# **Brooks Institute**

### **Course Syllabus**

#### ACADEMIC FREEDOM STATEMENT

Brooks Institute is committed to protecting and encouraging the principles of academic freedom. Academic freedom provides the foundation for scholarship, teaching and learning, and reflects the Institutes fundamental mission to promote collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity. Essential elements for the intellectual vitality of a college include: the ability to exchange ideas and concepts freely, to explore and disseminate new knowledge, and to speak openly as a professional and as a private citizen. All are encouraged to promote a learning environment that provides opportunities for the free exchange of ideas between faculty, staff and students.

#### **Programmatic Student Learning Outcomes/Mission**

The mission of the **Visual Journalism** Program is to offer a contemporary, professional curriculum grounded in truthful, ethical, and creative storytelling that embraces the highest level of craftsmanship, advancing the field of journalism.

#### **Program Description**

The 120 semester credit Bachelor of Science in Visual Journalism program emphasizes the practice of ethical, journalistic storytelling, and incorporates a broad based experiential educational approach. The program consists of 69 semester credits that cover six primary areas of technical and creative focus under the umbrella of journalistic storytelling, including the opportunity to take 12 credits in electives. Primary areas include photojournalism, documentary film production, audio documentary, journalistic writing, multimedia journalism, website design and strategies for developing a web presence. Students also take 6 semester credits in business courses and 45 semester credits in Liberal Arts designed to both support their professional goals as journalists and broaden their understanding and experience of other subject areas.

Upon the completion of the Visual Journalism Program students should be able to:

- Create compelling, visually-driven nonfiction stories, using the latest tools of digital media.
   (Visual Literacy, Adept, Global)
- Collaborate effectively as members of a creative team. (Collaboration)
- Apply professional ethical standards for nonfiction storytelling and digital journalism. (Ethics)
- Employ business practices and strategies to advance career aspirations. (Adept, Global, Problem Solver)
- Apply techniques of critical thinking while creating and evaluating works of visual journalism or documentary. (Visual Literacy, Problem Solver)
- Communicate effectively in the field of mass media, in both written and oral forms. (Communication)

Course Title	Lighting for Visual Journalists	
Course Code	VJN150	
Credit Hours	3 Semester	
Contact Hours	4 Hours	
Prerequisites	VJN140	
Course Type	Lecture/Lab	

Instructor **TBD** Email TBD Telephone TBD Term Start/End Date TBD

Course Description An introduction to lighting for visual journalism students. Course content will include lighting techniques and the use of current software to effectively support the story. Visual storytelling techniques using single and multiple light sources to create and exercise both control of the light sources and quality of light to enhance the subject will be explored.

**Learning Objectives** Upon completion of this course the student should be able to:

- Design and produce lighting setups using lighting patterns and ratios to create quality light for video and still photography.
- Apply knowledge of color temperature and the use of white balance, filters, gels and modifiers.
- Acquire lighting skills and techniques that will enhance still and video photography for the Visual Journalism portfolio.

Required Textbook(s) Photography (9th Edition) by Barbara London, Jim Stone and John Upton. Prentice Hall, 2008 **Lynda.com** subscription

- Course Outline: Topics will include: lighting patterns, key shifting, constant light sources, small and portable strobe use, problem solving with light modifiers and lighting ratios for use in still an video photography
- Week 1: The class overview and introduction to the structure of the class policies, deadlines, assignments, submission of Technical and Creative assignments. Review of in camera metering, depth of field and introduce the understanding and creative use of color balance. Assign Quality of Light and Technical 1 Assignment.
- Week 2: The use of camera controls and techniques to communicate motion. Discuss Creative and Technical assignment packets with detailed equipment list and needs for the semester including deadlines for this equipment. Assign Creative 1 and critique assignment due.
- Week 3: Key shifting ambient light, Kelvin Temperature and Color balance presets and it's creative use. Assign Technical 2 and critique assignment due.
- Week 4: Introduction to flash, Guide Numbers and manual power output. Lecture on Portraiture using Key shifting. Assign Technical 3, Creative 2 and critique assignment due.
- Week 5: Flash theory, introduction to TTL flash and use of Manual vs TTL with their similar power adjustments. Assign Technical 4 and critique assignment due.

