



Course Prefix/Number/Title:

PHOT 296 - Outdoor Photography Study Abroad

Number of Credits:

Three (3) Credits

Course Description:

This is a nine-week intensive course in which students will learn all aspects of outdoor photography including lighting, equipment, locations, techniques, post-production, image editing, presentation and careers. Students will explore a variety of subject matter including landscapes, scenic, wildlife, rustic, rural, and urban photography. Students will spend six weeks in an online classroom prior to travel. One week traveling abroad in a photo intensive program where students will have daily lectures and photo excursions. One week preparing a digital portfolio along with matted and framed, gallery ready, prints for display.

Pre-/Co Requisites:

PHOT 180 and PHOT 150 or instructor consent

Course Objectives:

1. To apply natural lighting in outdoor photography.
2. To introduce students to a variety of outdoor subject matter.
3. To understand the correct equipment used while photographing different outdoor subjects.
4. To apply postproduction, image correction, and digital darkroom techniques as they apply to outdoor photography.
5. To research and learn about career opportunities in outdoor photography.
6. To demonstrate and understanding of opportunities, requirements, preparations, and protocol for traveling abroad when doing outdoor photography.
7. To understand the importance of culture, history, and customs when photographing in other countries.
8. To create and present an outdoor portfolio.
9. To demonstrate the ability to print, mat and frame their work for a professional presentation.

Instructor:

Clint Saunders

Office:

Nelson Science Center Room 104

Office hours:

Online – Email instructor – usually respond within 24 hours
On Campus – Friday's during studio time or by appointment

Phone:

DCB Photo Studio – 701-228-5657 – The studio manager handles all calls to this number.

Clint's cell – 307-702-1368

Email:

Clint.saunders@dakotacollege.edu

Lecture/Lab Schedule:

Online Class available 8 weeks before departure. Available 24/7

Travel abroad – This weeklong trip normally takes place in September; however, dates will vary. See the current application for the current dates.

Post trip portfolios and printing – (photo majors only) – Due one week after returning to the states.

Please see a breakdown of costs and payment due dates, travel dates, and other information online at. www.dakotacollege.edu/ireland

Textbook(s):

None

Course Requirements:

The travel abroad course is a nine-week intensive course in which students will be engaged in photographic activities, lectures, and critiques on a daily basis. There is a cost associated with this course, numerous forms that need to be completed, and other requirements which must to be met by each student. Students interested in enrolling in this course should contact the instructor in advance to receive information on course logistics, costs and requirements, and/or check out the link listed above.

The first 7 weeks are online. The ninth week is postproduction. The eighth week is in Ireland. The daily routine in Ireland will include photographing during key times of the day for lighting, including sunrise and sunset hours, lectures on outdoor photography and techniques, lectures on the culture and history of the areas students are photographing, and critique sessions.

The final portfolio will consist of 20-30 examples of a student's work from the trip. Students will submit their portfolios to the online course shell within one week of returning to the US.

Photo majors will print, mat, and frame a number of prints (to be determined later) to be hung in the Thatcher Hall Gallery Frames on the first and second floors of Thatcher Hall, on the Dakota College at Bottineau campus.

Tentative Course Outline:

Week 1 – Introduction, various outdoor subject matter, and technical foundations. Tips for studying abroad, required travel information for this trip.

Week 2 – Vast Landscapes

Week 3- Intimate Landscape and Macro

Week 4 – Wildlife

Week 5 –Rustic, Rural, Urban Decay, Cityscapes

Week 6 – Nighttime Photography

Week 7 – Careers in outdoor photography

Week 8 – IRELAND

Week 9 – Postproduction and portfolios

CTE Competency/Department Learning Outcome(s):

CTE Competency #1: Employ industry specific skills in preparation for workplace readiness

Relationship to Campus Focus:

This course addresses the campus focus by having students compare and contrast traditional film methods in photography with current digital technologies while anticipating future changes in photographic technologies.

