



# **WALSH UNIVERSITY**

## **DIVISION OF BUS, ECON, AND COM**

### **COM292A-405A**

#### **DIGITAL PHOTOJOURNALISM ADVANCE PHOTOJOURNALISM**

**(15-WEEK FORMAT)**

**PREREQUISITE: NONE FOR COM 292A,  
ADVANCED COM405A, **COM 292A IS REQUIRED****

**REV. 11-07**

**DIVISION OF BUS., ECON., AND COM.  
COMMUNICATION  
COM 292A-405A  
Digital & Advanced Photojournalism**

**COURSE:** COM 292A, [Catalog # 20176](#), COM 405A, [Catalog # 20177](#), Digital Photojournalism; Business, Economics, and Communication Division, [spring 2008](#), 3 Credit Hours. **Meeting Dates—**[MWF 10:20 to 11:20 in BBCC 126](#)

**Instructor:** Lee Horrisberger

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**Office:** Science Center, Room 020

**Office Hours:** [MWTF from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.](#), or by appointment

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This is a lecture-lab course dealing with photojournalism, some basic computer software application and photo shooting experimentation. No pre-requisites, except for advanced students who are required to complete COM292A.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

1. To explore Adobe Photoshop/FinePix application.
2. To refine Adobe Photoshop/FinePix application techniques learned.
3. To review and refine camera handling and shooting.
4. To refine a photojournalism portfolio presentation
5. To explore photojournalism and its impact on photographer & subject

**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:** After completing Photojournalism, a student should:

- Understand the role of photojournalism in our society
- Develop skills to take and download photographs
- Learn the skills of creating an exhibit of work
- Prepare a portfolio of work
- As communication professionals learn to communicate visually—by studying images and producing images

**RECOMMENDED TEXT:** *Photojournalism*, by Greg Lewis, *Seizing the Light, A History of Photography*, by Robert Hirsch. The library has ordered many resources for your research.

**READINGS:** The class will include reading assignments and viewing selected websites, please keep up with all assignments and come to class prepared to discuss for the day they are assigned. Exam questions will come from these class and reading assignments, guest lecturers, and field trips.

**SAKAI:** Course material/resources/exams are available on Sakai--<http://sakai.walsh.edu> You will need to use your name and password to access Sakai. **This class will be listed on Sakai as COM292 and for all sections that will be the tab you would use to access this class.**

**SUPPLIES:** Smart sticks, CDs, bring YOUR camera to every class. You may use your Sakai drop box to move your files between home and class, however ALL assignments will be attached to Sakai assignments—

**LAB TIME:** Students must use open lab time for any extra time needed for the completion of class projects.

**LAB RULES:**

- Please no food or drink (including water) in the lab area
- Work only on designated class assignments during class time
- Always log off your computer after each class
- Absolutely **no chat**—*instant messenger*—*or games* during lab time or you will be removed from lab.
- Turn off ringers on your cell phones.

**COURSE POLICIES**

**CLASS FORMAT:** The class is taught in a lecture/lab supported with supplemental handouts, and with hands-on projects completed and presented in class. **All “Shooting” assignments are submitted to Sakai assignments and presented in class. You should be able to explain your technique and content.** Every “shot” must be documented. (Who, What, Where, When, and Why) Active participation in critiques is highly encouraged. Field trips to galleries, studios and outings for “photo-shoots” are also held.

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:** A student assumes responsibility for the content and integrity of the academic work he/she submits, such as papers and presentation of project topics. A student is guilty of violating the policy, if he/she:

1. Knowingly represents the work—either visually or written of others as his/her own
2. Uses or obtains unauthorized assistance in any academic work, or gives fraudulent assistance to another student—especially sharing photos and research
3. Fabricates topic information or sources
4. Does not participate fully in team assignments/projects
5. In addition-subject matter and topic selection should be in good taste. Use good judgment and common sense.
6. Students who violate the policy may fail the assignment, and possibly the course.
7. See Student Handbook for complete information.

**ATTENDANCE:** Students are expected to attend all classes (mandatory), be punctual, and participate in class discussions and activities. Any excused absence will need documentation—this documentation is a medical excuse with DATE and TIME and signature included. See Student Handbook for more information. **IF YOU FAIL TO ATTEND THE MUSEUM OPENING—OR THE MUSEUM PREPARATION—YOU WILL FAIL THAT PROJECT.**

Should you miss a class, it is **your** responsibility to gather all pertinent information and assignments missed by using Sakai, or from another student. Call the Walsh line for class cancellation if the university closes, I will always post to Sakai if I need to cancel class.

**FIELD TRIP AND SPEAKERS:** You are expected to participate in class discussions, speakers and attend all field trips. This material will be included in exams.

**REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION:**

**LATE WORK:** No late work accepted for full credit—you are to present your project in class—if you don’t meet deadline, you will receive half credit only if you still complete the assignment and attached it to Sakai assignments by the **next** day aft. Due date—it will be marked late. No extra credit is given to bolster grades—esp. for students who fail to participate, or attend class. All assignments are **DUE @ 9:00 a.m. on the presentation date.**

Grading Criteria: *At a glance, details below.*

200 points - Presentation of a photojournalist/Photo Illustration—Advanced students

200 points - museum presentation assignment—photograph, label, mount, museum work

100 points—final project

300 points – 3 Individual projects—weekly shooting assignments. Each project **MUST** be saved with last name and project, (i.e. *Smith—weather*) weather, composition, lighting.

100 points -Exams—in-class tests and open note tests will be given during the semester—these tests may be multiple choice, true/false, fill in the blank, essay, and will cover material from in class, from our discussion section, from guest speakers and from field trips. Most tests will be taken on Sakai.

