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Spring 2-1-2018

JRNL 257.01: Beginning Visual Journalism

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JRNL 257 – Beginning Visual Journalism
Syllabus- Spring 2018 (subject to change)

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    TA, School of Journalism
      Don Anderson Hall 437

Course Objectives:
This course will introduce you to the theory of visual storytelling and the tools to produce quality still photo and video narratives. You will learn how to handle a digital SLR camera and create a workflow in the digital darkroom. You will learn to shoot video, record audio and edit both still and video images. The course will also focus on the ethical issues of visual journalism.

Class Meets:
Mondays and Wednesdays, from 9:30 a.m.-10:50 p.m., in Don Anderson Hall-009

Learning outcomes:
Successful JRNL 257 students will demonstrate an understanding of:
- Visual literacy skills
- Critical and creative thinking
- The use of appropriate tools and technology
- Basic journalism ethics including the importance of truth, accuracy and fairness

Learning goals:
- To develop the technical and intellectual skills to express stories through photography.
- To understand what photojournalism is and how to excel in the field.
- To know what makes a good photograph based on composition, lighting, content and technical quality
- To build visual storytelling abilities with both still images and video
- To write accurate and efficient photo captions
- To produce publishable images
- To shoot and record steady, well-framed, properly exposed video
- To record clear, understandable audio
- To edit video, audio, natural sound and voice narration in Premiere Pro and digital still images in Adobe Lightroom.
- To edit video using sequences to compress time
- To export video from Premiere Pro and to understand the program's file structure

Graded Assignments

65% of final grade
    1. Classmate portrait
    2. Depth of Field
    3. Quality of Light
    4. Composition
    5. Walk across campus
    6. Team sequence
    7. Team interview
    8. Gibson package

Final Project
20% of final grade
    1. Final Portrait package
    2. Soundbite package

Class Attendance
15% of final grade

Grading Scale:
A 93-100
A- 90-92
B+87-89
B 83-86
B- 80-82
C+77-79
C 73-76
C- 70-72
D 60-70
F Below 60

Attendance and Participation
Pre-registered students who fail to attend the first meeting of the class may be dropped. You are expected to attend every class. You can't succeed if you miss critique sessions, lectures and labs. Attendance will be a component of your grade. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. <u>If you come in late, you are responsible to let the instructor know. If you are late you will receive half the attendance points for that day.</u>

Moodle
Your grades will be available on Moodle, along with some handouts and resources.

Deadlines and Professionalism
Professionals are under constant pressure to produce high-quality work in a short time. A great story is of little value if it's finished too late for publication or broadcast. Therefore, *deadlines in this class will be strictly enforced*. Unless you have an acceptable reason and make prior arrangements, an assignment submitted after the deadline will lose 10% of its grade for each day it is late.

<u>NO ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED LATER THAN ONE WEEK AFTER THE DEADLINE.</u>
If you can't meet a deadline due to illness or some other emergency, *you must let me know before the deadline and make up the work within a week*.

Camera Equipment
Digital SLR cameras and essential equipment will be available for check out.

You will need:
1. **A portable hard drive of at least 500 GB to store your digital photos and videos.** You will also use this drive for future journalism classes.
2. **A 16 GB SDHC memory card class 10 with a read speed of 80MB/s**
3. Optional- a card reader

Access
For after-hours access to Don Anderson Hall, you will be able to enter the building using the Griz Card swipe at the front door. For after-hours access to Don Anderson Hall, complete and submit a form online by Friday, February 2 at 5pm. If you miss the deadline, you will not have after-hours access for the semester. Complete only one request form per semester – be sure to list all the Journalism courses you are taking.

Academic Honesty
I expect your honesty in presenting your own work for this course. Academic misconduct at The University of Montana is subject to an academic penalty ranging from failing the assignment to expulsion from the university. Students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code.

Plagiarism
As defined by "The University of Montana Student Conduct Code" plagiarism is: "Representing another person's words, ideas, data, or materials as one's own." This is strictly prohibited in this class and any case of plagiarism in this course will be subject to the penalties outlined in the student code of conduct.

Double-dipping
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.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities
This course is accessible to and usable by otherwise qualified students with disabilities. To request reasonable program modifications, please consult with the instructor. Disability Services for Students will assist the instructor and student in the accommodation process. For more information, visit the Disability Services website.

Week	Date	Class	Assignment Due	Labs and tutorials
1	1/22	Introduction - Syllabus Still vs. Video Digital SLR Cameras I		*ONLINE LABS*
	1/24	Digital Camera Instruction I *Assign Classmate Portrait*	BRING Camera To Class	
2	1/29	Exposure: Shutter Speed and Aperture	BRING Camera To Class	Lightroom tutorials 1,2 and 3 Digital Workflow
	1/31	Depth of Field and composition		
3	2/5	Captions Critique Classmate Portrait	Classmate Portrait	Lightroom tutorial 4 Develop Module
	2/7	Photographing People and Lenses Introduce Final Portrait Project		
4	2/12	Critique Depth of field and composition Technical follow up	Depth of Field and composition	Lightroom tutorials 5 Advanced features
	2/14	Quality of Light		
5	2/19	NO CLASS – Presidents' Day		
	2/21	Critique Quality of Light Interaction	Quality of Light	
6	2/26	The Art of Portraiture in Journalism Final Portrait Project Pitch		
	2/28	Critique Interaction	Interaction	

Week	Date	Class	Assignment Due	Labs and tutorials
7	35	Ethics of Still and Video Photojournalism Understanding Diversity		
	3/7	Video 1 Types of shots for Video shooting What is editing? Sequences		Premiere Tutorials 1,2,3 Intro to Premiere Watch before class on Wed 3/14
8	3/12	Critique Final Portrait package Final video project examples Interview and sequences for portrait subject due 4/23	Final Portrait Project	
	3/14	Adobe Premiere Pro	Walk across campus edit	
9	3/19	Critique Walk Across Cameras and equipment Review composition-framing-rule of thirds Bring charged camera to class	Walk Across campus due	
	3/21	Shoot team sequence	Bring camera to class Team sequence due 4/2	
10	3/26	SPRING BREAK		
	3/28	SPRING BREAK		
11	4/2	Critique Team Sequence Shooting, lighting and mics for interviews How to interview subjects Practice and troubleshooting Bring charged camera to class	Bring camera to class	Premiere tutorial 4 Premiere Tools

Week	Date	Class	Assignment Due	Labs and tutorials
		Hand out lights		
	4/4	Shoot Team Interview exercise Bring charged camera to class	Bring camera to class	
12	4/9	Critique Team Interviews, Discuss final projects with an example Setting up interviews	Team Interview Due	
	4/11	Gibson Audio Booth training		
13	4/16	Shoot Gibson Package (sequence people coming in and out of doors)	Bring camera to class	
	4/18	3 point editing- Cutting pictures to words Adjusting audio levels- audio transitions	Gibson Audio Track and video due	
14	4/23	Review soundbite package sequence and interview	Soundbite pkg invu and sequences	
	4/25	Critique Gibson package Choosing, Working & Editing sound bites and adding b-roll. In Class Exercises.	Gibson package due	

Week	Date	Class	Assignment Due	Labs and tutorials
15	4/30	Edit lab	Equipment Return	
	5/2	First cut	First Cut of soundbite package.	
Finals	5/10	10:10 – 12:10	Final Soundbite	Package due!