



Course Syllabus



Course Code: EDL125

# Middle School Photography 1b: Drawing with Light

## **Course Description**

Photographs play an important role in our world today. We photograph to preserve memories, document events, and create artistic works. For those looking to build on the basics of photography, consider Middle School Photography 1b: Drawing with Light. In this course, you will learn what it takes to create a good photograph and how to improve your photography of animals, people, and even your vacations. You will also begin manipulating your photographs using photo-editing software. Through a variety of assigned projects, you'll engage your creativity by photographing a range of subjects and learning to see the world through the lens of your cameras. Once you get the hang of this process, you'll be taking photos that will amaze your friends and have them wondering how you do it!

#### **Required Materials**

- Digital camera: "point and shoot" or above A Smartphone may be used for most required tasks, however, appropriate applications will need to be installed to allow the student to make the necessary adjustments to the camera mode, shutter speed, and aperture.
- Paper and Pen/Pencil for note taking
- Camera cord to transfer images to the computer
- Image Editing Software
- Lighting tools for side, front, and back lighting

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# **Unit 1: Managing and Editing Photos**

#### **Unit Summary**

In this unit, you will learn more about managing and editing photos once they are transferred to a computer. We'll discuss the common types of files that are used to save digital images and the good and bad points of each. We'll also learn more about managing the digital files and common photo-editing functions.

- Discuss the common file types used to save digital images
- Discuss the advantages and disadvantages (good and bad points) of different file types
- Discuss the importance of photo management
- Discuss common photo-editing functions



# **Unit 2: Vacation Photos**

#### **Unit Summary**

If you've ever sat through a slideshow of someone's vacation photographs, you probably already know that not everyone takes good shots of their travels. We want to capture the beauty, excitement, fun, and unique aspects of the places that we travel to as well as the personality of the people that we travel with. But, often these characteristics just don't appear when we print the photographs. In this unit, we'll learn more about how to improve our vacation photographs so that the next time you show someone photos of your travels, you'll wow them with the photographs that you took.

- Discuss how to prepare to photograph a vacation
- Identify some common vacation photographs
- Discuss some of the problems that people have when photographing vacations
- Discuss tips for improving classic vacation photographs
- Think about how to use these vacation photograph tips in your hometown



# **Unit 3: The Wild Side**

#### **Unit Summary**

In this unit, we will learn more about photographing animals. We'll discuss some of the common problems that photographers have when photographing animals and discuss some tips for avoiding these problems. We'll also spend some time learning about photographing birds and pets.

- Identify common problems found in photographs of animals
- Discuss some tips for taking better animal photographs
- Discuss how to photograph birds
- Discuss how to photograph pets



# **Midterm Exam**

- Review information acquired and mastered from this course up to this point.
- Take a course exam based on material from the first three units in this course (Note: You will be able to open this exam only one time.)



# **Unit 4: Photographing People**

#### **Unit Summary**

In this unit, we will learn more about photographing people, including how to create self-portraits. We'll study some tips for improving photographs of people, including working with light. In addition, we'll discuss the choice of posed versus candid (non-posed, natural) photographs. Finally, we'll look at creating self-portraits and some creative ways of capturing your own image in digital form.

- Discuss how lighting can affect photographs of people
- Discuss tips for improving images of people
- Identify some of the pros and cons of posed and candid photographs
- Discuss self-portraits and how to create unique self-images



# **Unit 5: Photographer Etiquette and Display**

#### **Unit Summary**

In this unit, we will learn more about the rules and laws that photographers should follow. Although you may be taking pictures only for fun, you should still be polite and respectful to other people and follow the laws that relate to photography. We will also discuss how to print your digital images and how to display them once you have printed them.

- Discuss photography etiquette
- Understand and discuss some of the laws that influence and affect photography
- Understand and explain to someone else how to print a photo
- Discuss displaying your photography



# **Final Exam**

- Review information acquired and mastered from this course up to this point.
- Take a course exam based on material from units four and five in this course the last two units. (Note: You will be able to open this exam only one time.)