



School of Arts & Science
Visual Arts Department

Art 161 sec 02 (Tuesday)
Lens-based: Images and Concepts

COURSE OUTLINE • Winter 2017



Camosun College campuses are located on the [traditional territories](#) of the Lkwungen and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples. We acknowledge their welcome & graciousness to the students who seek knowledge here.

1. Instructor information

Instructor	Nancy Yakimoski BA (English Lit), BA (Studio Art & Art history), MA (Art History), PhD (Art history)—ABD
Office hours	on your class day, OR by appointment
Class & Lab	9:30–11:20 pm (class); 12.30–2.20 pm (lab) in Y111 and computer lab(s)
Phone	250-370-3386 (voice mail)—email whenever possible, please
E-mail	yakimosk@camosun.bc.ca note: there is no “i” at the end of my name

Technician	Mike McLean , BFA, MFA
Tech hours	Office hours on your class day; do not email or phone—find him in person

2. Course description

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.

3. Intended learning outcomes

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.

4. Required materials, etc.

functional digital SLR (DSLR) camera; we will be using it on manual mode

If you have your own DSLR, I recommend you use it. Video shooting capabilities not required but would be an asset. If you do not have your own DSLR, you may sign one out from our department.

NOTE: you are required to have your camera with you every class and lab

external hard drive 500GB minimum size (for project storage); you need this for every class.

supplies & materials (see the hand-out for specific list)

It is the student's responsibility to have the necessary materials for each class and/or project(s) as indicated on accompanying hand-out. Other materials may be required as the term progresses and this will be communicated verbally in class. Not having money to purchase necessary materials is not accepted as a reason for not having materials and/or completing assignments. Plan and budget for necessary expenses.

accessing course website (www.art161.pbworks.com)

You need to access the course website for course content. I will add you to the website. You will receive an invitation by email to the email listed on Camlink. It is your responsibility to keep your Camlink email address current as this is how I contact students.

printing costs

Students are responsible for the following printing costs:

- a) colour prints and enlargements through London Drugs (budget for about \$100);
- b) printing course material from the website, research, etc. (budget for about \$50)

visiting art galleries, attending Camosun's artist talks, field trips, etc.

A field trip to Vancouver is planned for Jan 24 to visit Vancouver Art Gallery (VAG) and perhaps another gallery. You are responsible for all related costs—transportation to and from Victoria, food, and entrance fee to the gallery. Entrance to the VAG is **\$5 per student**. There will be an assignment attached to the field trip. For those unable to go, you will be required to visit a local gallery in Victoria with the same assignment to do. Details to follow. A student membership to the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria is **\$12**, which you are responsible for. There may be other similar assignments outside of class time—attending artist talks, visiting galleries, etc. within Victoria.

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

	course grade
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• DSLR photography<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ technical & conceptual assignments; exams○ project 1: still life	30%
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• durational photograph (time-based photograph) project<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ technical & conceptual assignments; exams○ project 2: durational photograph project	15%
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• video/film project (2-3 minutes)<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ technical & conceptual assignments; exams○ project 3: 2-3 minute video project	40%
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participation (10%) and studio habits/etiquette (5%)	15%

TO NOTE

Due to the nature of this course, a combination of technical demos, critiques, discussions around readings, etc., this cannot be re-created or made up if a class is missed.

If you miss course content, you are responsible for getting missed material from your colleagues and not the instructor and technician.

Because there is much in-class learning and each class builds upon the skills learned in the previous one, missing more than 2 classes per term can seriously compromise your ability to pass this course. Do not book appointments or make other commitments during class and lab times.

Visual arts program students: you need a C grade or higher in this class to qualify as a pre-requisite for other courses in the program.

technical & conceptual assignments; exams

This course is divided into three sections: DSLR photography, durational photographs, and video production using filmmaking techniques. There will be a variety of assignments to assist in developing strong conceptual and technical skills.

