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# JRNL 328.01: Intermediate Photojournalism

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# 1328 Intermediate Photojournalism

Fall 2013 • T/TH 12:40 pm to 2 pm. • Classroom DAH 004

PROFESSOR	Erik Petersen
OFFICE	DAH 407
OFFICE HOURS	T – 2:00 – 4:00, W – 3:00 – 5:00, OR BY APPOINTMENT
E-MAIL	erik.petersen@mso.umt.edu

## Course Introduction

Intermediate Photojournalism prepares you for future work in the professional world of photojournalism (newspapers, magazines, online and other publications).

This course addresses the three foundations of photojournalism: quality of content, command of technical elements and the ability to meet deadlines. You will learn about “photo” with an emphasis on “journalism.” You will also develop your creative eye and your vision while learning to make creative decisions with your camera.

Assignments are fast-paced and deadline driven. Assignments include features, sports, portraits, news, a town project and a multimedia project.

This course offers challenges that ultimately provide you with basic fundamentals and creative story telling skills that will serve you in the professional field.

The work in this class will help build your portfolio and prepare you for internship opportunities.

One of the goals of this class is to get some of your work published. You will have at least three to four assignments that will be published this semester.

## Course Objectives/Outcomes

- To improve your visual story-telling skills
- To understand and cover diversity in your community
- To produce assignment work on deadline.
- To shoot, shoot and shoot some more. This is a shooting class.
- To produce images/stories that will enhance your portfolio.
- To develop your research, reporting and writing skills.
- To develop your understanding of ethics and fairness in photojournalism.
- To develop multimedia skills.
- To publish your work.

## Class Time

This class will feature lectures, presentations, editing sessions and critiques. The majority of the learning in this class will come from shooting and critiquing. Assignments will be discussed and the instructor and the class will critique students' work. See weekly schedule for assignments and respective due dates. Any changes to the schedule will be announced in class.

Students will be expected to participate in class discussions and critiques. If you are absent, you will be expected to learn the material that you missed from a fellow student. Arrive to class on time and be prepared for the day's agenda. Attendance will be taken and points are deducted from the final grade for unexcused absences and repeated tardiness.

## Suggested Texts

Kobre, Kenneth. *Photojournalism: The Professional's Approach*, 6<sup>th</sup> ed. Boston: Focal Press, 2008.  
London, Barbara, Stone, Jim and Upton, John, *Photography*, 9<sup>th</sup> ed., Upper Saddle River, NJ, Pearson/Prentice Hall, Longman, 2008.

## Equipment

You are *required* to shoot your assignments with a professional digital camera (DSLR) that has manual exposure control. We strongly recommend that you purchase a Canon or a Nikon.

You will also need a *dedicated strobe flash unit* for your digital camera by the end of September! (Canon 320 EXII, 430EXII, 580EXII, 600 EX-Rt Nikon SB-600, SB 700, SB-800, SB-900, SB910) We'll review specific cameras and flash units in class.

## Academic Honesty

IMPORTANT: Nothing that was shot before this semester may be turned in for this class. It is expected that you will turn in new work for each assignment in this class. It is also expected that all work done in this class on photographic exercises, captions, quizzes, etc. will be your own.

Any act of academic dishonesty will result in referral to the proper university authorities or disciplinary action. Students must be familiar with the conduct code. The code is online at <http://www.umt.edu/SA/vpsa/index.cfm/page/2585>.

You may not submit for this course any assignment that has previously, or will be concurrently, submitted for another class, unless you receive prior approval from the professor for this course. To do so without permission will result in an F for the assignment and could result in an F for the course.

## Drop Deadlines

<http://www.umt.edu/catalog/acad/acadpolicy/default.html>

**Beginning the sixteenth (16) instructional day of the semester through the forty-fifth (45) instructional day**, students use paper forms to drop, add and make changes of section, grading option, or credit. The drop/add form must be signed by the instructor of the course and the student's advisor. The signed drop/add form must be returned to the Registration Counter no later than the **forty-fifth** instructional day.

