

SYLLABUS



In preparation for our classes, you will be given weekly homework assignments consisting of readings, YouTube videos, and individual photo shoots with photo submissions to the class for discussion. Classroom format will consist of presentations of different photography topics, discussing the participants' submitted photos, and periodic group photo shoots. **Note that the scheduled class for September 19 has been cancelled as the Temple will be closed that day. This class has been rescheduled as photo shoot for Saturday morning, October 6 from 10AM to 12PM (location will be discussed in class).**

Note: Click on hyperlinks below to open documents or to go to YouTube videos

INTRODUCTORY HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT TO DO BEFORE FIRST CLASS

1. Readings

How to email Pictures: [HOW TO EMAIL PICTURES](#)

Camera Game: [DO YOU KNOW YOUR CAMERA GAME](#) (You will likely need to refer to your camera manual to complete this. Most camera manufacturers have these available online for each model if you can't find yours.)

Exposure Triangle Chart (a handy 1-page reference) – [THE EXPOSURE TRIANGLE CHART v4](#)

2. YouTube Videos to Watch

Best Explanation of the Exposure Triangle, Period! – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t_xHoNtTv38

Histograms Explained – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EUm6OSJCmy4&feature=em-subscription_digest-vrec

3. Photos to Submit for First Class

By Sunday evening September 9, please email to us 2-3 photos that you have taken (please see e-mail instructions above)

- Photos can be of any subject you'd like (landscape, portraits, nature) and from any time
- Be ready to specifically identify the subject of your photo
- Be ready to briefly discuss what message you are trying to convey with your photo
- Mail to: tpausa@icloud.com, dparker1@me.com, sbarker@alumni.risd.edu, and [YOUR OWN EMAIL ADDRESS](#) (By copying yourself on the email, you can check right away for any problems and correct any mistakes.)

4. Optional readings (if you have time)

Exposure Triangle – <https://www.picturecorrect.com/tips/the-exposure-triangle-explained/>

Histogram & Blinkies (Highlight Warnings) – <https://digital-photography-school.com/how-to-read-and-use-histograms/>

5. Note: Please bring your camera to the first class!!

CLASS #1 – WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

NOTE: PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR CAMERA TO THIS CLASS !!

Topic – Technical Part 1

- Introductions & Course Overview
- Questions from Camera Game
- How to email pictures
- Basic Camera settings
- File Format: Raw vs Jpeg

- Blinkies & Histogram
- LCD screen & Viewfinder setup (gridlines, etc.)
- Chimping
- Exposure Triangle
- View & discuss submitted class pictures

Homework for Next Class

1. Readings

- How to Critique Photos – [PHOTO CRITIQUE](#)
- 20 Composition Techniques That Will Improve Your Photos – <https://petapixel.com/2016/09/14/20-composition-techniques-will-improve-photos/>
- Understanding Composition in Photography: A Complete Guide – <https://improvephotography.com/50601/understanding-composition-photography-complete-guide-part-1/>

2. YouTube Videos to Watch

- 9 photo composition tips – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ZVyNjKSr0M>

3. Photos to Submit – 2-3 images of any subject taken after Class #1 purposely using recommended techniques discussed in the class (chimping, checking blinkies, using histogram, etc.)

NO CLASS ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 – YOM KIPPUR HOLIDAY

CLASS #2 – WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Topic – Composition

- Elements of composition
- Basic compositional tips (get in close, rule of 3rds, leading lines, triangles, etc.)
- Discussion of how to give feedback & critique pictures constructively
- View & discuss submitted class pictures

Homework for Next Class

1. Readings

- Peterson, Bryan. “Chipping Away At The Scene.” From *Understanding Composition Field Guide*, pages 230-241, Chapter 12. 3rd edition, Amphoto Books, 2012. – [Chapt 12 Composition Bryan Peterson](#)
- Working the scene: “The Secret To Good Composition in Photography” – <https://photoserge.com/dailytips/post/the-secret-of-good-composition-in-photography-part-1?nid=20151007Essential82>

2. YouTube Videos to Watch

- “Previsualization” – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=65lD_-hXD_g

3. Photos to Submit – 2-3 images using one or more of the compositional techniques discussed in class. Please be prepared to briefly discuss how you composed each image.

