

Class Website: <http://easthsdigitalphoto.weebly.com/>

Google Classroom:

Dr. Overby

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Office: Inside room 126

“*You don’t take a photograph, you make it*.” **Ansel Adams**

**Course Description**

Digital Photography is a course for students who have little to no prior experience in photography. Foundational camera and Photoshop techniques, portfolio development, and artistic inquiry are taught in this course. Entering work into art competitions and exhibitions is encouraged. Upon completion of this course, students may opt to take Digital Photography 2, Graphic Design, or Multimedia.

**Upon completion of the course, the student should be able to: (Essential Learning Goals)**

* Explore design elements, technical quality, and conceptual concerns at a beginning level.
* Understand and operate camera functions.
* Understand and operate Photoshop and iPhoto.
* Understand the Mac computer interface.
* Understand import, export, and file management operations.
* Understand basic print production and display options for digital images.
* Develop students into critical thinkers that can analyze and interpret their artwork and the artwork of others.
* Investigate works of art by artists and the visual problems they address.
* Create artwork that shows evolving thought and beginning mastery of the medium.
* Use decision-making skills to plan artwork and apply the correct techniques to create the work.
* Start to develop a style or voice that is unique to the individual student.
* Express ideas about art using visual, verbal, and written forms of communication.
* Demonstrate behaviors that reflect the habits of professional artists.

**Students MUST have a digital camera to be in this class – a point and shoot camera, smartphone, or (recommended) digital SLR camera.**

\*\*\*Students are expected to **pay $20.00 each semester**. This art fee helps to provide students with a full range of art supplies needed to be successful in this course. **Please see the treasurer to pay your fee and bring your receipt to me so I can mark you as paid in my grade book**

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**Colorado Standards for Visual Art**

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| **1. Observe and Learn to Comprehend** | 1. | Visual art has inherent characteristics and expressive features |
| 2. | Historical and cultural context are found in visual art |
| 3. | Art and design have purpose and function |
| **2. Envision and Critique to Reflect** | 1. | Reflective strategies are used to understand the creative process |
| 2. | A personal philosophy of art is accomplished through use of sophisticated language and studio art processes |
| 3. | Interpretation is a means for understanding and evaluating works of art |
| **3. Invent and Discover to Create** | 1. | Demonstrate competency in traditional and new art media, and apply appropriate and available technology for the expression of ideas |
| 2. | Assess and produce art with various materials and methods |
| 3. | Make judgments from visual messages |
| **4. Relate and Connect to Transfer** | 1. | The work of art scholars impacts how art is viewed today |
| 2. | Communication through advanced visual methods is a necessary skill in everyday life |
| 3. | Art is a lifelong endeavor |

**Studio Habits of the Mind**

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| **Develop Craft** | Learning to use and care for tools (e.g., viewfinders, brushes), materials (e.g., charcoal, paint). Learning artistic conventions (e.g., perspective, color mixing). |
| **Engage & Persist** | Learning to embrace problems of relevance within the art world and/or of personal importance, to develop focus and other mental states conducive to working and persevering at art tasks. |
| **Envision** | Learning to picture mentally what cannot be directly observed and imagine possible next steps in making a piece. |
| **Express** | Learning to create works that convey an idea, a feeling, or a personal meaning. |
| **Observe** | Learning to attend to visual contexts more closely than ordinary "looking" requires, and thereby to see things that otherwise might not be seen. |
| **Reflect** | Question & Explain: Learning to think and talk with others about an aspect of one’s work or working process.  Evaluate: Learning to judge one’s own work and working process and the work of others in relation to standards of the field. |
| **Stretch & Explore** | Learning to reach beyond one's capacities, to explore playfully without a preconceived plan, and to embrace the opportunity to learn from mistakes and accidents. |
| **Understand Art World** | Domain: Learning about art history and current practice.  Communities: Learning to interact as an artist with other artists (i.e., in classrooms, in local arts organizations, and across the art field) and within the broader society. |

**Career & Technical Education Standards**

ARVD.01 Analyze and utilize the foundations in visual communication as related to current industry standards and trends.

ARVD.01.01 Understand the principles and elements of art and design.

ARVD.01.02.b Utilize a variety of tools and techniques in traditional and experimental ways.

ARVD.02 Understand and demonstrate technology and process related to visual communication.

ARVD.02.03 Understand and apply finalization techniques

ARVD.03 Know and understand the scope of career opportunities and qualifications in the Visual Arts Pathway to build an understanding of career opportunities and options.

ARVD.03.01 Investigate career opportunities.­­­­

PWR.02.09: Learning and behavior skills. Collaboration

PWR.02.09.a: Collaboration—work effectively with others

PWR.02.09.b: Acknowledge authority and take direction

PWR.02.09.c: Cooperate for a common purpose

PWR.1.5.a: Understand and appreciate how the arts and humanities (expression of culture and identity through language, movement, sound and visual representation) contribute to and shape, culture and our understanding of culture

**Expectations**

* **Be Prepared for Class** Students must come to class on time and ready with their materials and assignments.
* **Be Respectful of Others and the Studio Space** A courteous studio environment maximizes the opportunity for learning.
* **Work Everyday** There is always something that can be accomplished in the studio – let’s make the most of our learning time.