**Beginning the forty-sixth (46) instructional day of the semester through the last day of instruction before scheduled final examinations, students must petition to drop.** The petition form must be signed by the instructor of the course and the student's advisor and, the dean of the student's major.

**Documented justification is required for dropping courses by petition.** One of the following four must be met: accident or illness, family emergency, change in student work schedule or student does not receive any evaluation of performance before drop deadline.

## Students With Disabilities

If you have a disability that you feel affects your performance in this class, please come see me and we'll create the right work environment for you. See [www.umt.edu/dss](http://www.umt.edu/dss) for details.

## Graduate Students

Extra academic work is required of all graduate students. It will be worth 50 points. The graduate students will be editors for the town story project that includes editing images and written pieces for the website. They will also work with the web designer. Also, you will be in charge of additional online audio and written content for group assignments.

## Cell Phones and Text Messaging

If you bring your cell phone to class it must be in the off position. No text messaging allowed in class. If you are discovered text messaging you will receive a zero for that day – that includes any assignment that may be due that day. The same is true if you are on any electronic contact device.

## Assignments

Your photographic assignments receive the most weight toward your final grade. Assignments will be discussed in class.

SINGLE ASSIGNMENTS – Classmate Portrait, Feature, Sports, Bounce Flash/ Fill Flash  
Diversity Portrait, Slow Shutter at Night, Day of the Dead {Slow shutter speed flash},  
Veterans Day.

STORIES - – Event Story, Story #3(open), Portrait Story  
GROUP PROJECT – the town project story  
STORY IDEAS – proposals for each of your stories

You need to wait until we discuss each assignment in class *before* you photograph that assignment. You must shoot a different subject for each assignment. You may not select photos from a prior assignment for a current assignment.

## Submission of Assignments

All photo assignments will be turned in electronically to the J-School Server.

*For the single-picture assignments*

1. Always shoot in RAW format.
2. For every assignment you will submit two files – one file will be in the Raw format, the other file will be saved as a TIFF file after you make corrections in Photoshop. The TIFF file will be 10 inches wide if a horizontal, 10 inches deep if a vertical, at 200 dpi. Submit each image with the following slug.  
Example: First image - Petersen\_portrait.NEF (for Nikon) or Petersen\_portrait.CR2 (for Canon). This means you to need to make a copy of the original RAW file and rename that copy.

Second image - Petersen\_portrait.tif

3. Make a Photoshop Contact sheet in PDF format with all of your images from your shoot.

4. You will put the PDF and your final files in a folder slugged with the same name (Petersen\_portrait) Then you will place those in the Professors folder:  
>ErikPetersen, >J328 >Assignment Drop Boxes > Portrait.

\*\*\* Always back up your work!!! (either on DVDs or an external hard drive or both.) You are required to keep backups – and not on the server.

\*\*\* *Story and town project submissions will be addressed later in the semester.*

## Deadlines

Assignments must be submitted on the server no later than one hour before class on the due date. A late assignment is one that is turned in after the deadline.

*All late assignments must be turned in on time or you will receive a zero.*

## Grading

Assignment Grades: Points will be earned for each assignment based on photographic quality, versatility, consistency, human interest, news value, originality, captions, deadline and submission requirements. As with anything in life there are always a number of solutions to each assignment, there is no one right answer.

Points

45	Class attendance and participation	GRADING SCALE
20	Classmate portrait and Slow shutter(10 pts. each)	A 93 to 100%
160	Eight photo assignments (20 pts. each)	A – 90 to 92%

10	Event proposals	B+	88 to 89%
60	Town, Story #3, Portrait Proposals(20 pts each)	B	83 to 88%
40	Town and Portrait story updates (20 pts. Each)	B –	80 to 82%
40	Event Story	C +	78 to 79%
100	Town Story	C	73 to 77%
50	Story #3	C –	70 to 72%
20	Audio Interview	D+	68 to 69%
10	Resume	D	63 to 67%
10	Portfolio images	D –	60 to 62%
100	Portrait/Personality Story	F	59% and below
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665	Possible Total		
5	Potential Bonus Points		

## Resubmissions

There are no resubmissions for this class. This class simulates a newsroom environment and many of the assignments are time sensitive.