CLASS #3 – WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3

Topics – Pre-visualization & Working the Scene

- How to Pre-visualize – “Seeing” images
- Working the Scene – Changing vantage points, decisions regarding camera angles and lenses, and decisive moments
- View & discuss submitted class pictures

Homework for Next Class

1. **Readings** – (see Class #4 – Oct 6 homework assignment)
2. **YouTube Videos to Watch** – (see Class #4 – Oct 6 homework assignment)
3. **Photos to Submit** – (See Class #4 – Oct 6 photo shoot assignment)

CLASS #4 – SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6

Topic – Photo Shoot along Seekonk River / Blackstone Park

- Photo shoot from 10AM – 12PM
- Meet at Narragansett Boat Club, 2 River Road, Providence. Park on River Road next to the Boat Club. **Directions:** <https://www.google.com/maps/place/Narragansett+Boat+Club/@41.8326376,-71.3806635,17.91z/data=!4m5!3m4!1s0x89e444154a8c5e93:0xd758a414e1b8d2f2!8m2!3d41.8325987!4d-71.377911>
- **If it's raining:** We will meet instead at **11AM** at **Roger Williams Park Botanical Center**. Admission: \$5 or \$2 for seniors

Homework for Next Class

1. Readings

- Understanding Golden Hour, Blue Hour and Twilights – <https://petapixel.com/2014/06/11/understanding-golden-hour-blue-hour-twilights/> (Feel free to skim through this article to get the gist of it; no need to spend too much time.)
- Bring copy of Exposure Triangle Chart (from Class #1) for reference – [THE EXPOSURE TRIANGLE CHART v4](#)

2. YouTube Videos to Watch

- Aperture, Shutter Speed, ISO, & Light Explained-Understanding Exposure & Camera Settings – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F8T94sdiNjc> (Video is about 14 & 1/2 minutes long but well worth the effort to watch the whole thing.)

3. **Photos to Submit** – 3 images of the **same** scene or subject from the Seekonk River photo shoot that were taken using the “working the scene” techniques discussed in class, i.e., use different angles, lighting, and/or composition.

4. **Note: Please bring your camera to the next (Nov. 10) class!!**

CLASS #5 – WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10

NOTE: PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR CAMERA TO THIS CLASS !!

Topic – Technical Part 2

- Review Exposure Triangle
- Perfect Exposure: The 3 Components of Exposure: A, S (Tv), & ISO
- Depth of Field
- Review Shooting Modes: Auto, P, A, S (Tv), and Manual
- Using camera exposure meter (Manual mode)
- Exposure compensation & bracketing
- Case Studies: How to Determine which A, S (Tv) and ISO Setting to Use
- Light: changing color/quality of light during the day, hard vs soft, best times to shoot

- View & discuss submitted class pictures from Seekonk River photo shoot

Homework for Next Class

1. **Readings** – (see Class #6 – Oct 17 homework assignment)
2. **YouTube Videos to Watch** – (see Class #6 – Oct 17 homework assignment)
3. **Photos to Submit** – (see Class #6 – Oct 17 photo shoot assignment)

CLASS #6 – WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17

Topic – Photo Shoot

- Photo shoot from 10AM – 12PM
- **Slater Memorial Park, 426 Newport Ave, Pawtucket, RI.**
- Meet at the **Carousel** opposite the pond and the Rhode Island Watercolor Society Building
- Parking: plenty of parking along the park's roads
- **Directions:** <https://www.google.com/maps/place/Looff+Carousel/@41.8707787,-71.3463883,17z/data=!4m2!1m6!3m5!1s0x89e45c9ca7f08c17:0xbb831829547136!2sSlater+Memorial+Park!8m2!3d41.869077!4d-71.3541667!3m4!1s0x89e45c8f722ba841:0x47c2c9b336f3f4fa!8m2!3d41.8716171!4d-71.3435438>
- **If it's raining:** We will meet instead at **11AM** at **Roger Williams Park Botanical Center**. Admission: \$5 or \$2 for seniors

Homework for Next Class

1. Reading

- Avoid These 9 Beginner Photography Mistakes That Can Ruin Your Images – <https://www.digitalphotomentor.com/avoid-these-9-beginner-photography-mistakes-that-can-ruin-your-images/>

2. YouTube Video to Watch (if you have time)

- 15 Mistakes People Make When Taking Photos (and How To Correct Them) – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2dXfDMO-ago&feature=em-subscriptions_digest (Note: Some very good content here but this video is quite long at 1 hour 13 minutes. Watch as much as you feel is helpful.)

3. Photos to Submit – 2-3 images, including at least one that demonstrates a subject with shallow depth of field (i.e., use a large aperture) as discussed in class. Try to shoot at least one of your images in full Manual mode. (You're on the honor system here; we're not going to check!) Make sure you "work the scene" and are thinking about good composition when taking your images.