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- **Week 6:** Lighting patterns for Portraiture and subjects positions. Flash and camera synchronization with shutter speeds in relation to apertures. Assign Technical 5 and critique assignment due.
- **Week 7:** Quality of light using its formative and comparative qualities. Understanding the psychology of direction and the color of light. Mixing of light sources and the inherent color temperature issues. Assign Technical 6, Creative 3 and critique assignment due.
- **Week 8:** Lighting with multiple flashes off camera with TTL and Manual settings. Assign Technical 5 and critique assignment due.
- **Week 9:** Lighting ratios, creative uses of matching or not matching flash temperature in unpredictable and constantly changing light sources. Assign Creative 4 and critique assignment due.
- **Week 10:** Using TTL as a creative Photojournalist in difficult situations and events cohesive for story telling. Assign Creative 4 and critique assignment due.
- **Week 11**: Using and working with assistants on controlled assignments. Assign Creative 5 and critique assignment due.
- **Week 12**: Working on assignment with different clients and meeting their lighting needs and deadlines. Critique assignment due.
- **Week 13**: Creating your portfolio of current work and the different styles in presenting portfolios to clients in different markets.
- Week 14: Final Exam and critique of assignment due.
- **Week 15:** Final Portfolio presentations

# GENERAL ASSESSMENT CRITERIA AND METHODS OF EVALUATING STUDENTS Letter grades (A, A-, B+, B, etc.)

The student's overall grade for this class is derived from a combination of online instructional activity, class participation, assignments, quizzes and exams, projects, and final project/final exam. A student's grade will be adversely affected by being tardy to class and by any unexcused absence. Only the instructor can authorize exceptions to class policies, deadlines or grades. Students must confirm (in writing) any exceptions to class policies or deadlines with the instructor. Class work is weighted as follows:

Grade Weighting		
Class Participation	10%	
Quizzes	10%	
Technical Assignments	20%	

Grading Scales Percent Letter Numeric					
93–100	Α	4.00			
90–92	A-	3.70			
87–89	B+	3.30			

В	3.00
B-	2.70
C+	2.30
С	2.00
C-	1.70
D+	1.30
D	1.00
F	0.00
•	C+ C C- D+

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Author: Paul Myers

#### **DEFINITIONS OF CRITERIA USED IN GRADING**

Outstanding = A	Outstanding work, showing insight and demonstrating excellence in skill and craft. Work goes well beyond what is required
Superior = A-, B+	Superior work, shows clear understanding and thorough demonstration of skill and craft
Good = B, B-	Competent work, clear understanding, often showing creativity and good use of skills
Satisfactory = C+, C, C-	Adequate understanding, inconsistent demonstration of skills, some elements missing or problems with priorities
Unsatisfactory = D, F	Lacks understanding, inadequate amount of time and ef- fort demonstrated, many missing elements, inconsistent participation, skill and craftsmanship not demonstrated

#### ATTENDANCE POLICY

Each faculty member takes attendance for each class period and posts it to the student's record through the portal. Once absences equal 20 percent of the total number of class meetings, faculty may lower the final grade for the course one full grade and may drop the grade again for each absence after the 20 percent has been reached. Students may review their attendance through the student portal under each course the student is enrolled in.

Students who do not attend during the first week of class may be subject to withdrawal. Brooks Institute may also withdraw any student who has not been in attendance for 14 consecutive days. However, the institute will withdraw any student who has had non-attendance for 35 consecutive days; this timeframe may be extended due to extraordinary circumstances that affect the entire student population. Students will be responsible for all financial obligations incurred if and when they are withdrawn for lack of attendance

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Regular classroom attendance is not only an essential ingredient for academic achievement, but it is also a fundamental building block for success. As part of the course requirements, students must attend at least 80 percent of the scheduled time for each course in order to achieve satisfactory attendance. Students in any of the internship courses are required to complete all scheduled hours and record attendance throughout the scheduled course to achieve satisfactory attendance. Students who do not achieve satisfactory attendance may earn a failing grade on their transcripts and may be required to repeat the course. Absences will include tardiness or early departures. Students who are not in attendance for any portion of a class will accrue time absent calculated in percentage increments of 25, 50, or 100 percent of the class period as reflected on each daily roster. Students who have been absent from all their scheduled classes for more than 14 consecutive calendar days, not including scheduled Institutional holidays or breaks, and/or students who officially withdraw from all current courses may be administratively withdrawn from the Institution.

#### ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STATEMENT

Brooks Institute expects all students to exemplify integrity in all academic work. Brooks Institute will not permit students to engage in the following dishonest acts:

- Cheating Cheating includes, but is not limited to, the following: using unauthorized notes, study aids, electronic or other devices not authorized by the instructor. Using or borrowing information from another person, or submitting someone else's work as one's own work including images and motion clips. Using work previously submitted for another purpose, without the instructor's permission, is prohibited. Duplicated use of copyrighted material in violation of federal copyright laws is prohibited.
- Plagiarism Submitting as one's own work, in whole or in part, words, ideas, art, designs, text, drawings, images, motion clips, etc. that were produced by another person without attributing that person as the rightful source of the work. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to: using words, word passages, pictures, etc. without acknowledgement; paraphrasing ideas without quotation marks or without citing the source.
- Accessory to Dishonesty Knowingly and willfully supplying material or information to another person for the purpose of using the material or information improperly.
- Falsification or Alteration of Records and Official Documents The following are examples of acts under this category, but the list is not exhaustive: altering academic records, forging a signature or authorization on an academic document, or falsifying information on official documents, grade reports, or any other document designed to attest to compliance with school regulations or to exempt from compliance.
- Software Code of Ethics Unauthorized duplication of copyrighted computer software violates the law and is contrary to our organization's standards of conduct. Brooks Institute disapproves of such copying and recognizes the following principles as a basis for preventing its occurrence:
- Brooks Institute will neither engage in nor tolerate the making or using of unauthorized software copies under any circumstances.
- Brooks Institute will only use legally acquired software on our computers.
- Brooks Institute will comply with all license or purchase terms regulating the use of any software we acquire or use.
- Brooks Institute will enforce strong internal controls to prevent the making or using of unauthorized software copies, including effective measures to verify compliance with these standards and appropriate disciplinary measure for violation of these standards.
- **Communication Devices**-To maintain academic integrity and to eliminate distractions for other students the use of electronic devices in the classroom is dictated by the instructor.

#### **CREDIT ASCRIPTION ADDENDUM**

VJN150- Understanding Light - 3 semester credit hours

Type: Lecture/Studio

# Credit Ascription- The amount of hours spent outside of class and assignment alignment with Course Learning Objectives

Course Learning Objectives:

- 1. Acquire lighting skills and techniques that will enhance still and video photography for the Visual Journalism portfolio.
- 2. Apply knowledge of color temperature and use of white balance, filters, gels and modifiers.
- 3. Design and produce lighting setups using lighting patterns and ratios to create quality light for video and still photography.

### The following indicates the **minimum** number of hours per assignment

WEEK#	ASSIGNMENT TITLE	HOMEWORK HOURS	ASSIGNMENT OBJECTIVES
WEEK 1	Quality of Light 1, Tech 1	8	1,2
WEEK 2	Quality of Light 2, Read Chapter 2, Technical 1, Review Chapter 5	6	1,2
WEEK 3	Technical 2, Quality of Light 3, Read Chapter 3, Resubmit	6	1,2
WEEK 4	Quality of Light 4, Technical 3, Read Chapter 3, Resubmit	6	1,2,3
WEEK 5	Quality of Light 5, Tech 4, Creative 2, Read Chapter 12, Resubmit	8	1,2,3
WEEK 6	Quality of Light 6, Read Chapter 12, Resubmit	4	1,2
WEEK 7	Quality of Light 7, Tech 5, Read Chapter 16, Resubmit	4	1, 2,3
WEEK 8	Quality of Light 8, Tech 6, Read Chapter 16, Resubmit	6	1,2
WEEK 9	Quality of Light 9, Creative 3, Resubmit	6	1,2,3
WEEK 10	Quality of Light 10, Creative 4, Read Chapter 18, Resubmit	6	1,2,3
WEEK 11	Quality of Light 11, Creative 5, Read Chapter 18, Resubmit	6	1,2,3
WEEK 12	Quality of Light 12, Creative 6, Resubmit	6	1,2,
WEEK 13	Quality of Light 13, Creative 6 Resubmit	6	1,2,
WEEK 14	Creative 7	6	1,2,3
WEEK 15	Creative 7	6	1,2,3
TOTAL		90	