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Spring 2021

COM 352-002: Photojournalism

David Handschuh

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Com 352

COM 352 Photojournalism

Spring 2021

Professor David Handschuh
Monday 2:30-5:20
Virtual Class and/or Cullimore 315
Office Hours: After Class
Email: dh46@njit.edu

Welcome to Photojournalism for Spring 2021. We're going to try hard to make this an enjoyable educational experience that will enhance your journalism skills. Students will be taught camera basics and fundamentals of still photography and learn to apply them by producing photojournalistic images of news and feature events.

The goal of the course is to produce a variety of images for each student to have a portfolio to display to potential employers.

While I would prefer that you have a digital camera to successfully complete the shooting assignments for this class, I'm going to allow the use of a mobile phone for this class.

There will be weekly photographic assignments that will require you to use your camera and store the images both online and in a safe and secure location that offers you at will access.

Come to class ready to be seen. **I expect you to keep your video on during class.**

Attendance at each of these sessions is crucial. **DO NOT MISS CLASS. Attendance and participation** will make a difference in your grade at the end of the term. Students are responsible for any announcements, assignments, lecture notes and any other class material even if they are unable to attend. Don't call me for them. Make sure you can get that info from a classmate.

Arrive on time to class. If you arrive late frequently you will be denied admission to class. If you are denied admission, you missed a class and see paragraph above! There will be **weekly photographic assignments**. These must be submitted on deadline. Students will be shooting and submitting images as directed for the assignment.

Please take a portrait or two of yourself as the very first frame on any shoot. You must submit jpg images of your weekly shoot. **PLEASE DO NOT SUBMIT GIANT JPGS, RAW OR TIF FILES.**

If you are fortunate enough to have a camera that will produce 32 megabyte .RAW files that's wonderful but you will need to give me compressed jpgs between one and seven MB.

SUBMITTING IMAGES FOR CLASS IN PERSON:

Image will be submitted on a USB drive that will have two folders:

Folder one, labeled with your last name and assignment number and info. For example:

Jane Doe Assignment One NYC Scenes

This folder will contain ALL your photos from the shoot.

Folder two, labeled with the word SELECT, your last name, assignment number and info

SELECT Jane Doe Assignment One NYC Scenes

This folder will contain your best photos, the dozen or so edited images that reflect the work that you are most proud of.

Please place all your photos in an envelope or folder labeled with your name, assignment number and class number on the outside. I am grading many assignments every week and I'm not responsible for loose, unlabeled materials submitted. I try my best to keep your valuable images in good condition, the same way I would expect anyone to handle my images.

FOR CLASS ONLINE:

Images will be submitted to our shared Google Drive:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0AB9g5yCOox-AUk9PVA>

Please find the folder for the appropriate class and create a folder inside with your name.

Inside that folder create two folders:

Folder one, labeled with your last name and assignment number and info. For example:

Jane Doe Assignment One NYC Scenes

This folder will contain ALL your photos from the shoot.

Folder two, labeled with the word SELECT, your last name, assignment number and info

SELECT Jane Doe Assignment One NYC Scenes

This folder will contain your best photos, the dozen or so edited images that reflect the work that you are most proud of.

Once returned, you will be responsible for **keeping** your work. **IT MUST BE SUBMITTED BACK TO ME AT THE END OF THE SEMESTER.** It is your responsibility to keep your own work in order for evaluation. No excuses. Please get rid of the dog now if you anticipate him eating your assignments!

Assignments must be handed in on time. In the real world newspaper and magazine reporters and photographers have deadlines. Miss the deadline and you're not published. Miss the deadline often and you're not employed! **One grade will be subtracted from each late assignment. (An "A" becomes a "B").**
This is non-negotiable department policy.

If you can't complete it on time it **MUST BE HANDED IN BY THE NEXT CLASS FOR ME TO ACCEPT IT. NO EXCEPTIONS. I will not accept assignments more than one week late.** Missed or late assignments are major factors in receiving a poor final grade.

Each student has a **standing weekly assignment**. By standing it means that it is due every week, whether I remind you about it or not. You **MUST find three (3) images** and offer a critique of the three images you chose. Your source for these images can be from print or online publications.

They must be "photojournalistic" images, not art photos, ads or family snapshots! They can be examples of "good" or "bad" photography as long as you can support your argument either way. Valid arguments for changes in cropping are acceptable and encouraged.

