



# HOUSATONIC COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**COURSE NAME:** Digital Photography

**COURSE NUMBER:** ART\* 250

**CREDITS:** 3

**CATALOG DESCRIPTION:** Fundamentals of digital camera operation and digital darkroom procedures. This course will study digital photography as a fine art and as a means of communication. Students will supply their own digital cameras, photo quality paper and other supplies.

**PREREQUISITES:** ENG\*101

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

## **General Education Competencies Satisfied:**

**HCC General Education Requirement Designated Competency Attribute Code(s):**

AESX                      **Appreciation of the Aesthetic Dimensions of Humankind**

**Additional CSCU General Education Requirements for CSCU Transfer Degree Programs:**

None

**Embedded Competency(ies):**

None

**Discipline-Specific Attribute Code(s):**

FINA                      **Fine Arts elective**

## **Course objectives:**

### **General Education Goals and Outcomes:**

**Appreciation of the Aesthetic Dimensions of Humankind:** Students will understand the diverse nature, meanings, and functions of creative endeavors through the study and practice of literature, music, the theatrical and visual arts, and related forms of expression.

### **Course Specific Outcomes:**

1. Demonstrate competence in the use of digital cameras and the techniques and processes of digitally manipulating images for printing or the web.

2. Demonstrate the process of visual thinking that leads to productive problem solving through a series of projects.
3. Recognize the aesthetic and expressive qualities of digital photography.
4. Demonstrate a knowledge of artistic trends and styles acquired through visual examination and historic references that focus on social, political, and cultural contexts.
5. Demonstrate the ability to think creatively.
6. Investigate and articulate ethical choices when communicating through the visual medium.

## **COURSE CONTENT:**

This course will introduce the student to basic principles of digital photography art and technique. Topics covered include formal elements of photography, camera operation, the mechanics of digital imaging, manipulating images in Photoshop, digital formats such as RAW and HDR, and the history of photography as an art form. The student will produce a portfolio of original work using a wide variety of photographic techniques.

### **Content:**

- A. A brief history of photography
- B. Manual camera operation:
  - a. Shutter control
  - b. Aperture control & Depth of Field
  - c. ISO control
  - d. The concept of Reciprocity
  - e. White Balance
  - f. Light meters & Exposure
  - g. Digital file types
- C. Image editing in Photoshop
  - a. Image editing workflow
  - b. JPEG / RAW files
  - c. Color space
  - d. Making selections and masks
  - e. Histograms & Curves
  - f. Alpha Channels
  - g. Layers
  - h. Color corrections
  - i. Image resolution and cropping
  - j. Sharpening
  - k. Developing a digital photography workflow.

- D. Photographic Aesthetics
  - a. Composition
  - b. Lighting
  - c. Creativity
  - d. Portfolio presentation
  
- E. Supplemental Software may be included if time permits
  - eg. Editing in Lightroom or Aperture