

# PHOTOGRAPHY

The Photography curriculum is thoughtfully designed to develop essential fundamental technical skills in the operation of various imaging devices such as 35mm DSLR (digital single lens reflex), mirrorless, medium and large-format cameras. Alongside technical training, all courses emphasize the importance of creativity and build conceptual-development skills through a progressive series of thought-provoking assignments.

Lighting techniques—from basic to advanced—are taught in fully equipped studio facilities using professional, industry-standard camera and lighting gear. Similarly, the curriculum offers comprehensive instruction in digital post-production, covering color management, editing, image generation, and printing technologies, all while staying current with emerging innovations.

Importantly, the department also integrates coursework on the business of photography, preparing students for the practical realities of working in the field—whether freelancing, running a studio, or collaborating with clients.

Classrooms and labs feature state-of-the-art, professional-grade computers, scanners, and archival printers, including both small- and large-format models capable of producing prints up to 17" x 22".

## Career Opportunities

### Commercial Roles

- Portrait Photographer
- Commercial/Product Photographer
- Fashion Photographer
- Event Photographer (weddings, concerts, sports)
- Photojournalist
- Fine Art Photographer
- Editorial Photographer (magazines, books)

### Technical & Production Roles

- Studio Assistant
- Digital Retoucher
- Photo Editor
- Printing Technician
- Lighting Technician
- Archivist/Photo Conservator

### Media & Marketing Roles

- Content Creator
- Social Media Manager (with photo/video focus)
- Visual Content Strategist
- Marketing Photographer for brands/agencies

### Specialized/Niche Careers

- Forensic Photographer
- Scientific Photographer
- Aerial/Drone Photographer
- Medical Photographer
- Underwater Photographer

## Education & Outreach

- Photography Instructor
- Workshop Facilitator
- Museum/Gallery Educator
- Artist-in-Residence

## Programs of Study

### Associate Degree

- Applied Photography, Associate of Arts (AA) (<https://catalog.sbccc.edu/academic-departments/photography/applied-photography-aa/>)

### Certificate of Achievement

- Applied Photography, Certificate of Achievement (C) (<https://catalog.sbccc.edu/academic-departments/photography/applied-photography-certificate-achievement/>)

### Skills Competency Awards

- Advanced Photo Design, Skills Competency Award (SCA) (<https://catalog.sbccc.edu/academic-departments/photography/advanced-photo-design-skills-competency-award/>)
- Photo Design, Skills Competency Award (SCA) (<https://catalog.sbccc.edu/academic-departments/photography/photo-design-skills-competency-award/>)
- Photo Design II, Skills Competency Award (SCA) (<https://catalog.sbccc.edu/academic-departments/photography/photo-design-ii-skills-competency-award/>)
- Photojournalism, Skills Competency Award (SCA) (<https://catalog.sbccc.edu/academic-departments/journalism/photojournalism-skills-competency-award/>)

## Credit Courses

### Photography (PHOT)

#### PHOT 109 Introduction to Photography (3 Units)

Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 98 and ENG 103.

Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 lab)

Students learn the fundamentals of photography including techniques of camera operation, photo composition and lighting, basic digital imaging editing, photo printing paper characteristics, print finishing techniques, and image enhancement techniques using industry-standard hardware and software. Students participate in critiques that emphasize the objective and subjective qualities of their work.

Transfer Information: CSU Transferable, UC Transferable

C-ID: PHOT 190/JOUR 190.

#### PHOT 120 Creative Applications I (1.5 Unit)

Course Advisories: PHOT 109.

Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 98 and ENG 103.

Hours: 45 (18 lecture, 27 lab)

Students learn the fundamentals of alternative photographic processes based on works of art. Assignments include creating digital negatives, contact printing, and transfer techniques to metal, wood, and fabrics.

Transfer Information: CSU Transferable

**PHOT 125 Creative Applications II (1.5 Unit)**

Course Advisories: PHOT 109.

Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 98 and ENG 103.