Classroom Policies:

1. *Be respectful of other students, technicians, instructors, and guests.*
2. *You must participate in discussions in order to receive full credit.*
3. *Respect and care for all equipment whether it's yours or the colleges.*
4. *Be on time.*
5. *Be courteous.*
6. *Be humble.*

Student E-mail Policy:

Dakota College at Bottineau is increasingly dependent upon email as an official form of communication. A student's campus-assigned email address will be the only one

recognized by the Campus for official mailings. The liability for missing or not acting upon important information conveyed via campus email rests with the student.

Academic Integrity:

According to the DCB Student Handbook, students are responsible for submitting their own work. Students who cooperate on oral or written examinations or work without authorization share the responsibility for violation of academic principles, and the students are subject to disciplinary action even when one of the students is not enrolled in the course where the violation occurred. The Code detailed in the Academic Honesty/Dishonesty section of the Student Handbook will serve as the guideline for cases where cheating, plagiarism or other academic improprieties have occurred.

Disabilities and Special Needs:

contact the instructor and Disability Support Services.

Title IX:

Dakota College at Bottineau (DCB) faculty are committed to helping create a safe learning environment for all students and for the College as a whole. Please be aware that all DCB employees (other than those designated as confidential resources such as advocates, counselors, clergy and healthcare providers) are required to report information about such discrimination and harassment to the College Title IX Coordinator. This means that if a student tells a faculty member about a situation of sexual harassment or sexual violence, or other related misconduct, the faculty member must share that information with the College's Title IX Coordinator. Students wishing to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility can find a list of resources on the DCB Title IX webpage.

Disclaimer Statement:

The instructor of this course reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus without prior notice.

Grades:

Grading Philosophy:

Please understand that I do not care about your grades, I care about your education. My job is to teach you, your job is to learn what I teach you, and hopefully more. If we both do our jobs, grades shouldn't be necessary.

The best way to succeed in my class is to NOT focus on - "what's my grade," or "what do I need to get an A?" - but instead focus on - "how much can I learn." If you embrace this, you won't be doing assignments for grades, you'll be doing them in order to learn, and the grade will become secondary and take care of itself.

Final Grades:

Your final grades in this class will be determined by two factors. Your photography grade and your professionalism grade. Each is worth 50%. (see semester point breakdown below the rubrics.)

Photography Grades:

Weekly Assignments:

There are no weekly assignments that are due in this course.

Final Portfolios:

You are here to learn, and not everyone will succeed on their first attempt. As such, not all images will meet a professional standard the first time you tackle a new assignment. Therefore, your final grade for photography will be based solely on your final portfolio grade, and not your weekly assignment grades.

Your final portfolio will consist of examples of your work throughout the semester. You are allowed to re-shoot every assignment for a better grade; therefore, it is expected that your portfolio will contain work of a professional standard.

I will offer critiques on final portfolios up to a week before they are due so students may continue to re-shoot assignments to strengthen their portfolio before submitting them for a grade.

All photography will be assessed using the following rubric and scores.

Photography Rubric:

Aesthetics – Weekly (0-50 points) – Portfolio (0-400 points)

We are learning to create professional images that would sell to a magazine, stock photography house, or hang in a client's living room or art gallery. EVERY assignment should be done with this in mind.

While aesthetics can be purely subjective, there is still a professional standard for appearance that we are striving for. Students must look beyond the subject and consider the entire frame of the image when considering aesthetics. Does this look like a professional image?

Principles of design – Weekly (0-50 points) – Portfolio (0-400 points)

Composition and design are basic visual rules that apply to all 2-dimensional art. This part is not subjective. Composition. Color, line, texture, pattern, rhythm, scale, movement, depth, dominance, balance and other principles of design are important when creating a successful image.

Intent – Weekly (0-50 points) – Portfolio (0-400 points)

What was the photographer's intent, and did they successfully create an image that expresses that intent?

For classes, the intent will be the criteria for the assignment. For example, if the assignment is freezing motion, then did the photographer successfully freeze

motion with the camera? Is the viewer interpreting what the photographer wanted to say? Is it clear what the photographer was trying to accomplish?

