) in order to see their growth throughout our time together and to present photographs in a professional manner.

COURSE GOALS:

The main goal will be for students to learn how to take photographs that are important and powerful in their own right, rather than merely taking snapshots. By completing this class, students will do all of the following...

- Master the California Visual Arts Standards in relation to Photography
- Learn to shoot with a digital camera along with maximizing the quality of the output
- Become proficient at using Adobe Photoshop CS5 and various Google programs

GRADING POLICY:

Assignments will be placed in the following school wide essential learning outcomes through Echo

- Knowledge & Thinking = 40%
- Agency = 25%
- Written Communication = 20%
- Collaboration = 10%
- Oral Communication = 5%

The grading scale is as follows:

A + = 97% - 100%	B + = 87% - 89%	C + = 77% - 79%	D + = 67% - 69%	F = 0% - 59%
A = 93% - 96%	B = 83% - 86%	C = 73% - 76%	D = 63% - 66%	
A - = 90% - 92%	B - = 80% - 82%	C - = 70% - 72%	D - = 60% - 62%	

KNOWLEDGE & THINKING:

Major assignments will include all shooting & Photoshop projects, typically two to three weeks in length. This proves that students took their knowledge & thinking of the major projects to create a final piece/pieces of artwork.

AGENCY:

This category deals with work ethic, participation & professionalism. Are students prepared, add to class discussions and take their due dates seriously?

WRITTEN COMMUNICATION:

After each major project, students will be completing typed formal critiques for all major assignments through the steps of art criticism. Daily notebook writing will also be counted under written communication.

COLLABORATION:

Any group and / or partner work will be counted under this category. Students are expected to have an even work load and prove that they can work with their classmates to complete their shared work.

ORAL COMMUNICATION:

Daily notebook discussions will fall under this category; everyone will have their names randomly picked then volunteers will have their chance to talk about our photo of the day. Some critiques will be also be verbal, also which will follow the steps of art criticism. Any group or individual presentations will also be under oral communication.

EXTRA CREDIT & LATE WORK:

Extra credit will be available a FEW times during the school year and will only be available to students to have NO missing work; it is a way to make up for a low grade, not to reward students who haven't finished their work. Extra credit will be added into the Agency category of the student's grade.

Late work will be accepted through out the semester, but points will be continuously be deducted until completed. Here is an example of the late scale... Total points = 100, Late = 90, After Progress Report#1 = 80, After Progress Report#2 = 70, End of the Semester = 60. Late work will be accepted without penalty as long as it is due to an excused absence or pre arranged & approved with me before the due date.

ATTENDANCE & TARDIES:

Napa High School's policy is to be followed, 2 tardies is a detention. It is very important for students to be to class on time. School is their job and being late to "work" will have consequences. If students are more than 15 minutes

late without being excused, it will result in an absence for the period. Attendance will also be retaken before the end of class on days when students go outside to take photos. If you're mysteriously missing, you'll be marked absent for the whole period.

SEATING CHART & COMPUTERS:

Seats will be assigned, which can be changed at anytime. Being in your seat on time determines your attendance, if you aren't in your seat when the bell rings; you are tardy (see tardy policy above). The computers (desktops and Chromebooks) need to be shared by all students, if you aren't working on a Photography assignment, than you can't use the computers. Remember, 36 students on average need to share these 13 computers & 5 Chromebooks, be respectful not only of other students while on the computers, but also the equipment itself (because it is expensive!). There will be frequent days when students will be encouraged to bring their own devices (laptop & tablets) for class usage; keep in mind these are education tools and will be used during class time for class work & not personal usage (otherwise devices will be taken away as a consequence).