4. Images of "Great" Photographers to Submit – Download 2 images from the internet (do a Google search) from one or more of the following list of photographers: Ansel Adams, Henri Cartier-Bresson, Dorothea Lange, Ed Clark, Annie Leibovitz, Alfred Stieglitz, Herb Ritts, Diane Arbus, Art Wolfe or Steve McCurry. Be prepared to briefly explain in class (2 minutes maximum) why you picked each image and what makes it a great picture.

CLASS #7 – WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24

Topics – Common Photography Mistakes / Survey of "Great" Photographs

- Review examples of common photography mistakes
- Student presentation of 2 images of great photographers
- View & discuss submitted class pictures from photo shoot

Homework for Next Class

1. Readings

- Fundamental Editing Checklist (a handy 1-page reference sheet) – [Fundamental+Editing_checklist](#)

2. YouTube Videos to Watch

- When to Go Black & White – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CUKmU-flhnl&feature=em-subts_digest
- Black & White Photography Self Challenge – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nimCW0gbeFU&feature=em-subts_digest
- Convert a Color Image to Black & White – <https://helpx.adobe.com/photoshop/using/convert-color-image-black-white.html>

3. Photos to Submit – 2-3 images of any subject. Try to shoot at least one of your images in full Manual mode, choosing aperture and shutter speed values that capture the image you envision. Make sure you “work the scene” and are thinking about good composition!

CLASS #8 – WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31

Topics – Editing & Post-processing Images / Black & White Photography

- Editing & post-processing using Photoshop & Lightroom
- Black & white photography
 - Begin to view images in terms of lines, shapes, textures, and tonality
 - Black & white apps
- View & discuss submitted class pictures

Homework for Next Class

(**Note:** These readings and videos are intended to provide you with a broad survey of creative ideas and techniques. No need to go into great detail on any of this unless you are interested.)

1. Readings

- 12 Creative Photography Project Ideas to Get you Motivated – <https://digital-photography-school.com/12-creative-photography-project-ideas-motivated/>
- 50 Incredible Photography Techniques and Photo Tutorials – <https://www.smashingmagazine.com/2009/04/the-ultimate-photography-round-up/>
- Why You Should Give Abstract Photography a Try – <https://improvephotography.com/53951/why-you-should-give-abstract-photography-a-try/>
- Abstract Photography for Beginners – <https://www.adorama.com/alc/abstract-photography-for-beginners-9-tips-for-capturing-stunning-abstract-images>

2. YouTube Videos to Watch

- Abstract Photography – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=akTw7YXmHhQ>
- Panning in Amsterdam (panning shots) – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GZdLudjkJSY> (No need to watch the second half of this video when he discusses post processing the photos).
- How to Shoot a Zoom Blur Effect – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X_C3gae9498&t=4s
- How to Blur Water For a Dreamy Effect – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QOZf1IRsI9o>

3. Photos to Submit – 2 images, any subject, that have been converted to black and white; you may also submit the same pictures in color.

4. Note: Please bring your camera to the next (Nov. 7) class for photo shoot!!

CLASS #9 – WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7

NOTE: PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR CAMERA TO THIS CLASS !!

Topics – Shooting Creatively / On-site Photoshoot

- Shooting abstract scenes
- Creativity ideas (long exposures, shallow depth of field, motion blur, panning, pan-blurs, zoom blur, “silky water,” macro shots, B&W, etc.)
- View & discuss submitted class black & white images
- Photoshoot in the Temple or surrounding neighborhood using creative techniques

Homework for Next Class

1. **Readings** – none

2. **YouTube Videos to Watch** – none

3. **Photos to Submit** – 2-3 images from the class photo shoot incorporating any of the abstract or creativity techniques discussed. If you didn't have enough time at the photo shoot, images can also be taken later on your own using the location of your choice.

CLASS #10 – WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14

Topics – Review Photoshoot images / Course Wrap Up

- View and discuss images from “creativity” photo shoot
- Questions from prior classes
- Other photography resources
- Slide show of pictures from prior classes
- Meet at McBride’s Pub at 161 Wayland Avenue for lunch immediately following class. Free parking in the lot directly behind McBride’s (Wayland Square Parking Lot), which you access from Waterman Street.
- **Directions:** <https://www.google.com/maps/place/Mcbride's+Pub/@41.8290049,-71.3881322,18.04z/data=!4m12!1m6!3m5!1s0x89e4452e9d9b2ebd:0x9d9ce97b1a88214b!2sMcbride's+Pub!8m2!3d41.8289354!4d-71.3880104!3m4!1s0x89e4452e9d9b2ebd:0x9d9ce97b1a88214b!8m2!3d41.8289354!4d-71.3880104>

Homework for Next Class

None – What are you going to do with all this new free time? Keep on shooting!