The technical aspects of this course form the foundation for future courses in the Visual Arts program. You are **creating your own technical manual** to be used in Art 265 (Creative Photography) and Art 268 (Contemporary Video & Film Art)—as well as being applicable in other courses. Save this manual; your instructors will be referring to it in other courses.

projects

For each of the three sections, DSLR photography, durational photographs, and video production using filmmaking techniques, students will complete a project. Each one will have an assignment sheet available that lists the project objectives, parameters, timelines, and grading criteria. The project must be pre-approved before you begin.

Note: Some class and lab time will be allotted for working on the projects but expect the majority of the work to be done outside of class/lab time.

Emphasis will be on project concept (level of difficulty and sophistication), research, concept development, use of time allotted for project, creative decisions and approaches used to articulate your idea (concept), presentation and/or installation of work. You will need to defend all your creative decisions. I also consider how students problem solve when things go sideways. There are scheduled (mandatory) critiques. Part of the projects includes writing an artist statement or summary, which will be graded for its content and relevance to the body of work, as well as its clarity and organization.

participation (10%) includes

- regular class attendance (includes arriving for class on time, and staying for class and labs)
- working during class and lab times on Art 161 projects or assignments
- regular participation in group discussions and critiques (without being called upon)
- valuable contributions to discussions & critiques
- signing up and attending mandatory check-ins or critiques regarding projects
- signing up and attending midterm and final interviews
- completing the assignments and handing them in on time
- having your binders up to date, in order, and with all necessary assignments completed
- your cell phone is NOT in your hand or accessible unless you are taking photos as part of your notes or demo; please ask the technician for permission first before photographing.

NOTE: you are being graded all the time in this course, not just assignments or final projects at grading critique. Students are evaluated on a variety of things including initiating the project idea (being in the driver's seat of their project); how well they can express their concepts (at various stages of the project); problem-solving; finding creative solutions to problems that arise; assisting peers through meaningful critiques, project participants, etc.

studio habit & etiquette grade (5%)

- Students will start the semester with 5 out of 5; marks will be deducted if students neglect to demonstrate safe, respectful use of communal facilities, studio interactions and material provisions. This includes returning all equipment within specified borrowing time as per the visual arts sign out policy. It is the student's responsibility to understand and adhere to the policy.
- Students will be evaluated on their ability to clean up after themselves (or their group) each day before leaving the studio.
- Works left in common spaces 30 minutes prior to the next class start time, or 9am the next day will result in an immediate deduction of 3% per work (i.e. a painting left out to dry overnight not in designated storage spaces in Y117).
- Work may only be stored in designated storage areas (or with special permission of instructor and instructional technician). *Failure to properly store, remove or dispose of projects during the semester and/or within the deadlines communicated at the end of the semester will result in a deduction of 5% per work.

6. Nancy's policy regarding deadlines, due dates & grading projects

Due dates for assignments, critiques, grading days, interviews, etc. are **FIRM**. In the following policy, when I refer to "proof," I am referring to written medical documentation or verifiable proof of extenuating circumstances that were unavoidable and prevented you from being at class. You have **48 hours** to produce this written proof otherwise a "0" grade is assigned.

Appointments and activities that can be scheduled outside of class and lab hours are not considered valid reasons unless they are appointments with medical specialists and there is little flexibility on their part.

For students with accommodations through DRC (Disability Resource Centre): it is your responsibility to discuss deadlines with your instructor prior to the due dates.

For all students: it is not the instructor's responsibility to contact students and request they hand in work or to alert them that work is missing or that they missed a deadline.

all written assignments

It is mandatory to have required assignments printed and ready for the 9:30am start of each class. Emailed submissions are not accepted. Anything submitted between 9:30 and 2:30 on the class day will be marked as "late" and 2% per assignment will be deducted from the 10% "participation grade". Assignments will not be accepted after that without written proof. Also, keep copies of all word-processed assignments on your hard drive.

weekly assignments and project deadlines

It is mandatory to have required work ready for the 9:30am start of class. Missing class and/or handing work in after the class has finished (2:30pm) will receive a 0 grade without the opportunity for instructor feedback unless proof is presented within 48 hours.

final critique and grading of projects.

