

DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS
COURSE OUTLINE – Winter 2025

AR 2350 (A3):PHOTOGRAPHY I– 3 (3-0-3) 90 hours for 15 weeks

Northwestern Polytechnic acknowledges that our campuses are located on Treaty 8 territory, the ancestral and present-day home to many diverse First Nations, Metis, and Inuit people. We are grateful to work, live and learn on the traditional territory of Duncan's First Nation, Horse Lake First Nation and Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation, who are the original caretakers of this land.

We acknowledge the history of this land and we are thankful for the opportunity to walk together in friendship, where we will encourage and promote positive change for present and future generations.

INSTRUCTOR: David McGregor **PHONE:** 780 539-2770
OFFICE: C202 **E-MAIL:** dmcgregor@nwpolytech.ca
OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays 1:30 – 2:30

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION: An introductory studio course investigating the technical and conceptual aspects of digital photography as an art medium. Students will learn to use basic photographic equipment and to manipulate images.

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: DD 1380

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS: *The Ongoing Moment* by Geoff Dyer, *On Photography* by Susan Sontag

DELIVERY MODE(S): Lecture and Lab

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. To teach students the technical functions of a digital camera. Including aperture settings, ISO, white balance, shutter speed, focal lengths, and depth of field.
2. To equip students with a vocabulary pertaining to photography and photographic criticism.
3. To assist students in developing a sense of context for contemporary photography.
4. To assist students in refining their own point of view and aesthetic style through digital photography.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Develop a basic understanding of digital SLR cameras and how to use them, including exposure, focus, and white balance.
2. Further develop Photoshop skills, especially those pertinent to digital photography.
3. Demonstrate and discuss their knowledge of the basic elements and principles of art and design as they pertain to two-dimensional art, including balance, rhythm, repetition, dominance, contrast, and variety, and to develop a more advanced understanding of compositional strategies.
4. Acquire a basic understanding of the history, theory, and contemporary practice of photography, and develop a common vocabulary to discuss and critique both their own assignments and the work of other artists.

TRANSFERABILITY:

Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for specific course transfer information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at Alberta Transfer Guide's main page

<http://www.transferralberta.ca>

Students have the final responsibility for ensuring the transferability of courses taken at Alberta Colleges and Universities.

EVALUATIONS:

Attendance/Participation	20%
Reading Response	10%
In-class exercises	15%
Major Series 1	15%
Major Series 2	15%
Major Series 3	25%

GRADING CRITERIA:

Please note that most universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines		Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	90-100		C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-89		C	2.0	63-66
A-	3.7	80-84		C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	77-79		D+	1.3	55-59

B	3.0	73-76		D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72		F	0.0	00-49

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

January 6th to April 23rd, 2025

Class time is Tuesday and Thursday from 2:30 – 5:20pm

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Students are expected to be on time and remain for the duration of each class. Leaving early or consistently taking long breaks will affect your participation grade.
- There will be sessions where we will be taking photographs around campus during class time. It is expected that students will use this time for Photography and no other course work.
- Students are responsible for checking their email as well as adhering to specified due dates of assignments.
- Cameras and tripods are available to students for this course. They can be signed out from the instructor after students have demonstrated responsible use of the equipment. If students want to use their own equipment, this is encouraged but the suitability of personal equipment must be cleared with the instructor.
- The collaborative nature of the studio environment requires a high level of respect for fellow students and their work. Frequent use of cellphones or talking while others are speaking will affect your participation grade and may result in students being asked to leave if their behavior is negatively affecting the studio environment.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Admission Guide at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/>

****Note:** all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.