Technical skills – Weekly (0-50 points) – Portfolio (0-400 points)

This one is fairly simple as it's all about using the photography equipment properly. Is the photograph in focus, is the white balance correct, is the exposure correct, were all the camera settings correct, was lighting equipment used properly, was post-production done correctly, etc?

Weekly Assessment per Category in rubric (4 categories total)

A = 45-50 pts: The student is showing mastery of the skillset being taught.

B = 40-44 pts: The students is showing a high level of competency in the skillset being taught.

C = 35-39 pts: The student is showing a basic level of competency in the skillset being taught.

D = 30-34 pts: The student is showing a substandard level of competency in the skillset being taught.

F = 0-29 pts: The student is showing a complete lack of competency for the skillset being taught.

Final Portfolio Assessment Per Category in rubric (4 categories total)

A = 360-400 pts: The student is showing mastery of the skillset being taught.

B = 320-359 pts: The students is showing a high level of competency in the skillset being taught.

C = 280-319 pts: The student is showing a basic level of competency in the skillset being taught.

D = 240-279 pts: The student is showing a substandard level of competency in the skillset being taught.

F = 0-239 pts: The student is showing a complete lack of competency for the skillset being taught.

Semester Total Points Assessment: (point values double for 16-week course)

A = 1450-1600 pts: The student is showing mastery of the skillset being taught.

B = 1280-1449 pts: The students is showing a high level of competency in the skillset being taught.

C = 1135-1279 pts: The student is showing a basic level of competency in the skillset being taught.

D = 970-1134 pts: The student is showing a substandard level of competency in the skillset being taught.

F = 0-969 pts: The student is showing a complete lack of competency for the skillset being taught.

Professionalism Grades:

Your Professionalism grade is worth half of your total grade for the semester. Your professionalism rubric/grade is attached to your discussions and critiques each week and will be determined by your professionalism in class each week based on the following rubric.

Professionalism Rubric:

Professional is defined by Merriam-Webster's dictionary as "characterized by or conforming to the technical or ethical standards of one's profession."

Punctuality/Deadlines (0-50 points)

Meeting deadlines for your clients or employers, and showing up on time for shoots, is the hallmark of a professional photographer. This certainly applies to your photography class assignments. Was the assignment turned in before the deadline? If it was not, had an extension been granted via email correspondence with the instructor and was the adjusted deadline met? If you are an on-campus student, were you on time for class?

Grammar & Spelling (0-50 points)

Sadly, in the world of text-messaging and email shorthand, the art of writing is fading into obscurity. Writing well, especially in current times, can separate and elevate a photographer above the competition. Good writing is noticed by the reader—consciously or subliminally. Poor writing is also noticed in a negative way. Are the written portions of your photography assignments crafted with proper grammar, punctuation, and capitalization? Did you spellcheck and proofread your written work before uploading? When sending correspondence to your classmates and instructors, are you using proper writing? Do your emails include a proper subject line, greeting, message, and salutation?

Communication (0-50 points)

Another hallmark of a successful professional photographer is effective communication. Beyond proper writing, the professional photographer must be diligent about replying to emails from their clients and/or employers. Did you receive correspondence inside the classroom or via email from your instructor or fellow students? Did you reply promptly and in a courteous and professional manner? Are you using industry standard terms when discussing your work?

Participation/Networking (0-50 points)

Creating art can be a solitary activity and many of the world's famous artists were known loners, but, in the virtual classroom, interaction with your instructor and classmates will do more to enrich your learning experience than anything else. Replying to critiques from the instructor and fellow students, engaging your classmates in the discussion section, and having a dialog with your instructor and classmates is critical to you extracting the maximum learning opportunities from the program as well as, potentially, developing live-long friends and professional connections. Use of industry standard terminology is important in this category as well.

Weekly Assessment per Category in Rubric (4 categories total)

A = 45-50 pts: The student is showing mastery of the skillset being taught.

B = 40-44 pts: The students is showing a high level of competency in the skillset being taught.

C = 35-39 pts: The student is showing a basic level of competency in the skillset being taught.

D = 30-34 pts: The student is showing a substandard level of competency in the skillset being taught.

