



**NEW YORK CITY  
COLLEGE OF  
TECHNOLOGY**

The City University of New York  
COMD 3330 E196:  
Digital Photography II  
Department of Communication Design

Instructor: Peter A. Labrozzi  
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Classroom: V-111  
Day/Hours: Wednesdays 6:00–9:20pm

**Course Description:** In this class, the emphasis will be on creative problem solving with photography for the Communication Design eld. The emphasis will be on using style to transform subject matter in order to communicate ideas. In addition, each student will create a coherent body of work on a topic of his or her choice. Students will be exposed to a wide range of contemporary photographers from a range of genres. Advanced digital darkroom, color correction, and color management procedures will be covered in addition to facilitate students’ professional-level portfolio development.

**Course Objectives**

<b>For the successful completion of this course, students should be able to:</b>	<b>Evaluation methods and criteria:</b>
Use professional vocabulary to discuss technical and aesthetic issues in photography.	Students will demonstrate competency in homework and class blog posts.
Conceptualize the use of photography to communicate mood and content for editorial or advertising use.	Students will demonstrate competency by creating photographs that communicate ideas.
Understand how lighting can create emotion and feeling in a photograph.	Students will display competency in still life and portrait studio lighting assignments.
Analyze both the aesthetic value and the technical competency of one’s own work, the work of one’s peers, and the work of professional photographers.	Students will display competency through in-class discussions and class blog posts.
Develop the skills necessary for collaborative teamwork.	Students will display competency through in-class team projects.
Operate compact digital cameras, dSLRs, tripods, light meters, continuous lights, and strobe lights.	Students will display competency through in-class hands-on exercises.
Demonstrate proficiency in digital darkroom techniques and the color correction workflow including optimizing global and local tonal range, removing color casts, increasing contrast, and sharpening.	Students will display competency through printing the midterm and final projects.

**Teaching/Learning Methods**

- Hands-on photo shoots and demonstrations
- Video resources, readings, discussions
- Editing, color correcting, exporting/uploading, and printing photos
- Photo gallery visit
- Peer-to-peer review

## Required Equipment

EACH STUDENT WILL NEED A CAMERA TO COMPLETE THEIR ASSIGNMENTS. To get the most out of this class, your camera should allow manual control over exposure and flash.

Phone cameras may be used if no other equipment is available, but with the caveat that photos be taken from an app allowing manual control of the exposure, including aperture, shutter speed and ISO.

If you don't own or can't borrow a camera, there are 10 Canon Rebel cameras available to loan out to complete your assignments. Cameras must be rented from a CLT and must be returned after 2 days.

## Required Materials

- Flash drive, suggested minimum specs 32gb/USB 3.0
- INSTANT DRY Inkjet paper for pigment ink printers.
  - Epson Ultra Premium Luster Photo Paper - 8.5x11" - 50 Sheets - \$22.99 (or \$.50/ea from me)

## Attendance/Lateness Policy

Attendance is taken and is important to success in this class. Both absences and arrivals more than 15 minutes after the start of class will be marked. If excessive, the instructor will alert the student that he or she may be in danger of not meeting the course objectives and participation expectations, which could lead to a lower grade.

## Digital Landscape

- **Openlab.citytech.cuny.edu** - written assignments/learning logs:  
<https://openlab.citytech.cuny.edu/labrozzicomd3330e196fa19/>
- **Flickr** – photos from in class and homework assignments, portfolio of finished work:  
<https://www.flickr.com/groups/comd3330efa19/>

## Grading Formula

This grading formula rewards consistent effort over the semester. There is a homework assignment most weeks. Please set aside several hours each week to do this assignment. If you complete all the assignments on time, you will do well in the class. This grading formula is based on a point system. Each activity is awarded a certain number of points towards the final grade. You can see the points awarded to your assignments in the grade book on Blackboard.

- **Homework: 36 points** – 9 assignments worth 4 points each. If an assignment is done conscientiously and on time, the student will receive the full credit. If the assignment is late, one point will be subtracted for each week it is late.
- **Learning Logs: 12 points** – Post to our OpenLab blog after every in-class shoot with your best photo from that session, how you achieved it, and what you learned.
- **Quiz: 12 points** – This quiz will cover photography terms and concepts we use in the course.
- **Midterm Project – “A Day in the Life of...” – 20 points** – Create 10 new images with the theme, “A Day in the Life of...” These photos should tell a clear story of a person's life on a given day from beginning to end. Just by looking through the photos a stranger should be able to understand everything that is happening in the photos. Focus on creating strongly composed series of photos with a clear subject.
- **Final Project – “Fairy Tale/Nursery Rhyme” – 20 points** – A portfolio of 10 images that presents the story from a fairy tale or nursery rhyme. Best 10 from 60 shots taken on at least two different shoots.

## Academic Integrity Standards

Students and all others who work with information, ideas, texts, images, music, inventions, and other intellectual property owe their audience and sources accuracy and honesty in using, crediting, and citing sources. As a community of intellectual and professional workers, the College recognizes its responsibility for providing instruction in information literacy and academic integrity, offering models of good practice, and responding vigilantly and appropriately to infractions of academic integrity. Accordingly, academic dishonesty is prohibited in The City University of New York and at New York City College of Technology and is punishable by penalties, including failing grades, suspension, and expulsion.

