

Digital Arts Syllabus

Mrs. Hall

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Course Description:

Please visit sbdigital.weebly.com for recent assignments and resources.

While this class will focus primarily on photography and video as a way of expressing an idea or concept, students will at times employ other media such as drawing, sketching, painting and sculpting to enhance their work. Throughout this course students will be expected to participate in class discussions and written responses regarding art and media in our contemporary lives.

At the end of this course, you will know how to:

- Create a website that will showcase your work throughout the semester.
- Learn how to edit photos using sophisticated techniques akin to photoshop.
- See how photographic composition can make or break a photograph/video.
- Use photo editing and movie editing software to improve the overall appearance of your work.
- Critique and discuss photography and videos

Materials:

There are many students in this course, and yet we have only 4 DSLR cameras, 3 video cameras, and 5 Mac computers. While it is not required that you bring your own technology, it is encouraged. Anything you bring to class you will not have to share with others, and I can provide a safe place to store it for you.

Required Materials:

- **Please bring your school-issued netbook to every class.** We will be using them for storing, editing and uploading images for handing-in. If you have a personal laptop you would rather work on, you are welcome to bring that instead.

Suggested Materials:

- SD Card (A 4GB card is only 5 bucks at Best Buy, and then you won't have to worry about sharing)
- Digital Camera (A DSLR would be ideal, but really any point-and-click digital camera will work fine)

*Many cell phones have pretty good cameras on them these days. They are limited in their capability, and an actual digital camera would still be preferred. If the only option is to use your cellphone camera, please talk to me first. We have a school-wide policy that prohibits use of cellphones during class, but for the purposes of taking photos I can allow it. Please be aware however, that any misuse of phones (tweeting/facebook/snapchat during class, texting conversations, games, etc) will result in the loss of that privilege. You will either have to wait for a camera or take

your photos outside of class.

Assignments:

1. You will almost always be given an assignment on Monday. It will almost always be due the following Monday. This will be graded.
2. You will almost always be given classwork that supports your assignment. This will be graded.
3. Every assignment needs to be posted to your Weebly. Assignments submitted in any other way are accepted but may suffer a point deduction.

Off-Campus Shooting/Homework:

It is highly recommended though not required for you to take some of your photos outside of class hours. Due to the class time only being 45 minutes long, you will not be allowed or able to leave campus to take photographs during class time.

Plagiarism and Past-Work:

Posting someone else's photography as your own is the same as turning in a paper that you did not write. You would not want someone to take a photo of yours and post it to Instagram as if it were their own, so you should not do that to someone else. It is dishonest, illegal and it devalues your character.

In this class you will be required to turn in CURRENT photographs that YOU have taken. You may not turn in photographs that you took while on a vacation 2 years ago. They must follow the assignment criteria and be taken during the span of this class.

Grading:

Photo, Editing and Video Assignments (70% of grade):

- This is the bulk of your grade. This class will begin with technique based editing skills but will progress to more creative projects.

Photo Finds, Responses, Participation and In-Class Exercises (20% of grade):

- You will almost always be given classwork that supports your shooting assignment or something else you are learning in the class. These will almost always be uploaded to your weebly page and are worth 20% of your grade.
- There may be times where you will be given credit simply for "participation". You will always be notified if this is the case so you may be sure to get credit!