Hours: 45 (18 lecture, 27 lab)

Students learn to apply historic, alternative photographic processes to create one-of-a-kind art through modern technologies. Printing supported up to 44" wide, coupling archival inks with traditional art substrates like wood, fabric, metal and cold press papers. Students will create 2- and 3-dimensional sculptural pieces of photographic art.

Transfer Information: CSU Transferable

**PHOT 130 Digital Assets Management (1 Unit)**

Course Advisories: PHOT 109.

Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 98 and ENG 103.

Hours: 18 (18 lecture)

Explains both the purpose of digital asset management systems and why you need one. Step-by-step workflow, software, and 'best practices' in managing your digital content. Recommended for Photographers, Graphic Designers, Photojournalists, Journalists, and other creative people involved with image generation and storage.

Transfer Information: CSU Transferable

**PHOT 135 Wedding and Event Photography (1 Unit)**

Course Advisories: PHOT 109.

Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 98 and 103.

Hours: 18 (18 lecture)

Covers the basics of starting a wedding/event photography business. Posing and lighting set-ups; planning the sessions and packages; common shots; basic equipment and backups; wedding photojournalism; contracts; ethics delivery options.

Transfer Information: CSU Transferable

**PHOT 140 Travel and Street Photography (1 Unit)**

Course Advisories: PHOT 109.

Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 98 and ENG 103.

Hours: 18 (18 lecture)

Covers the fundamentals of travel and street photography to capture stunning images. Includes basic composition, quality of light, exposure variables and workflow suggestions. Designed for beginning-to-intermediate photographers who understand the basic operation of their own camera. Assignments include how to improve landscapes, cityscapes, and appreciate ethical standards when taking photos.

Transfer Information: CSU Transferable

**PHOT 145 Fine Art Copy Work (1 Unit)**

Course Advisories: PHOT 109.

Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 98 and ENG 103.

Hours: 18 (18 lecture)

Learn Museum-quality standards for copying art. Identifies recommended lighting equipment and demonstrate lighting techniques for small and larger-scale art. Bring your own art work and discover the best techniques for copying your work using our studio lighting equipment. Learn the basics for setting up a copy station in your own home.

Transfer Information: CSU Transferable

**PHOT 146 Children and Pet Photography (1 Unit)**

Course Advisories: PHOT 109.

Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 98 and ENG 103.

Hours: 18 (18 lecture)

Portraiture relies on standardized lighting techniques coupled with the ability to elicit complimentary expressions and posing. Learn tricks and tips for working with children and pets in the studio and environment. Provides recommendations on home lighting kits, posing suggestions and the 'tricks' of the trade for working with little people and pets.

Transfer Information: CSU Transferable

**PHOT 147 Sports Photography (1 Unit)**

Course Advisories: PHOT 109.

Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 98 and ENG 103.

Hours: 18 (18 lecture)

Shows you how to capture the key elements of sports photography: motion and emotion, style and scene, place and purpose, covering a wide variety of sports.

Transfer Information: CSU Transferable

**PHOT 150 Stock Photography (1 Unit)**

Course Advisories: PHOT 109.

Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 98 and ENG 103.

Hours: 18 (18 lecture)

Students study the stock photography market, learn what kind of images work well in stock photography while investigating how this field has grown and will change in the future. Contracts, image protection and Digital Rights Management (DRM) are also covered.

Transfer Information: CSU Transferable

**PHOT 151 Stock Photography II (1 Unit)**

Course Advisories: PHOT 109.

Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 98 and ENG 103.

Hours: 18 (18 lecture)

Students will research and respond to the latest trends in image making. By the end of the class, students will be expected to have images in a stock agency and be able to run a customized stock photography business.

Transfer Information: CSU Transferable

**PHOT 180 Digital Darkroom (3 Units)**

Course Advisories: PHOTO 109 and MAT 131.

Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 98 and ENG 103.

Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 lab)

Fundamentals of digital imaging, enhancements and manipulations as well as latest in printing technologies; simulate traditional alternative process; special effects; sharpening methods; retouching and natural media techniques; including Giclee printing. Basic knowledge of Adobe Photoshop is beneficial. Emphasis on a digital portfolio and conceptual assignments.