In order for the work to be graded:

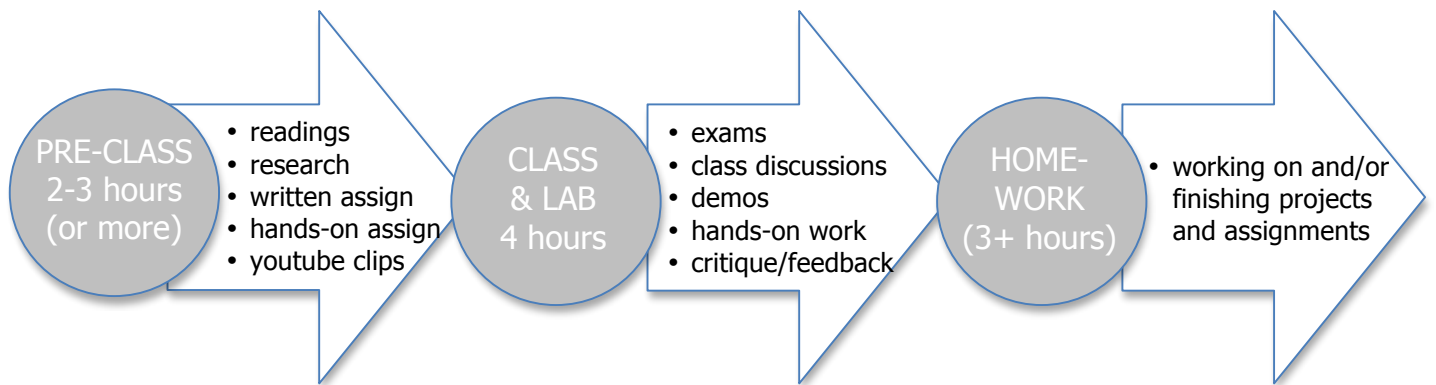
- 1) it must be ready for the 9:30am class start on the critique/grading day, be presented to the instructor and peers for assessment on that day
- 2) it must be installed as per instructor's instructions: in designated exhibition spaces on campus or in the classroom; with video, it will be or screened as per instructor's instructions or in consultation with the instructor

If you missed any deadline, these are the steps to follow (if you want to be graded)

- 1) you must contact the instructor by email within 24 hours of the missed deadline to explain the circumstances of your absence
- 2) you must produce medical certification or verifiable proof of extenuating circumstances that were unavoidable within **two days** (48 hours) of missed deadline (scanned documents can be emailed to the instructor)
- 3) you must arrange a day and time with the instructor to receive the work and grade it; it needs to be graded within 7 calendar days of the missed due date.

7. Flipped classroom approach & course content (see last page for semester schedule)

This course uses a "flipped classroom approach" which means that students encounter course material *before* coming to class. Think of each week of class as consisting of three separate—but interlocked—blocks: pre-class (preparation for class); class and lab (the hands-on); homework. The three parts work together; missing one block compromises your learning and success in a project, and the course.



8. Equipment & materials for sign out; sign out policy

equipment & materials for sign out

Before various equipment can be used or signed out, you must have been introduced to it during class and understand the proper use and care of the equipment/materials. If you missed the class that went over the demo, you are not allowed to sign that particular equipment/materials out. This may prevent you from completing assignments and thus lose marks.

remember: To ensure everyone has access to the department's equipment, there is a specific borrowing policy in place. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with it and abide by the rules. It is available on the equipment sign out door or ask the technician for clarification.

9. Learning support and services for students

There are a variety of services available for students to assist throughout your learning. For a detailed list and contact information, visit <http://www.camosun.bc.ca/services/>

Disability Resource Centre: <http://camosun.ca/services/drc/>

If academic accommodations are to be made, it is the student's responsibility for registering with the Disability Resource Centre and presenting the instructor with the necessary documentation. All student & instructor interaction with the Centre is completely confidential.

