

Middle School Photography

Pre-Requisites:

Credits:

Estimated Completion Time:

Earliest Start Date: March 2014

Description

Middle School Photography

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

"A picture is worth a thousand words."

Photographs play an important role in our world today. We photograph to preserve memories, document events, and create artistic works. This course introduces students to the basics of photography, including camera functions and photo composition. Students will learn what it takes to create a good photograph and how to improve photographs of animals, people, and vacations. They will also begin working with their photographs using photo-editing software. Through a variety of assigned projects, students will engage their creativity by photographing a range of subjects and learning to see the world through the lens of their cameras.

Major Topics and Concepts

Unit 1: Introduction to Photography

Objectives:

Upon completion of this unit, you will be able to:

- * Define photography.
- * Discuss the early history of photography.
- * Discuss how cameras work.
- * Discuss how to transfer images from a camera to a computer.

Unit 2: Meeting Your Camera

Objectives:

Upon completion of this unit, you will be able to:

- * Discuss the basic functions and features of point-and-shoot cameras.
- * Discuss some of the common risks to digital cameras.
- * Discuss how to care for your camera so that it will continue to work effectively.

Unit 3: Choosing a Subject

Objectives:

Upon completion of this unit, you will be able to:

- * Understand some of the differences between good photographs and great photographs.
- * Discuss the purpose of photographs.
- * Discuss the elements of art and design.

Unit 4: Elements of Composition

Objectives:

Upon completion of this unit, you will be able to:

- * Learn about different ways to focus photographs.
- * Define and discuss the *rule of thirds*.
- * Understand and use the technique of *framing* in photographs.
- * Discuss portrait and landscape orientations of photographs.

Unit 5: Backgrounds & Foregrounds

Objectives:

Upon completion of this unit, you will be able to:

- * Define *foreground*, *middleground*, and *background*.
- * Learn how framing (from Unit 4) can be used in the foreground of an image.
- * Discuss some of the problems that can occur in foregrounds and backgrounds. These problems can affect the quality of a photograph.
- * Study some of the techniques and methods that can be used to draw attention to the subject of the photograph.
- * Discuss how using the foreground, middleground, and background can add depth to a photograph.

Unit 6: Managing & Editing Photos

Objectives:

Upon completion of this unit, you will be able to:

- * 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 7: Vacation Photos

Objectives:

Upon completion of this unit, you will be able to:

- * 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 8: The Wild Side

Objectives:

Upon completion of this unit, you will be able to:

- * 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.

Unit 9: Photographing People

Objectives:

Upon completion of this unit, you will be able to:

- * 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 10: Photographer Etiquette & Display

Objectives:

Upon completion of this unit, you will be able to:

- * Define photography.
- * Discuss the early history of photography.
- * Discuss how cameras work.
- * Discuss how to transfer images from a camera to a computer.