## Supply List

### MANDATORY

Compact Flash cards (we recommend several 8GB or 16GB or 32 GB cards)

A portable external hard drive for backing up and storing your work. We recommend at least a one terabyte drive with USB 2.0 and Fire Wire 400 and Fire Wire 800. If you can afford it look into the newer and super fast Thunderbolt.

### HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

35mm digital SLR camera, with a manual mode or a choice of manual and automatic modes, and a 50mm lens. More lenses are better (a wide angle and a telephoto). We highly recommend the Canon and Nikon camera systems.

Dedicated flash unit for your camera

Nikon – SB-900, SB-800 or SB-600

Canon - 580EXII, or 580 EX and 430EX or 430 EXII

Off camera shoe cord: check compatibility of sync cord connections from flash to camera.

Batteries for your flash unit. We recommend NIMH rechargeable batteries.

Jump drives

CF or SD card reader

Tripod

### Where to purchase

Missoula The Darkroom, 135 N. Higgins Ave.  
Yellowstone Photo, N. Higgins Ave.

549-1070  
728-7637

UC Bookstore	243-1234
Neal's Photo (Stephen Neal), Philipsburg Online	800-859-3855
B&H (bhphotovideo.com)	1-800-947-7785
Bozeman Camera Repair	1-800-944-2139
Calumet (calumetphoto.com)	1-888-888-9083 or 1-800-225-8638
Camera World (cameraworld.com)	1-800-226-3721
FreeStyle (freestylephoto.biz)	1-800-292-6137
F/11, McNab Enterprises, Bozeman	1-800-548-0203
Glazer's Camera Supply (glazerscamera.com)	1-888-531-3232
Keeble & Shuchat, (ksphoto.com)	1-650-327-8511
Penn Camera (penncamera.com)	1-800-347-5770
Pitman Photo (pitmanphotosupply.com)	1-800-252-3008
Pro Photo Supply (prophotosupply.com)	1-800-835-3314

## Web sites

### News:

Associated Press

[www.ap.org](http://www.ap.org)

Los Angeles Times

[www.latimes.com](http://www.latimes.com)

New York Times

[www.nytimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com)

The Spokesman Review

[www.spokesmanreview.com](http://www.spokesmanreview.com)

BBC World

[www.bbcworld.com](http://www.bbcworld.com)

MSNBC.com

[www.msnbc.msn.com](http://www.msnbc.msn.com)

Reuters

[www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com)

WashingtonPost.com

[www.washingtonpost.com](http://www.washingtonpost.com)

### Organizations:

National Press Photographers Association

[www.nppa.org](http://www.nppa.org)

American Society of Media Photographers

[www.asmp.org](http://www.asmp.org)

World Press Photo

[www.worldpressphoto.org](http://www.worldpressphoto.org)

### Resources:

Digital Journalist

[www.digitaljournalist.org](http://www.digitaljournalist.org)

Strobist

[www.strobist.com](http://www.strobist.com)

SportsShooter.com

[www.sportsshooter.com](http://www.sportsshooter.com)

Digital Photography Review

[www.dpreview.com](http://www.dpreview.com)

## SCHEDULE OF TOPICS, ASSIGNMENT DUE DATES, AND LABS

NOTE: The following is subject to change with notice. We will review in October.