**Assessments**

You will be graded on:

* Demonstrating artistic practice and maturity in work habits
* Discussions, reflections, and tutorials/assignments to learn the concept/skill
* Creation of artwork
* Critique and reflection about artwork
* Development of a personal website about your artwork

*You may redo projects for a higher grade. Assignments will be penalized if turned in late due to unexcused absences, not working in class, etc.*

Projects 50%

Classwork (tutorial completion, discussions, small assignments, attendance, participation) 40%

Final Project/Exam 10%

**Technology**

Students will be creating a personal website through *Weebly*.  Students will post their artwork, sketches, and written statements to their site in order to build a digital portfolio.  This digital portfolio is used as a way to assess each student’s learning progression as well as give them a platform to promote their work to colleges and pursue scholarship opportunities.

*Weebly for Education* asks for the following personal information - student name and grade level.  The site can be publicly posted or private (only viewable if you know the website address).  **Please let your teacher know if you would like your website private.**

We will also be using Google classroom for discussions and turning in assignments.

In a digital photography class, students tend to take photos of themselves and their peers.  Final images will be posted on student websites, but identifying information such as who is the model was will not be included.

**Field Trips and Excursions**

Class occasionally will be held at City Park or various locations on Colfax where students will be able to work on their projects in an outdoor setting.  As a visual art department, we believe strongly in taking advantage of our local environment.  We will take our classes out during the normal class period to sketch and take photos.  Students will be notified ahead of time to make sure to dress for the weather.

Field trips to local museums, galleries, and community organizations will be organized throughout the year.  Field trips are voluntary, but bring a deeper level of understanding to the visual arts content.  Please note that we ask students to use the RTD or to walk to nearby destinations (Zoo, Botanic Gardens) due to the lack of school bus availability.  All school rules apply during field trips.

**National Art Honor Society & Design Studio (CTSO)**

NAHS & Design Studio is a service organization dedicated to promoting art in the community.  All students, regardless of skill level or age are welcome to come and be a member.  Students who have a graphic design and/or photography background are encouraged to create client-based work through the Design Studio.  We host various events such as Empty Bowls, East HS Artswalk, and the school art shows. NAHS & Design Studio meets Thursdays during tutorial in room 123.

**Attendance and Tardies:** Due to the hands-on nature of this course, it is crucial you attend all classes. Being late causes disruptions to the working environment of the class for the whole class, so it is important you are on time. There will be some homework involved in this course. Students are welcome to pre-arrange time to come and work in the studio to catch up on missing work or extend their learning.

**Cell Phones and Food:** Cell phones are only to be used during approved times and only for taking and sharing photos. No food in the studio. Water bottles that can seal are ok to bring in.

**Camera and Equipment Checkout:** East HS has a limited number of digital SLR cameras and equipment for student use. Students may check out cameras/equipment during class time or after school. It must be returned at the end of class, or if checked out after school, the very next morning. **Failure to return equipment will result in a loss of participation points. Repeated abuse of the check-out system will revoke the student’s privilege to check out equipment.**

**Artistic Integrity:** Plagiarism is unethical and will not be tolerated. Copying someone else’s work or taking someone else’s work and calling it your own will be cause for disciplinary action, including failing the assignment. When using reference material such as photographs, drawings, or designs, students must apply their own personal vision to sustainably alter the original work (move beyond duplication).

**Things to Remember…**

* YOU are responsible for your computer station and any equipment you check out. Be respectful to all who use the studio or you may lose privileges to the space and supplies.
* Work assigned in class is just the start to becoming a stronger artist. Feel free to create more work or refine past assignments.
* Be open to visiting art events around the metro area. Looking and learning about art outside of class time will help you become a stronger artist.
* Be receptive to criticism of your work. Participating in critique and reflecting on feedback is the best tool for growing as an artist. You do not have to agree with every critique of your work, but be open to hearing how others see and understand your art.
* Develop habits of a lifelong learner. Continue to seek new knowledge and experiences. Remember that even experts do not have all the answers.

**Parent/Guardian Role:** Parents and Guardian support is part of the answer to student success. Please ask to see your student’s artwork via their webpage on a regular basis and have them discuss what they are learning. If you need to contact me, please email me. Parents and Guardians are always welcome in the studio.

**Donations and Volunteers:** The East HS Photography program is growing! We welcome any donations of funds or camera/camera equipment to make our program even better. Volunteers are always welcome to help with field trips and all our art events.

**Outline of Concepts**

* Introduction to the Studio Environment
* Theory Behind Selfies/Self Portraits
* Using Photoshop, Bridge, and Dropbox
* File types and sizes
* Elements of a Good Photograph/Composition
* Parts of the Camera/How a Camera Works
* Intro to Manual DSLR Operations
* History of Photography
* Landscape Photography
* Conceptual Photography (creating work on an idea)
* Double/Multiple Exposure
* Portraiture
* Studio Light Setups
* Special Effects in Photoshop
* Visual Communication Techniques
* Photojournalism
* Narrative storytelling
* Designing and Maintaining a Web Page
* Portfolio Development