

Napa High School  
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*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 traditional 35mm black and white photography 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 traditional photography (developing film and developing prints in the darkroom), 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 the whole traditional 35mm process as an art form, and methods to present finished work as professional photographers practice on a daily basis.

#### **OVERVIEW:**

##### **PHOTO 2:**

This course is designed to develop students skills in photographic design through the traditional 35mm black and white process. The first semester we will be working to develop our picture taking abilities through 35mm cameras and film. Later on we will be using the darkroom to print student's images out and bring them to life. We will use the developing sinks, various chemicals (many of which are light sensitive), and the complete darkroom. In addition, students will continue to practice their Photo 1 skills of talking about photographs intelligently through art criticism and written/verbal critiques (not only of your own work this time around, but also other classmates and famous photographers).

The second semester we will continue to build on our traditional black and white 35mm knowledge through picture taking and the developing/printing process. At this point, students can decide if they want to continue with the traditional method or if they want to switch to advance digital photography using digital cameras and Photoshop (similar to Photo 1, but more advanced picture taking assignments and computer work). Regardless of which route students want to take throughout the year, each semester will end with a photo portfolio final project in which students will put their best work together (the first semester will be all traditional 35mm black and white printed work and the second semester will be student's choice of 35mm black and white printed work or digitally taken and printed images) in order to see their growth throughout our time together and to present photographs in a professional manner.

##### **PHOTO 3:**

This course is designed to develop your skills in photographic design through the traditional 35mm black and white process and digitally. Both semesters students will get to choose if they would rather do projects using film or digital. Students can mix and match processes depending on the desired project outcome. Students will be given advanced projects and will go beyond their previous photo knowledge. Previous Photo 3 projects have included researching photo topics and later teaching the class a lesson, completely designing a play bill and poster for the Drama

productions on campus, entering local art contests, making a pin hole camera, working with lighting equipment, learning advanced camera settings and making a movie out of their still shots.

## **COURSE GOALS:**

The main goal for students is 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 (Photo 2 & 3)
- 1st semester = Learn to shoot with a 35mm camera, develop film, and print images in the darkroom (Photo 2)
- 2nd semester choices = Extend the possibilities for photographic print making using 35mm methods advanced darkroom work OR build upon their digital photography skills from Photo 1 through shooting with a digital camera along with maximizing the quality of the output (Photo 2)
- Become advanced at using Adobe Photoshop CS5 and various Google programs (Photo 2 & 3)
- To learn about the career of a photographer through going to art shows and participating in the Spring Art Show. (Photo 2 & 3)

## **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 complete. 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, DEVELOPING SINK, DARKROOM & 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 developing sink, darkroom and computers (desktops and Chromebooks) need to be shared by all students, if you aren't working on a Photo assignment, then you aren't allowed to use any of the classroom resources mentioned above. Remember, 36 students on average need to share these areas so, be respectful not only of other students working, but also the equipment itself (because it is OLD and 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 1-subject spiral notebook dedicated to Photo & not any other class (for daily notebook writing and note taking which is collected at the end of each progress report)
- Writing utensils (blue or black ink pens, pencils, etc.)
- 35mm camera supplies (camera, film, batteries, photo paper, portfolio etc.) as needed
- Digital camera supplies (camera, memory card, batteries, cords, etc.) as needed if digital photography is chosen during the 2nd semester
- Suggested: Money for film (\$1.00 for each roll of film) & photo paper (\$5.00 for a pack of 20 sheets) and various props for assignments when necessary. Thumb drive or digital storage (such as Dropbox) additional storage if digital photography is chosen during the 2nd semester

There is a SUGGESTED 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 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 money covers your use of development chemicals for film and the darkroom, which is why it is needed for the first semester.

If students want to switch to digital photograph during the second semester, their \$30.00 will be applied to their digital portfolio which will include 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. There is the option of only paying \$15.00 for the first semester

since the lab donation supplies change for the digital (if chosen for the second semester) because no supplies have to be ordered, but keep in mind that means you won't get any digital prints.

## **CAMERA POLICY:**

As part of the class, students are required to use a 35mm camera during the first semester. Students may keep the camera at home and just bring in the film, but it is their job to get the film to school! Assignments are arranged so students can take pictures after school and on the weekends, which will typically be their only homework assignments. I do have five 35mm 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 students 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. If students chose to switch to using a digital camera during the second semester, cell phone cameras WILL NOT be accepted. All the same rules above also count for digital cameras.

### **35mm Camera Requirements:**

- Must use 35mm black and white film
- Students must have all camera accessories (film, batteries, & attachments, etc..) for their cameras

### **Digital Camera Requirements (only applies to the second semester):**

- 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 Photograph 2/3 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 is 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 pervious Photo 1 & 2 photographers once again and I know this will be a great year...GO NHS!

Karla Palmer

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Karla Palmer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