NOTE: If there are other matters of which I should be aware because it may affect your participation and/or completion of assignments, it is your responsibility to speak with me immediately, or send an email. Again, such information is confidential.

plagiarism, academic dishonesty, cheating (written and art work)

It is the student's responsibility to ensure they understand and abide by the College's standards of academic honesty and integrity in all their work. For the College's policy: <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.5.1.pdf>

10. Recommended materials or services to assist students to succeed in the course

LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College Calendar, Student Services or the College web site at <http://www.camosun.bc.ca>

STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

There is a Student Conduct Policy. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, Registration, and on the College web site in the Policy Section. <http://www.camosun.bc.ca/policies/policies.html>

A. GRADING SYSTEMS <http://www.camosun.bc.ca/policies/policies.php>

The following two grading systems are used at Camosun College:

1. Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	C		2
50-59	D		1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

2. Competency Based Grading System (Non GPA)

This grading system is based on satisfactory acquisition of defined skills or successful completion of the course learning outcomes

Grade	Description
COM	<i>The student has met the goals, criteria, or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.</i>
DST	<i>The student has met and exceeded, above and beyond expectation, the goals, criteria, or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.</i>
NC	<i>The student has not met the goals, criteria or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.</i>

B. Temporary Grades

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy at <http://www.camosun.bc.ca/policies/E-1.5.pdf> for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description
I	Incomplete: A temporary grade assigned when the requirements of a course have not yet been completed due to hardship or extenuating circumstances, such as illness or death in the family.
IP	In progress: A temporary grade assigned for courses that are designed to have an anticipated enrollment that extends beyond one term. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course.
CW	Compulsory Withdrawal: A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor, after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers, deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from the lab, practicum, worksite, or field placement.

11. Other things to note in Art 161

- **use of laptops & smart phones during class and labs**

Laptops and smart phones are only allowed during class and lab time as part of coursework—taking notes, research, etc. Otherwise, they are not to be accessible.

- **instructor and technician responsibilities**

While the instructor and technician for the course work as a team, each has specific responsibilities and duties. The **instructor** is responsible for the course itself: the content, assignments, critiquing, assisting students with conceptual and print quality of assignments and projects, and grading. The **technician** is responsible for assisting students with technical aspects: equipment, equipment sign-out, fixing equipment, class demos, installation of work, etc. Do not ask technicians to critique your ideas or images.

- **regarding your personal safety on campus**

ANY KIND of emergency: Dial **250-370-3075** for help

Camosun's emergency management app:

<http://camosun.ca/services/facilities-services/emergency-management/emergency-app.html>

in the event of an earthquake

see: <http://camosun.ca/services/facilities-services/emergency-management/emergency-procedures/earthquake.html>

course content

subject to change without notice

note: there are other research and/or technical assignments in addition to what is listed below

Week 1 • Jan 10
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Intro to course; materials to purchase• camera basics• understanding light and exposure• using a DSLR and studio (continuous) lighting• intro to PROJECT 1 (still life)
Week 2 • Jan. 17
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project 1 discussion• using DSLR• lighting basics, part 2• intro to Photoshop
Week 3 • Jan 24 field trip to Vancouver
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• there will be an assignment
Week 4 • Jan. 31
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project 1 critique & discussion• Photoshop, part 2
Week 5 • Feb 7
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• project 1 DUE
Camosun reading break from Feb 13-17
Week 6 • Feb 21 (mid term interviews)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• introduction to time-based photographs as an art form• using the DSLR in video mode
Week 7 • Feb 28 (mid term interviews)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• project 2 is due
Week 8 • Mar 07
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• intro to video as an art form; intro to Project 3• using DSLR in video mode, part 2• lighting for moving images
Week 9 • Mar 14
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• intro to Premiere
Week 10 • Mar 21
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• intro to sound
Week 11 • Mar 28
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Photoshop with moving images• Premiere with stills
Week 12 • Apr 4
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• editing sound & image
Week 13 • Apr 11
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project 3 is due