Transfer Information: CSU Transferable, UC Transferable

**PHOT 190 Photojournalism (3 Units)**

Same as: JOUR 190

Course Advisories: PHOTO 209 and PHOT 109.

Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 lab)

Skills and techniques of contemporary photojournalism. Topics include news and editorial sources, photographing single events and extended picture stories, and ethics. Skills include control of color, portable electronic flash, and electronic processes for contemporary publication.

Transfer Information: CSU Transferable, UC Transferable

C-ID: JOUR 160.

**PHOT 209 Intermediate Photography and Lighting (3 Units)**

Course Advisories: PHOT 109.

Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 lab)

Exploration of studio lighting and location lighting. Designed particularly for students who are familiar with basic photography and wish to learn more about advanced techniques in photographic composition, studio lighting, special effects, lighting equipment and various digital photography techniques.

Transfer Information: CSU Transferable, UC Transferable

**PHOT 214 Advertising Illustration (3 Units)**

Course Advisories: PHOT 109 or PHOT 209.

Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 98 and ENG 103.

Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 lab)

Creating solutions for advertising. Emphasis on ad concept packages for print and tv spot production. Students analyze latest trends in advertising. Assignments include fashion, editorial, lifestyle, small product and fine art applications.

Transfer Information: CSU Transferable

**PHOT 215 The Business of Photography (1 Unit)**

Course Advisories: PHOT 109.

Hours: 18 (18 lecture)

A course dedicated to teaching students about the business of photography. Students learn to create a business plan, marketing, pricing, invoicing and budgeting in order to run a successful business in the imaging industries.

**PHOT 250 Fine Art Photography (3 Units)**

Course Advisories: PHOT 109.

Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 98 and ENG 103.

Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 lab)

Exploration of classic and contemporary styles of fine art. Students will translate their own personal vision by responding to the major art movements with their camera.

Transfer Information: CSU Transferable, UC Transferable

**PHOT 260 Portfolio (3 Units)**

Course Advisories: PHOT 109 and PHOT 180.

Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 98 and ENG 103.

Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 lab)

Students produce a professional portfolio based on the style and passion of their own vision. Students learn communication, business, design and presentation skills to best present their work.

Transfer Information: CSU Transferable

**PHOT 270 Digital Image Retouching (1.5 Unit)**

Prerequisites: PHOT 109 and PHOT 180.

Hours: 27 (27 lecture)

Students will learn the basics of digital retouching using image editing software. They will learn to both remove or add image details and repair damaged or aged files. Skills necessary to increase the quality of digital photo files using editing software techniques will be taught.

Transfer Information: CSU Transferable

**PHOT 280 Advanced Photography and Lighting Strategies (3 Units)**

Course Advisories: PHOT 109, PHOT 209.

Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 lab)

Designed to take photo, video, and multimedia students beyond basic lighting techniques. Lighting systems include studio, portable electronic strobe and continuous light sources. Location and set lighting covered, with emphasis on establishing mood and matching existing light conditions. Topics include lighting people, building interiors and exteriors, small product, large set lighting and photographing for digital composites.

Transfer Information: CSU Transferable, UC Transferable

**PHOT 281 Digital Darkroom II (3 Units)**

Course Advisories: PHOT 180.

Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 98 and ENG 103.

Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 lab)

Advanced techniques for color management, enhancements, and archival digital printing technologies in RGB. Timeline editing for video and natural media techniques. Emphasis on creating a digital portfolio through a series of conceptual assignments to expand your creativity.

Transfer Information: CSU Transferable, UC Transferable

**PHOT 285 Color Management (3 Units)**

Course Advisories: PHOT 109, PHOT 180.

Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 98 and ENG 103.

Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 lab)

Fundamentals of color management for CMYK and RGB output.

Professional calibration methods for scanners, printers, color monitors and digital capture systems. For graphic artists and photographers who are looking for more advanced techniques in color correction, ICC profile systems, work flow automation, and multiple-device matching for optimal reproduction quality.

Transfer Information: CSU Transferable