When you choose your image, please put your name, the source of the image, the date of publication, and your comments regarding the image on your critique. **They will be a part of your final grade.**

ALWAYS CARRY YOUR CAMERA TO CLASS!!! ALWAYS CARRY YOUR CAMERA TO CLASS!!!! ALWAYS CARRY YOUR CAMERA TO CLASS!!!! ALWAYS CARRY YOUR CAMERA TO CLASS!!!! You never know when you'll need it!

Presentations

Students will be expected to present their work to peers. Presentations are designed to increase the awareness of contemporary images makers, their style and the impact of their work.

A secondary function of our discussion of this work is to develop and grow your comfort in delivery and description of ideas. Further details on each presentation will be discussed in class. These presentations constitute a significant portion of your grade and will help develop your writing skills and your public speaking abilities, while also providing creative insights for yourself and your classmates.

We will have working photojournalists "stop by" class to show their work. Please make them feel welcome. I expect you to research our guests and to ask questions, pick their brains and interact with them.

Please note: The class schedule and shooting assignments may change if interesting assignments arise. **PLEASE MAKE SURE TO CHECK YOUR EMAIL BEFORE CLASS.** On occasion, a news emergency, interesting photo opportunity or life in general might necessitate a change in plans. Deal with it. It's good training for the newsroom.

Grading:

Your grade at the end of the semester will be determined by many factors.

**** Your attendance and punctuality. 10%

**** Your participation in class discussion and critique is very important and will reflect in your final grade. I need your input and opinion to keep class exciting. We all have different ways of thinking and seeing and I encourage you to feel free to express those opinions. 10%

**** Your three images, critique and the feedback you give your classmates will be a portion of your final grade. 10%

**** Your weekly photo submissions will be **the** MAJOR portion of your final grade. There will be a letter grade attached to your weekly photo shoots. 40%

****Your Final Project 30%

A is for excellent work with **many** well exposed and composed photographs that are alive, have interaction or action, have captured “the moment” and told a story.

B for good work that produces **several** well exposed and composed photographs.

C for passing work, that has technical problems, i.e.: under or over exposed photographs or many photos that are blurry or out of focus. Work that is lifeless, boring, dull has no action or interaction receives a “C”.

D for poor work that has no action, no interaction or severe technical shortcomings.

F for failing work. Your images are narcoleptic, badly exposed, not focused or you noticeably put little to no effort into the assignment

Academic Integrity - NJIT Honor Code

The NJIT Honor Code will be upheld in all aspects of this course. Violations of this code will be brought to the immediate attention of the Dean of Students. The NJIT Honor Code is available for review on line at: <http://www.njit.edu/academics/honorcode.php> .

]All work for this course must be done AFTER the start of the course, and completed specifically and only for this course, to demonstrate learning and application of new skills.

A plagiarized image, essay, project or research paper will result in an F for the course and disciplinary action to be determined by the Dean of Students.

Photojournalism Class Schedule Spring 2021

| Class Number | Date | Subject | Notes |
|--------------|---------|-------------|-------------|
| 1 | 1.25.21 | Class Intro | Snow photos |

| | | | |
|----|---------|---|---|
| 2 | 2.1.21 | Camera Basics Advanced Camera Basics | Stopping/Showing motion Depth of Field |
| 3 | 2.8.21 | Editing, Ethics and The Decision Making Process | Seeking light, lines, color and shapes |
| 4 | 2.15.21 | Feature Photography | Making something from nothing |
| 5 | 2.22.21 | News Photography NO CLASS President's Day? | Environmental Portrait |
| 6 | 3.1.21 | The Picture Story | |
| 7 | 3.8.21 | Picture story proposals due, discussed and approved in class Midterm evaluations | |
| 8 | 3.15.21 | NO CLASS SPRING BREAK | |
| 9 | 3.22.21 | Freelancing in New York The Business of Photojournalism | |
| 10 | 3.29.21 | FIRST PHOTO STORY DUE | |
| 11 | 4.5.21 | Photoshop/Color Correction | |
| 12 | 4.12.21 | Photojournalism and the Law | |
| 13 | 4.19.21 | FINAL PHOTO STORY PROJECT DUE | |
| 14 | 4.26.21 | Neighborhood Photo shoot | In person??? |
| 15 | 5.3.21 | Class review, return Photo Stories | Last Class |
| | | | |

Request for a reshoot, **COM 352. Photojournalism**

Date: _____

Dear Professor Handschuh,

I messed up and would like to try to do better by reshooting assignment number _____ titled _____.

Here's what went wrong:

I will try to correct the issues by:

Thanks,

Name

signature