MATERIALS & DONATIONS:

- ALWAYS bring all assignments to class, whether they are works in progress or already graded (they can be stored in your storage drawer)
- A one-subject spiral notebook dedicated to Photo & only Photo (for daily notebook writing and note taking). This will be collected at the end of each grading period
- Writing utensils (blue or black ink pens, pencils, etc.)
- Camera supplies (camera, memory card, batteries, cords, etc.) as needed

There is an optional yearly lab donation of \$30.00 for this course, which must be paid by Friday September 8th, 2017. Cash and checks are accepted (checks can be made out to Napa High). You'll need to pay in the activities office during their regular office hours and let them know it is for your Photography class. Keep your receipt and show it to me so I can keep an accurate count. The donation covers your use of our laser printer for digital work, a binder to create your portfolio and sheet protectors to keep your prints looking their very best.

CAMERA POLICY:

As part of the class, you are required to use a digital camera. Cell phone cameras and images WILL NOT be accepted for any Photography projects. You may keep the camera at home and save your images on memory cards, thumb drives or through digital storage (such as Dropbox)...but it is your job to get your pictures to school on time somehow! Your assignments are arranged so you can take pictures after school and on the weekends, which will be your only homework assignments. I do have 15 digital cameras that students can check out for up to 2 days after signing a contract and going through the checking out process. We will have a day where students can bring in their cameras and I can answer more specific questions. If you already have a camera at home & you aren't sure if it will work, bring it to class on our designated camera day and I will take a look at it. Please don't feel the need to go out right now to buy a camera; if you have any questions there is time to think about your options because we won't be taking photos until the third week of school.

Digital Camera Requirements:

- Must have more settings than just AUTO (thus no cell phone cameras)
- Students must have all camera accessories (memory card, batteries & downloading cord etc..) for their cameras

CLASS RULES & BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS:

ALL NAPA HIGH RULES ARE TO BE FOLLOWED DURING CLASS...

- BE TRUSTWORTHY, BE RESPONSIBLE & BE RESPECTFUL
- Electronic devices are only to be used when instructed
- for educational purposes. If devices are begin abused, they will be taken away
- ALWAYS be school appropriate (includes images in

your work & the language that you use)

- You are accountable for your own actions
- Be the 5 P's for Mrs. Palmer's Photography class... prompt, prepared, positive, productive & polite
- Respect EVERYONE, including yourself

- ALWAYS give 100% effort
- Boredom is a personal failure, so develop a habit of being interested
- Class time is serious time, remember Photography meets your Fine Art requirement and is a college prep course

PLAGIARISM/CHEATING & ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

Plagiarism/cheating of any type will result in zeros for all parties involved, not to mention detentions, visits to the office, and other consequences. All work (including images) must be original; otherwise it will be considered plagiarism. This type of behavior will not be tolerated at Napa High. All projects must also contain school appropriate subject matter. If you have to ask what is appropriate, then we might have an issue...

DISCIPLINE POLICY:

In order to maintain a high level of behavior & concentration in our classroom, the following is a list of the consequences for inappropriate behavior:

- Verbal warnings
 - Sent outside + discussions after class to improve behavior
 - Apology letters
 - Seat changes
 - Detentions
 - Referrals
 - Parent phone calls
 - Teacher/student conferences
 - Teacher/student/parent conferences
 - Visits to the office
- *Order depending on offence & severity

SAFE SPACE:

This room is a safe space and positive learning environment. Abuse of any kind WILL NOT be tolerated; we are here to learn and grow together in an academic and artistic fostering community, not to be negative and unsupportive. Punishment will be given accordingly to the nature of the offense (see discipline policy above).

TEACHER INTRODUCTION:

This is my eighth year of teaching here at Napa High. I'm also a Napa High graduate therefore I know what a wonderful school this is and that our students go on to do great things! I also know that the students, teachers, administration and parents are all responsible for that. I received my B.A. in Photography and my single subject teaching credential in Art Education from Sacramento State. The best way to get a hold of me is through e-mail (kpalmer@nvusd.org). Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. I'm looking forward to teaching, working and learning with my new students and I know that this year will be a great one...GO NHS!

Karla Palmer



