

California State University, Long Beach
Course Syllabus **JOUR 300: PHOTOJOURNALISM**

Techniques of photojournalism for newspapers, magazines, corporate communications, new media and public relations. Course covers types of photos needed for all aspects of editorial photography, including lighting, use of filters, working with subjects and the photo picture page.

Photojournalism is about storytelling and communicating with pictures. The task of using a camera to convey ideas, thoughts and art. During the semester we will work on assignments that will emulate what it is like to be a newspaper photographer. Each student will shoot news, feature, sports and portrait assignments. Your primary function will be to make storytelling images of the everyday events that occur in life. You will learn to understand what news is, and how to identify the things in life - yours, and other peoples that make for good photography

Course Objective: To prepare the photojournalist student to have a career in news photography. The students will be required to perform assignments for the school paper or local publications. They must shoot at least (4) outside assignments and have at least two images published over the course of the semester. All outside assignments will be turned in at end of semester.***NO EXCEPTIONS ON THIS—NO PARTIAL CREDIT GIVEN

For extra credit: students can set up a ride-along or a shift with a photographer, photo editor or researcher. These should be done with major publications including the Long Beach Press Telegram, Orange County Register, LA Times, Associated Press, Inland Valley News, LA Daily, The Daily Pilot (Newport Beach), Riverside Press Enterprise etc. A 1-2 page paper with photographer contact will be included summarizing experience.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Textbook: Photojournalism, the Professionals Approach by Kenneth Kobre
4th Edition 2004 Boston, MA: Focal Press—Reccommended

Cameras are available—student must purchase digital disc (lexar, san disc etc.) You must purchase at least one CF card (at least 1GB). Can be purchased at Costco, Target and all camera stores.

The course meets once a week, **-attendance and class participation** is essential to your final grade. Lectures, demonstrations will not be repeated. During the semester you should always have your camera with you. Successful photographers are continually shooting pictures regardless of whether they are told to do so. Now is the time for you to develop your visual skills by shooting as much as possible. *** **PLEASE BE ON TIME FOR CLASS-THIS WILL AFFECT YOUR GRADE******

In addition to the (4) required outside assignments, there are (10) assignments. Because journalism is a deadline-driven craft, take special note of the following:

Equipment and Supplies

Students need their own fully adjustable 35mm-format camera with interchangeable lenses.. Owning a variety of lenses i.e. wide angles, telephotos and in some cases, zoom lenses - will be very helpful, but not required.

The University has digital Nikon and Canon cameras and lenses that you can check on a week by week basis. You are responsible for the loss or damage to any of this equipment. **Students need to provide their own digital cards. (lexar, sandisc, etc.)—see above.**

You will need to purchase a USB or firewire drive, or some sort of portable memory. A 128 megabyte one should be fine, and may cost \$30-\$45. Bigger is better. Some of the cameras have the plug-ins for downloading directly from the cameras, but I would recommend purchasing a card reader. (or a few people can share.) You might want to buy a stack of writeable CDs, too.

CLASS GRADING

- Each assignment will be graded on the following-
 - Resourcefulness/follow through of photographer
 - Contact sheet/variety of images—(shoot same subject in many different ways!)

- Risk taking
- Presentation of final print
- Composition /exposure
- Caption writing

****In addition to class assignments, reading chapters from the book will be included and reviewed as well as group editing. Most of the class shooting will be done outside of the class period. **These assignments are subject to change, so working ahead may not help you.**

Assignment #1	Camera	10pts
Assignment#2	Shutter	10pts
Assignment #3	Depth of Field	10pts
Assignment #4	Flash	10pts
Assignment #5	Event	10pts
Assignment #6	Business portrait	10pts
Assignment #7	Sports	10pts
Assignment #8	News	10pts
Assignment#9	Event	10pts
Assignment#10	Feature	10pts

Class participation/Attendance
Being on time/Effort/Reading *will help you if between Grades

In Class assignments	10-20pts
Mid Term Quiz	50 pts
Final project	20pts