F = 0-29 pts: The student is showing a complete lack of competency for the skillset being taught.

Semester Total Points Assessment: (point values double for 16-week course)

A = 1450-1600 pts: The student is showing mastery of the skillset being taught.

B = 1280-1449 pts: The students is showing a high level of competency in the skillset being taught.

C = 1135-1279 pts: The student is showing a basic level of competency in the skillset being taught.

D = 970-1134 pts: The student is showing a substandard level of competency in the skillset being taught.

F = 0 - 969 pts: The student is showing a complete lack of competency for the skillset being taught.

Final Grade:

Final Grade = Photography (1600pts) + Professionalism (1600pts) –

[Point values double for 16-week courses.]

A = 2900-3200 pts: The student is showing mastery of the skillset being taught.

B = 2580-2899 pts: The students is showing a high level of competency in the skillset being taught.

C = 2260-2579 pts: The student is showing a basic level of competency in the skillset being taught.

D = 1950-2259 pts: The student is showing a substandard level of competency in the skillset being taught.

F = 0-1949 pts: The student is showing a complete lack of competency for the skillset being taught.

Late Assignments:

In the professional world, punctuality and meeting (or beating) deadlines are important to not only impressing those you work for; they are important to keeping your job! You should always strive to upload assignments before they are due. This is a hallmark of professionalism as a student, employee, and employer.

Late assignments will earn a ZERO in the deadline section of the professionalism rubric and cannot be made up.

There are extenuating circumstances that prevent assignments from being turned in on time. If you anticipate one of these circumstances, you must bring it to my attention as soon as possible and get clear, written (email) approval to turn the assignment in late. Never assume that my acknowledgement of receipt of notification that an assignment will be late is permission to turn in an assignment late. When I give you permission to be late with an assignment, I will state it very clearly (Example: "You have permission to turn in the Week 2 assignment late on [new deadline]."). If you do not see verbiage like shown in the example, do NOT

assume you have permission to turn in an assignment late. If you feel that I am unclear, please continue to engage me until we reach clarity.

In online classes, assignments are known well in advance of the deadline. If you see a busy week or weekend on the horizon, you are responsible to manage your time so that you can get your assignments in on time. Getting your photography work done early so that you can concentrate on other classes or extracurriculars is likely always an option.

Grading Scale:

A (90 – 100%) B (80 – 89%) C (70 – 79%) D (60 – 69%) F (below 60%)

Attendance:

You are required to attend ALL scheduled activities while traveling abroad. NO EXCEPTIONS. You will have free time every day to explore and participate in touristy things.

**Photography Program Internship/Field Study Guidelines
(Practicum)**

- Student's in Dakota College at Bottineau's (DCB) photography classes will do internship or field study experiences as part of their educational training. These applied experiences will help them to be "job ready" when they enter the profession. The classes for which internship or field study instruction will be provided are as follows:

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PHOTO 180

PHOTO 292

PHOTO 190
PHOTO 240
PHOTO 250
PHOTO 285
PHOTO 210

PHOTO 234
PHOTO 232
PHOTO 290
PHOTO 289

- The DCB photography program will not assertively or opportunistically promote its services outside of the campus environment in order to not be in competition with the private sector. The program will take measures that will help prevent it from requisitioning work otherwise accomplished by persons in the profession.
- Pictures taken by photography students as part of their course of study will not belong to them. Ownership rights will lie with the parties for whom the photographs have been taken. Students will sign a waiver stating that the product of their internship or field study photography work belongs to the subjects of the photos or to their representatives.
- All revenue generated by students' internship or field study experiences will be invested back into the program to cover operation and equipment costs. Dakota College students, instructors, or staff will gain no monetary benefit from their participation.
- Students participating in an internship or field study exercise will be supervised and provided guidance by their instructor and advisor. No applied training event will be approved that does not have proper authorization from the photography program's instructor/advisor. However, although the students will be taught and directed by the institution, the actual engagement in the educational experience may or may not be done under direct supervision of their instructor.
- Transportation to the locations where the photos will be taken will not be provided by the institution.

Disclaimer Statement: