

# COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: ART-161-Lens-Based: Images & Concepts

CLASS SECTION:

TERM: 2025W

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): Face to face (in person lecture and lab)

Camosun College respectfully acknowledges that our campuses are situated on the territories of the Ləkʷəŋən (Songhees and Kosapsun) and WSÁNEĆ peoples. We honour their knowledge and welcome to all students who seek education here.

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## INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

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NAME: Brad Muir

EMAIL: [muirb@camosun.ca](mailto:muirb@camosun.ca)

OFFICE: Y101B

HOURS: Thursdays 2:30 – 3:20pm and by appointment

*As your course instructor, I endeavour to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me. Camosun College is committed to identifying and removing institutional and social barriers that prevent access and impede success.*

## CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

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The lens, with its exacting capacity to reproduce the world two dimensionally, has influenced the way we see and navigate the world. This theory-based and hands-on course examines contemporary photography and video production in relation to filmmaking. Students explore basic technical and theoretical aspects of making camera-based images (still or moving). Through lectures, group discussions, demonstrations and practical exercises, students focus on the common ground shared by lens-based, picture-making systems to better understand and further expand the possibilities of photography and filmmaking in the twenty-first century.

PRE or CO-REQUISITE(S):

One of:

C in English 12

C in Camosun Alternative

CO-REQUISITE(S):

EQUIVALENCIES:

ART 264

### COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

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Upon successful completion of this course, a student will be able to:

1. Examine fundamental theory and concepts related to contemporary photography and film and their relationship within studio application, filmmaking traditions, and contemporary culture.
2. Explore and discuss the interaction of movement with time, space, and stillness as a way to better understand the theoretical and experiential associations between film and photography.
3. Examine and apply the basic technical skills required to operate lens-based digital still and video cameras (including 'nontraditional' lens based cameras).
4. Examine and apply the basic technical skills of postproduction (editing) programs.
5. Create small projects demonstrating an understanding of the fundamental formal, technical and theoretical aspects of photography and film making in the 21st century.
6. Interpret and employ contemporary concepts and techniques of making pictures through exposure to the general history of lens-based media (photography and film).
7. Think critically within the realm of lens-based communication and be both thoughtful and confident when critiquing one's own work, as well as the work of others.

### REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

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1. **TIME COMMITMENT (in class and outside of class)**  
Students are required to come to class on time, prepared with necessary homework completed, equipment (cameras, hard drive), and project related materials. It is expected students stay for both class and lab time. Expect to come to campus on non-class days to conduct research, use the computer lab, sign equipment in and out, etc.
2. **RENTING A LOCKER (ideally, in the Young Building); locker rentals available through the Bookstore**  
With 25 students, the classroom needs to have enough space for everyone to walk around safely. Large backpacks, skateboards, etc. are discouraged in the classroom due to potential safety issues (egress). And, you will need a safe place to lock up signed out equipment
3. **ACCESS TO A FUNCTIONING DIGITAL SLR (DSLR) or Mirrorless CAMERA that shoots video (we use it in manual mode)**  
If you have your own comparable DSLR or Mirrorless, I recommend you use it. It must have video shooting capabilities. If you do not have your own digital camera, you may sign one out from our department.

4. **MATERIALS & EQUIPMENT**

Students must organize borrowing and returning of school equipment on a 24-hour basis that aligns with equipment return / booking hours 2pm – 2:30pm daily (exception weekends and during reading break – which has amended borrowing rules).

It is the student's responsibility to have the necessary materials for each class and/or project(s). Not having the funds to purchase necessary materials is not a valid reason.

Note: bring your camera, **SDXC cards, flash drives, and hard drives** to **EVERY class** and lab. Have your notes/hand-outs ready to use as well. **Students must have their own Class 10 128gb UHS II or larger SDXC Card and alternate large capacity storage device (thumb or external hard drive).**

5. **OTHER THINGS (BUDGET FOR \$50 - \$100+)**

- \* binder for course material
- \* index tabs (at least 8 tabs) to keep information organized
- \* loose leaf paper for note taking
- \* thick, clear sheet protectors (letter sized for 3 ring binders)—from Staples, Office Depot, etc.
- \* pens, paper, scissors, fine point, permanent ink sharpie
- \* expenses associated with assignments, for example, props, batteries for the camera, etc.
- \* Please set aside some additional funds for unforeseen expenses

6. **PRINTING COSTS (BUDGET FOR ABOUT \$80 - \$100+)**

- \* Printing (printing course material such as readings, assignments, etc.)
- \* Colour printing digital images (London Drugs)
- \* Large colour prints (Custom Printers: Camosun's print shop, Artbox, Island Blue, etc.)

7. **ACCESS TO A COMPUTER, THE INTERNET, and D2L**

All course material is on D2L; there are computers with internet access on campus if you do not have your own. \* For those using their own Adobe CC please do not update (turn of auto update) to ensure school and personal versions align.

8. **SUBSCRIPTIONS to the following (we'll cover this in class)**

**Office 365**; it's free for Camosun students; you need your C number to subscribe. Here's the link: <https://camosun.ca/services/its/software-other-services>  
**Creative Cloud Suite** (free); we will opt in during class/lab time.

9. **KEEP YOUR CAMOSUN EMAIL CURRENT**; this is the only way I can contact you on short notice. I also post notices on D2L (as a news item). Add my email to your contact list so you don't miss my emails.

10. **VISITING ART GALLERIES, ATTENDING ARTIST TALKS, FIELD TRIPS, ETC.**

You may be required to participate in field trips, attend artist talks, etc. This may occur outside of class time. Details will be provided ahead of time. Any costs incurred are the student's responsibility

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**COURSE SCHEDULE, TOPICS, AND ASSOCIATED PREPARATION / ACTIVITY / EVALUATION**

The following schedule and course components are subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
Week 01 - January 09	<b>Course Intro:</b> course syllabus, structure, expectations <b>DSLR Intro:</b> exposure fundamentals Assigned reading & technical shooting exercise	Based on course schedule all required work must be submitted weekly into D2L by 3:20pm
Week 02 - January 16	<b>DSLR Intro:</b> deeper into exposure and image quality <b>Photoshop pt1:</b> intro technical shooting and post-production exercise	Based on course schedule all required work must be submitted weekly into D2L by 3:20pm
Week 03 - January 23	<b>Concepts and theoretical</b> considerations of photography through Tableau conventions and histories Project #1 <i>Narrative Codes</i> Assigned reading & concept lead preliminary shots	Based on course schedule all required work must be submitted weekly into D2L by 3:20pm
Week 04 - January 30	<b>Concepts and theoretical</b> considerations of photography through Tableau conventions and histories Project #1 <i>Narrative Codes</i> <b>Photoshop pt2:</b> deeper into post production – making a print concept lead project development	Based on course schedule all required work must be submitted weekly into D2L by 3:20pm
Week 05 - February 06	<b>Concepts and theoretical</b> considerations of photography through Tableau conventions and histories Project #1 <i>Narrative Codes</i> <b>Photoshop pt3:</b> deeper into post production project refinement and resolution	Based on course schedule all required work must be submitted weekly into D2L by 3:20pm
Week 06 - February 13	<b>Critique:</b> Project #1 <i>Narrative Codes</i> <b>DSLR Video:</b> intro Assigned reading & technical shooting exercise	Based on course schedule all required work must be submitted weekly into D2L by 3:20pm
Week 07 - February 20	READING BREAK Feb 17 - 21	Reading Break
Week 08 - February 27	<b>Video on DSLR:</b> follow-up and further considerations <b>Premier pt1:</b> intro to linear editing <b>Concepts and theoretical</b> considerations of film / video through consideration of time Project #2 <i>Temporal Order; Between Events and Duration</i>	Based on course schedule all required work must be submitted weekly into D2L by 3:20pm

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
	Assigned reading & concept lead preliminary shots & Tech exercise	
Week 09 – March 06	<p><b>Concepts and theoretical</b> considerations of film / video through consideration of time</p> <p>Project #2 <i>Temporal Order; Between Events and Duration</i></p> <p><b>Premier pt2:</b> deeper into post production – editing</p> <p>concept lead project development</p>	Based on course schedule all required work must be submitted weekly into D2L by 3:20pm
Week 10 – March 13	<p><b>Concepts and theoretical</b> considerations of film / video through consideration of time -editing and form</p> <p>Project #2 <i>Temporal Order; Between Events and Duration</i></p> <p><b>Premier pt3:</b> deeper into post production – editing</p> <p>project refinement and resolution</p>	Based on course schedule all required work must be submitted weekly into D2L by 3:20pm
Week 11 – March 20	<p><b>Critique:</b> Project #2 <i>Temporal Order; Between Events and Duration</i></p> <p><b>Intro Final Project:</b> <i>Still Moving – Moving Still</i></p> <p>Assigned reading &amp; concept lead preliminary shots</p>	Based on course schedule all required work must be submitted weekly into D2L by 3:20pm
Week 12 – March 27	<p><b>Final Project:</b> <i>Still Moving – Moving Still</i></p> <p><b>Tech Support</b> based on Q&amp;A direction and studio support</p> <p><b>Concept Support</b> based on preliminary shots</p> <p>concept lead project development</p>	Based on course schedule all required work must be submitted weekly into D2L by 3:20pm
Week 13 – April 03	<p><b>Final Project:</b> <i>Still Moving – Moving Still</i></p> <p><b>Tech Support</b> based on Q&amp;A direction and studio support</p> <p><b>Concept Support</b> based on preliminary shots</p> <p>concept lead project development</p>	Based on course schedule all required work must be submitted weekly into D2L by 3:20pm
Week 13 – April 10	<b>CRIT Final Project:</b> <i>Still Moving – Moving Still</i>	Based on course schedule all required work must be submitted weekly into D2L by 3:20pm

Students registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) who complete quizzes, tests, and exams with academic accommodations have booking procedures and deadlines with CAL where advanced noticed is required. Deadlines can be reviewed on the [CAL exams page](https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning/academic-accommodations-exams). <https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning/academic-accommodations-exams>

## EVALUATION OF LEARNING

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DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
Technical Exercises Digital Photography (#1 DSLR & #2 Photoshop)	10
Project 1 - Digital Photography <i>Narrative Codes</i>	15
Technical Exercises Video / Film (#3 DSLR Video & #4 Premier)	10
Project 2 - Video & Film <i>Temporal Order; Between Events and Duration</i>	15
Project 3 – Final Project <i>Still Moving – Moving Still</i>	20
Weekly Project Development and Exploration	10
Reading Summaries- Discussion / Contributions	10
Studio Habits and Etiquette	10
	<b>TOTAL</b>
	100%

If you have a concern about a grade you have received for an evaluation, please come and see me as soon as possible. Refer to the [Grade Review and Appeals](#) policy for more information.

<https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.14.pdf>

## COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

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Students must organize borrowing and returning of school equipment on a 24-hour basis that aligns with equipment return / booking hours 1:30pm – 2:00pm daily (exception weekends and during reading break – which has amended borrowing rules). This means coming to the college on days other than that of the class.

Late assignments will be penalized 5% per day to total of 5 days after which a zero will be given (weekends will be counted as one day).

This studio-based course requires students to work on aspects of their assignments in class to develop shared learning, creative community, and experimentation. Students are responsible for safe, respectful, and clean use of the studio, equipment, and materials. Work may only be stored in designated storage areas (or with special permission of instructor and instructional technician). Students are reminded that storage is limited in capacity and security

Assignments will account for most of your course grade. Student course work will be assessed on each assignments ability to demonstrate; informed experimentation, process comprehension, and exploration of the concepts introduced within Film and Video Art. \*Students should plan to meet with the instructor if there is any uncertainty or concern regarding assignment guidelines, results, or course standing.

### **Academic honesty and the use of generative AI tools in my courses**

It is my position that using any AI generative programs should be used as a tool and not a production system. For research, creation, and written work one must have the critical skills to assess and examine the AI-generated information in order for it be useful. However, it is also important for students to consider how AI is informed, and how deeply concerning AI is (currently) in terms of intellectual, cultural, and ethical concerns.

Experimentation and failure are key elements of learning along with critical reflection and independent thinking. I expect that folks are in this class to expand their knowledge and skill set not to rely on 'thinking machines' to do so for them.

In terms of image generation, students will only be using AI tools available in Adobe Creative Suite for fine-tuning images not generating unique imagery.

For my courses, students are not allowed to use AI tools to generate material for any assignments or exams. If material submitted for grading appears to be AI generated, the work will receive a 0 grade until the student is able to show me the original source material.

#### SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

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1. Students registered with CAL (Centre for Accessible Learning), who wish to have academic accommodations active in their course, are required to confirm that each of their instructors has received a memo from CAL
2. Students who are registered with CAL are required to know and understand the details of their accommodations and to be aware of CAL frameworks
3. In order to receive an **extension on an assignment**, each student must initiate a conversation with their instructor at least 5-week days before the deadline to negotiate and establish a new deadline. Students are reminded that all extensions for course work are limited to semester end date (last of day of class) there may be circumstances where a student experiences a quick onset of disability symptoms where such notice is not practicable. In these cases these guidelines can be helpful for course instructors <https://camosun.libguides.com/AcademicAccommodations/OOCAccomms>
4. **Student absence.** If students need to leave a class or lab or are unable to come to class or lab because of illness, COVID, mental health, etc., it falls upon the student to contact the instructor about their absence. Students are required to take the necessary steps to get caught up in a timely manner on missed material including demos. Students may confer with classmates to learn missed material. Please know that instructors and technologists do not conduct one on one instruction with any student who has missed class/lab. However, instructors and technologist are available to answer specific questions.

#### STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

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Enrolment at Camosun assumes that the student will become a responsible member of the College community. As such, each student will display a positive work ethic, assist in the preservation of College property, and assume responsibility for their education by researching academic requirements and policies; demonstrating courtesy and respect toward others; and respecting expectations concerning attendance, assignments, deadlines, and appointments.

#### SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

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Camosun College offers a number of services to help you succeed in and out of the classroom. For a detailed overview of the supports and services visit [camosun.ca/services](https://camosun.ca/services).

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Support Service

Website

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Academic Advising

[camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/academic-advising](https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/academic-advising)

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Support Service	Website
Accessible Learning	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning">camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning</a>
Counselling	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/health-and-wellness/counselling-centre">camosun.ca/services/health-and-wellness/counselling-centre</a>
Career Services	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/co-operative-education-and-career-services">camosun.ca/services/co-operative-education-and-career-services</a>
Financial Aid and Awards	<a href="https://camosun.ca/registration-records/financial-aid-awards">camosun.ca/registration-records/financial-aid-awards</a>
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres">camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres</a>
Indigenous Student Support	<a href="https://camosun.ca/programs-courses/iecc/indigenous-student-services">camosun.ca/programs-courses/iecc/indigenous-student-services</a>
International Student Support	<a href="https://camosun.ca/international">camosun.ca/international</a>
Learning Skills	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills">camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills</a>
Library	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/library">camosun.ca/services/library</a>
Office of Student Support	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/office-student-support">camosun.ca/services/office-student-support</a>
Ombudsperson	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/ombudsperson">camosun.ca/services/ombudsperson</a>
Registration	<a href="https://camosun.ca/registration-records/registration">camosun.ca/registration-records/registration</a>
Technology Support	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/its">camosun.ca/services/its</a>
Writing Centre	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills">camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills</a>

If you have a mental health concern, please contact Counselling to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. Counselling sessions are available at both campuses during business hours. If you need urgent support after-hours, please contact the Vancouver Island Crisis Line at 1-888-494-3888 or call 911.

## COLLEGE-WIDE POLICIES, PROCEDURES, REQUIREMENTS, AND STANDARDS

### Academic Integrity

Students are expected to comply with all College policy regarding academic integrity; which is about honest and ethical behaviour in your education journey. The following guide is designed to help you understand your responsibilities: <https://camosun.libguides.com/academicintegrity/welcome>  
Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.13.pdf> for Camosun's Academic Integrity policy and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.



### Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Camosun College is committed to achieving full accessibility for persons with disabilities. Part of this commitment includes arranging appropriate academic accommodations for students with disabilities to ensure they have an equitable opportunity to participate in all of their academic activities. If you are a student with a documented disability and think you may need accommodations, you are strongly encouraged to contact the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) and register as early as possible. Please visit the CAL website for more information about the process of registering with CAL, including important deadlines:

<https://camosun.ca/cal>

### Academic Progress

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2023-02/e-1.1.pdf> for further details on how Camosun College monitors students' academic progress and what steps can be taken if a student is at risk of not meeting the College's academic progress standards.

### Course Withdrawals Policy

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.2.pdf> for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit <https://camosun.ca/registration-records/tuition-fees#deadlines>.

### Grading Policy

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.5.pdf> for further details about grading.

### Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.14.pdf> for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

### Medical / Compassionate Withdrawals

Students who are incapacitated and unable to complete or succeed in their studies by virtue of serious and demonstrated exceptional circumstances may be eligible for a medical/compassionate withdrawal (see [Medical/Compassionate Withdrawals policy](#)). Please visit <https://camosun.ca/services/forms#medical> to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

### Sexual Violence

Camosun is committed to creating a campus culture of safety, respect, and consent. Camosun's Office of Student Support is responsible for offering support to students impacted by sexual violence. Regardless of when or where the sexual violence occurred, students can access support at Camosun. The Office of Student Support will make sure students have a safe and private place to talk and will help them understand what supports are available and their options for next steps. The Office of Student Support respects a student's right to choose what is right for them. For more information see Camosun's Sexualized Violence Policy: <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.9.pdf> and [camosun.ca/services/sexual-violence-support-and-education](https://camosun.ca/services/sexual-violence-support-and-education).

To contact the Office of Student Support: [oss@camosun.ca](mailto:oss@camosun.ca) or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-370-3841

### Student Misconduct (Non-Academic)

Camosun College is committed to building the academic competency of all students, seeks to empower students to become agents of their own learning, and promotes academic belonging for everyone. Camosun

also expects that all students to conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a positive, supportive, and safe learning environment. Please review Camosun College's Student Misconduct Policy at <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.5.pdf> to understand the College's expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

**Looking for other policies?**

The full suite of College policies and directives can be found here: <https://camosun.ca/about/camosun-college-policies-and-directives>

**Changes to this Syllabus:** Every effort has been made to ensure that information in this syllabus is accurate at the time of publication. The College reserves the right to change courses if it becomes necessary so that course content remains relevant. In such cases, the instructor will give the students clear and timely notice of the changes.