100 points—attendance counts in your final evaluation

Grading Scale:	
A	95-100%
A-	92-94%
B+	89-91%
B	86-88%
B-	83-85%
C+	81-82%
C	78-80%
C-	75-77%
D+	72-74%
D	69-71%
D-	66-68%
F	Below 66

**Rubric:** Every project is graded with a rubric; use these to guide your projects.

#### **DETAILS FOR GRADING CONSIDERATION:**

1) Attendance-- Students must attempt to be on time for class. Students who are absent or late will be responsible for finding out missed class assignments from their classmates/Sakai. Any missed and unexcused absence from class will result in points deducted from your final grade.

2) **Presentation of a photojournalist**—each student will research and present a photojournalist to the class via PowerPoint, and research notes. A hard copy of your PowerPoint, with (2) TWO research sources highlighted must be turned in on assignment due date. Also an electronic copy of your PowerPoint attached to assignments in Sakai will be due before your presentation. **YOU MUST CITE YOUR SOURCES DURING YOUR PRESENTATION.** Failure to highlight your sources, or present a copy of your PowerPoint, or attach your PowerPoint will result in a lower grade. Also you will show the photograph of your photojournalist that you will attempt to duplicate in style—lighting, technique, content, or shooting style.

**COM 403A-- Advanced Photojournalism**—you will design a project using PowerPoint and research notes dealing with a topic in photography—esp. photojournalism and showing examples, your museum photo will be a composition using photographs, or coupled with Photoshop techniques to create a photo illustration that tells a story. You may also use the photojournalists' assignment as an inspiration for your work.

3) Weekly/Final Photo Assignments and exercises: To receive a grade at the end of the semester, the student must complete all assignments and projects on time, without exceptions. Each student will complete shooting and downloading of several photography assignments that may include the following subjects: (based on time)

1. Weather
2. Photographic composition\*
3. Subjects with natural light\*
4. Environmental portrait (people in natural habitat.)

## 5. Photojournalist comparative study\* Adv—photo exploration assignment

In addition to presenting a photojournalist—as part of weekly assignment—Image to Image-- you will also choose a photograph of your photojournalist to duplicate style, content, lighting or shooting style. This photograph, along with your copy, will be printed, framed and hung at the Massillon Museum in the *Image to Image* Exhibit. **IF YOU FAIL TO ATTEND THE OPENING/OR ONE OF THE HANGING SESSIONS AT THE MUSEUM—YOU WILL RECEIVE NO CREDIT FOR THIS PROJECT.**

## 6. Final assignment

*Suggestive subjects for the final project--*

- *Redo one weekly project*
- *Collage or montage*
- *photo story*
- *B&W photograph*
- *Photo illustration*
- *Open Assignments*
- *People or things in action. (Stop actions)*

\*Note: Your photograph(s) may be kept for a future student show, or memory book publication

4) Exams—tests and open note tests will be given during the semester—these tests may be multiple choice, true/false, fill in the blank, essay, and covering material covered in class, from our discussion section, from guest speakers and field trips.

	Week	Monday	Wednesday	Friday
Intro & History	1	January 07 Introduction to the class, Sakai (Syllabus and Assignments)	January 09 <b>What is Photojournalism?</b> Photography vs. photojournalism	January 11 <b>Discuss Image to Image exhibit</b> <i>Assign Photojournalist presentation</i>
Camera	2	January 14 The Camera	January 16 <i>Sign up for</i>	January 18 Work on your photojournalist Power Point

		<i>How a digital camera works</i> <i>Assigned cameras—</i> <i>handout camera body</i>	<i>Photojournalist</i> <i>assignment</i> Finepix, Photoshop & Downloading images— light, levels—brightness <i>(Assign weather)</i>	
Exposure	3	January 21— No CLASS	January 23 <i>Assign Composition</i>	January 25 <i>Presentation weather</i>
Composition	4	January 28	January 30 <i>Meet individually about</i> <i>photojournalist</i> <i>Have research done--</i>	February 01
Lighting	5	February 04 Lighting, Flash, fill flash, natural lighting <i>Assign Lighting</i>	February 06 <i>Cindy Jones lighting--</i> <i>natural</i>	February 08 <i>Presentation composition</i>
Presentation	6	February 11 <b>Photojournalist presentations</b> <b>(4)</b>	February 13 <b>Photojournalist</b> <b>presentations (4)</b>	February 15 <b>Photojournalist presentations (4)</b>
	7	February 18--No CLASS	February 20 <b>Photojournalist</b> <b>presentations (Wrap up)</b>	February 22 <b>Test</b>
	8	February 25 <i>Assign Photojournalist image to</i> <i>image</i>	February 27	February 29 <i>Presentation Lighting</i>
	9	<i>March 2-8 Spring Break</i>		
News & Features	10	March 10	March 12	March 14
Sports	11	March 17	March 19	March 21 EASTER—NO CLASS
	12	March 24	March 26 <i>Assign Final</i>	March 28— <i>Presentation Image to Image Photos due</i>
Ethics	13	March 31—Need Photo journalist pictures for Exhibit Work on labels for the museum	April 02	April 04
Museum Show & exhibit skills	14	April 07	April 09 Collect all cameras—	April 11 <i>Presentation of Illustration/Final</i>
	15	April 14 Museum Work	April 16 <i>CONFERENCE— No</i> <i>CLASS</i> Museum WORK	April 18 <i>CONFERENCE— No CLASS</i> <b>TEST</b>
FINALS		SUNDAY 20 <sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. This is a mandatory class—Plan your schedule accordingly <b>Exhibit opens in Massillon Museum Studio M—</b> —exhibit installed until May 6 <sup>th</sup>		