Week	Class topics	Assignment
<b>1.</b>		
Aug. 27	Introduction/ Review syllabus Assign classmate portraits Town project – Superior, MT Strobe list Event Story	
Aug. 29	Narrative Storytelling: Picture Story & Photo Essay Event Picture Story Check CPOY site on Sept. 1 <a href="http://www.cpoy.org">http://www.cpoy.org</a>	<i>Event Story</i> <i>Proposal/ideas</i>
<b>2.</b>		
Sept. 3	Photo Story Continued  Developing Story ideas	
Sept. 5	Sports & Sports Story - <i>Assign Sports story due Oct 3</i> Critique Classmate portraits	<i>Classmate portraits</i>
<b>3.</b>		
Sept. 10	Importance of News and Ethics Understanding and covering Diversity in your community	
Sept. 12	Town Story ideas (Show MTQ) Discuss ideas in class <i>Discuss CPoY and HEARST</i>	<i>Town Story Proposals</i>
Week	Class topics	Assignment



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**4.**

Sept. 17 Features & Pictorials - Stand alones (24 hour feature shoot)  
Audio & Marantz  
Introduce Portrait/ Audio Story – assign story porposals

Sept. 19 Critique Feature *Feature*  
*Reminder 1 more Single Feature due by wk 12*

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**5.**

Sept. 24 Portable Strobes 1  
Direct, fill flash, bounce  
CPOY contest entries due *Event Story*  
*CPOY*

Sept. 26 Critique Fill Flash *Fill-Flash*  
Critique Bounce *Bounce flash*  
Critique Event Story

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**6.**

Oct. 1 Edit Town Story *Rough edit Town Story*  
*Expect to return to the town at least one*  
*other time to complete your story.*

Oct. 3 Critique Sports 1 *Sports 1*

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**7.**

Oct. 8 *Critique Portrait Story/Audio porposals*  
*STORY #3 - Sports, feature or news story / essay ideas*  
*Student's choice*

Oct. 10 Portable Strobes 2  
Off-camera, white balance, gels  
Slow shutter speed flash  
*Sign up for individual Town Project meeting Oct. 18*

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**8.**

Oct. 15 Critique Story #3 proposals *Story #3 Proposal*  
(News driven)

Oct. 17 Individual town edit meetings

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<b>Week</b>	<b>Class topics</b>	<b>Assignment</b>
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## 9.

Oct. 22 Critique Slow shutter at night *Slow shutter at night*

*HEARST PHOTOS DUE: News and Feature*  
Drop three of each category in my drop box  
All entries should be 200 dpi, with the longest dimension 10 inches

Oct. 24 Critique Town Project *Town Project*  
(20 points of the grade is for resubmissions)

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## 10.

Oct. 29 Individual Audio Interview meeting *Portrait Audio Interview*

Oct. 31 Day of Dead Veterans Day Prep

Nov. 1 @ 5 pm Photograph Day of the Dead (Group project) *Day of Dead due Nov. 2, 9pm*  
*Assignment due @ 9:00 pm, that night!*

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## 11.

Nov. 5 Critique Day of Dead

Nov. 7 Cover letter, Resume, Portfolio, Web site *Resume*  
Internships

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## 12.

Nov. 11 or 12 Veterans Day - submit best 2 w/ captions *Veterans Day assignment*  
*Mon due 6 pm Nov. 12*

Nov. 12 Critique Veterans Day *FEATURE REDO*  
Critique Feature REDO

Nov. 14 Portrait/ personality Progress Report *Portrait/personality*  
*contact sheets*  
*Town Project Resubmission*

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Week	Class topics	Assignment
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**13.**

Nov. 19 Portfolio Image Critique Portfolio images due

Nov. 21 Happy Thanksgiving – no class  
*Check out gear for Thanksgiving:  
MUST reserve by Fri., Nov. 18  
Can pick up gear on Tuesday Nov. 22 – but NOT on Monday.*

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**14.**

Nov. 26 Story/Essay #3 Story/Essay #3  
Resume Resume

Nov. 28 Class cancelled – work on your final projects

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**15.**

Dec. 3 Evaluations and feedback  
Critique Choice Assignments (Sports 2, Feature, Pictorial  
news)  
Critique Diversity Assignment Diversity Assignment

Dec. 5 Portrait Personality Stories Portrait Stories  
Individual sessions: Edit/Critique

Dec. 12 ALL EQUIPMENT DUE ON THURS. DEC. 10

**FINAL EXAMS PERIOD**

Dec. 12 – 12:40 – 2:00 pm Class critique of Portrait stories Portrait Stories

(MON)