## Course Schedule

### Week 1 – August 28, 2019 – Course/Photography Overview

- Introductions, Review Syllabus, What makes a good photograph?
- Principles of composition: Rule of Thirds, Leading Lines, Diagonals, Framing, Figure to Ground, Fill the Frame, Center Dominant Eye, Patterns and Repetition, Symmetry
- Exposure, the exposure triangle: Aperture, Shutter Speed, ISO
- Signing up/joining OpenLab and Flickr group

**Homework #1 – Photographer Blog Post:** Select a photographer from: <http://dmimaging.net/top-modern-photographers/>

Explore their work and choose your favorite image by that photographer. Create an OpenLab post including the photo and explain why you were drawn to that photo, and what you feel makes it a great photograph. Include any of the information you've learned about the rules of composition in relation to how that photo was made. Be prepared to discuss at the beginning of next class.

### Week 2 – September 4, 2019 – Field Study - Shadows and Light

- Hands on with Digital SLR's, review controls and settings
- Field trip: Bridge Park – Shadows and Light – Tell a story by only photographing shadows
- Review Lightroom

**Homework #2 – Traveling Toys:** Capture at least 20 photographs of a *traveling toy*. All shots should show a toy or statue in different locales. Select your best 3 shots and post them to the Flickr group. Be prepared to discuss them at the beginning of next class.

### Week 3 – September 11, 2019 – Natural Light Portraits

- Photograph in the field to capture portraits using natural light. What environments work best?
- Add in bounced light to support and enhance the natural light

**Homework #3 – Visit Photoville!:** Visit the huge, (free!) outdoor photo exhibition, Photoville, in Brooklyn Bridge Park. Write a blog post about your experience including any favorite photographers/photographs. Explain what they did well/poorly, please feel free to take photos and include examples of the work you're discussing. See <http://photoville.nyc/> for days & times (Sept. 12-15 & 19-22)

### Week 4 – September 18, 2019 – Street Photography

- Photograph in the field to capture street portraits
- Discuss Midterm Project

**Homework #4 – Relationship:** Capture at least 20 photographs with a focus on *relationship*. All shots should show a type of relationship, this can include people in a relationship or the physical relationship between other things. Select your best 3 shots and post them to the Flickr group. Be prepared to discuss them at the beginning of next class.

### Week 5 – September 25, 2019 – Outdoor flash/fill lighting

- Photograph in the field to capture portraits using natural light and flash with speedlites
- Work on midterm project**

### Week 6 – October 2, 2019 – Action Portraits & Quiz

- Photograph in the field to capture portraits in action, using the techniques and tools we've learned so far
- Work on midterm project**

### October 9 & 16, 2019 – No Class

### Week 7 – October 23, 2019 – Midterm Presentations

- Midterm Project Due & Presentations

### **Week 8 – October 30, 2019 – Studio Lighting Part I: Continuous Lights for Still Life**

- Review Studio Lighting: Hard vs. Soft light, light direction, bounced light, High-key vs. Low-key
- Working in teams, set up and photograph a still life with a single continuous light and modifiers  
Midterm Grades due back

**Homework #5 - Childhood:** Capture at least 20 photographs with a focus on childhood. All shots should show aspects or reminders of childhood. Select your best 3 shots and post them to the Flickr group. Be prepared to discuss them at the beginning of next class.

### **Week 9 – November 6, 2019 – Studio Lighting Part II: Lighting for Portraits Pt. 1**

- Working in teams, set up and photograph portraits with continuous lights or speedlights and modifiers

**Homework #6 - Conceptual Self Portraits:** Capture at least 20 photographs with a focus on conceptual self portraits. All shots should show important aspects of your life without actually showing you. Select your best 3 shots and post them to the Flickr group. Be prepared to discuss them at the beginning of next class.

### **Week 10 – November 13, 2019 – Studio Lighting Part III: Lighting for Portraits Pt. 2**

- Working in teams, set up and photograph portraits with studio strobes and modifiers

**Homework #7 – Framing Portraits:** Capture at least 20 photographs with a focus on framing portraits. All shots should show a subject being framed by something in their environment. Select your best 3 shots and post them to the Flickr group. Be prepared to discuss them at the beginning of next class.

### **Week 11 – November 20, 2019 – Studio Lighting Part IV: Light Painting/Multiple Exposure Photography**

- Working in teams, set up and photograph Light Painting/Multiple Exposure photos

**Homework #8 – Close Up Portraits:** Capture at least 20 photographs with a focus on close up portraits. All shots should show a subject close up, filling the frame entirely. Select your best 3 shots and post them to the Flickr group. Be prepared to discuss them at the beginning of next class.

### **Week 12 – November 27, 2019 – Studio Lighting Part V: Advertising Photography**

- Working in teams, set up and photograph advertising products Discuss Final Project
- Discuss Final Project

**Homework #9 – Recreate a Photo/Painting:** Capture at least 20 photographs attempting to recreate a photo or painting. Use lighting, wardrobe, props and creativity to recreate the image as best as you can. Select your best shot and post it to the Flickr group with a copy of the original. Be prepared to discuss them at the beginning of next class.

### **Week 13 – December 4, 2019 – Studio Lighting Part VI: Magazine Cover Shoot**

- Working in teams, set up and photograph a magazine cover shoot  
**Work on final project**

### **Week 14 – December 11, 2019 – Studio Lighting Part VII: Public Service Announcement**

- Working in teams, set up and photograph a PSA  
**Work on final project**

### **Week 15 – December 18, 2019 – Final Project Presentations**

- Final Project Due & Presentations
- Wrap up, thanks for joining me in Digital Photography III!