ORIGINAL COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: January 2012
REVISED COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: September 2024
COURSE TO BE REVIEWED (six years after UEC approval)**:** November 2029
Course outline form version: 28/10/2022

OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE FORM

Note: The University reserves the right to amend course outlines as needed without notice.

Course Code and Number: VA 280	**Number of Credits:** 3 Course credit policy (105)

Course Full Title: Digital Photography Fundamentals
Course Short Title: Digital Photog Fundamentals

Faculty: Faculty of Humanities	**Department (or program if no department):** Visual Arts

Calendar Description:

Students explore photographic digital image-making through development of technical and concept-building skills in a series of personal projects. Students learn to incorporate contemporary perspectives in art photography and current issues into the content of their work.

Prerequisites (or NONE):	None. Note: As of September 2025, prerequisites will change to VA 100.
Corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):	
Pre/corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):	

Antirequisite Courses *(Cannot be taken for additional credit.)*

Former course code/number:

Cross-listed with:

Equivalent course(s):

(If offered in the previous five years, antirequisite course(s) will be included in the calendar description as a note that students with credit for the antirequisite course(s) cannot take this course for further credit.)

Course Details

Special Topics course: **No**
  (If yes, the course will be offered under different letter designations representing different topics.)

Directed Study course: **No**
  (See policy 207 for more information.)

Grading System: **Letter grades**

Delivery Mode: **May be offered in multiple delivery modes**

Expected frequency: **Annually**

Maximum enrolment (for information only)**: 25**

Typical Structure of Instructional Hours

Lecture/seminar	5
Tutorials/workshops	15
Supervised studio hours	20
Critiques	5
Total hours	**45**

Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)

PLAR is available for this course.

Scheduled Laboratory Hours

Labs to be scheduled independent of lecture hours: ☒ No ☐ Yes

Transfer Credit *(See **bctransferguide.ca**.)*

Transfer credit already exists: **Yes**

Submit outline for (re)articulation: **Yes**
  (If yes, fill in transfer credit form.)

Department approval		**Date of meeting:**	May 9, 2023
Faculty Council approval		**Date of meeting:**	June 2, 2023
Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC) approval		**Date of meeting:**	November 24, 2023

Learning Outcomes *(These should contribute to students' ability to meet program outcomes and thus Institutional Learning Outcomes.)*

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

1. Apply terms, concepts, and techniques in contemporary digital photography.
2. Demonstrate proficiency in photo-imaging software skills.
3. Develop themes and narrative in personal work.
4. Prepare and produce digital and large-format fine art prints.
5. Implement lighting and metering techniques.
6. Receive and respond respectfully to the critical feedback of others.
7. Discuss how digital photography practices are integrated into contemporary art, with reference to diverse examples of art practice, including Indigenous art.
8. Reflect on their own work from inclusive and equitable perspectives.

Recommended Evaluation Methods and Weighting *(Evaluation should align to learning outcomes.)*

Quizzes/tests:	15%	Portfolio:	30%		%
Assignments:	55%		%		%

Details:

Assignments include 10% presentation.

NOTE: The following sections may vary by instructor. Please see course syllabus available from the instructor.

Typical Instructional Methods *(Guest lecturers, presentations, online instruction, field trips, etc.)*

Lectures/slides, class critiques, technical exercises, technical quiz, photo assignments.

Texts and Resource Materials *(Include online resources and Indigenous knowledge sources. Open Educational Resources (OER) should be included whenever possible. If more space is required, use the Supplemental Texts and Resource Materials form.)*

Type	Author or description	Title and publication/access details	Year
1.	Texts, journals, and visual resources reflect contemporary artists and practices; resources will vary by instructor and year to year.		
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			

Required Additional Supplies and Materials *(Software, hardware, tools, specialized clothing, etc.)*

Digital SLR camera (model with manual control options is recommended) and a USB storage stick (1GB minimum recommended).

Course Content and Topics

- Contemporary digital photography and imaging practices
- Digital photography and Indigenous self-determination on Turtle Island, as explored by artists such as Isabella Dagnino (UFV alum), Deb Silver (UFV Alum), Kali Spitzer and Stan Williams.
- Digital workflow and file management
- Raw format processing
- Image sequences and storytelling
- Colour management, composition, masking, and filters
- Abstract digital photographic approaches
- Digital photography as a tool for exploring and challenging traditional colonial photographic practices such as portraiture and documentation with artist examples such as Dayna Danger, Jin-Me Yoon and Dana Claxton and Cindy Sherman.
- Scanning techniques
- Studio lighting techniques
- Image composites
- Printing methods
- Presentation methods for digital photographic art