

Disclaimer: This is an indicative syllabus only and may be subject to changes. The final and official syllabus will be distributed by the Instructor during the first day of class.

The American University of Rome
Communication and Digital Media Program

Department or degree program mission statement, student learning objectives, as appropriate

Course Title:	Advanced Photography in Rome
Course Number:	DM 310
Credits & hours:	3 credits – 3 hours
Pre/Co-Requisites:	DM 104 and DM106 or permission of the instructor

Course description

This advanced photography course is designed for students who have prior experience in photography and will emphasize creative techniques in composition, lighting, and post-processing. Students will capture the unique historical and cultural context of Rome through their lenses and create visually stunning images that tell compelling stories. This hands-on and lab-based course will allow students to capture the wonders of Rome from unique vantage points, and create images using natural and controlled lighting. Students will focus on refining their artistic vision with mastery of their skills in professional grade colour correction, image retouching, and creating printed images. The course culminates with students producing a final portfolio showcasing their skills in various photography genres.

Course fee Euro 75.

Required Textbooks *(subject to change)*

- Handouts created for the course will be distributed
- Art Photography Now. Susan Bright. 2006
- Photographic Lighting for Everybody: Techniques for Mastering Light with Any Camera. Steven Begleiter. 2020
- Photographic Lighting Simplified. Susan McCartney. 2018

Entry fee

Students must pay their own entrance fees when required.

Course Learning Objectives

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. Apply advanced camera and composition techniques to produce high-quality images.
2. Demonstrate proficiency in lighting and exposure techniques to create mood and impact.
3. Execute macro, long exposure, and night photography effectively.
4. Demonstrate advanced proficiency in post-processing and photo editing using Adobe Photoshop, LightRoom, and other digital darkroom software.
5. Employ critical thinking and self-critique of personal photographs and provide

constructive criticism on peers' work.

6. Execute exceptional level of curating in creating print images and production of a portfolio.

Course Learning Activities

- Expanding the fundamentals of photography: Students will review the basic principles of photography and expand on them by mastering exposure settings, composition rules, and camera control. (LO 1)
- Manual Exposure Mastery: Students will take their mastery of Manual Mode and begin an exploration of visual story telling through composition. (LO 1 -6)
- Light study 1 - Natural and Artificial: Students will work with manipulation of natural and artificial light on location. (LO 1 -6)
- Macro Photography: Students will learn how to capture the small things of life and present them as big as they can get with a variety of lenses and composition techniques. (LO 1 -6)
- Light study 2 - HDR: Students will push the limits of the camera to create High Dynamic Range photos and prepare them for digital processing. (LO 1 -6)
- Long Exposure and Night Photography - This signature even requires meeting on-site to shoot Rome at night. (LO 1 -6)
- MIDTERM - Students will submit a 2-page draft of their artist statement that will be the centerpiece of their portfolio. (LO 5)
- Advanced editing and post-processing - Students will work all images through a series of 3 workshops which cover all aspects of professional level digital post-production. (LO 4)
- Cultural Experience - Over the course of the semester students will be photographing the interiors and exteriors of Rome's museums, art galleries, and monuments. (LO 1 - 4)
- Critique and Feedback: Students will receive professional feedback from selected photographers in various genres of photography. (LO 5)
- Final exhibition - Students will select their BEST work to be printed and displayed in a gallery setting, as well as present their portfolios. (LO 6)

Assessment tools

Manual Exposure	10%
Light Study	10%
Macro Photography	10%
Night Photography	10%
Midterm Project	20%
Printed and Portfolio of Images	40%

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week	Topic	Reading
Week 1	Introduction to course Expanding the fundamentals of photography	
Week 2	Manual Control Mastery Still Life Photography	
Week 3	Manual Control Mastery Street/Urban photography	
Week 4	Light Study 1 – Natural & Artificial Light Abstract photography	
Week 5	Light Study 1 – Natural & Artificial Light Product / Marketing photography	
Week 6	Advanced Digital Darkroom Part 1 <i>Working with RAW files in Lightroom and creating collections</i>	
Week 7	Macro Photography Gardens of Rome	
Week 8	HDR Photography Architecture Exteriors/Interiors MIDTERM DUE	
Week 9	Long Exposure & Night Photography Shooting outside of normal class time	
Week 10	Advanced Digital Darkroom Part 2 HDR & Long Exposure Processing	
Week 11	Landscape Photography Fieldtrip - Tivoli	
Week 12	Advanced Digital Darkroom Part 3 Printed images ready for print	
Week 13	Portraiture Urban settings	
Week 14	Final Exhibition of Portfolio and Gallery images	

ATTENDANCE POLICY

In keeping with AUR's mission to prepare students to live and work across cultures, the University places a high value on classroom experience. As a result attendance is expected in all classes and attendance records are maintained. The University's attendance policy is as follows:

1.0. Minimum Attendance Requirement: Students must attend a minimum of 70% of a course in order to be eligible to be considered for a passing grade.

1.1. Automatically Accepted Absences

Students will not be penalized for one absence from classes meeting once a week;
Students will not be penalized for three absences from classes meeting twice a week;
Students will not be penalized for four absences from classes meeting more than twice a week, as in the case of some intensive courses.

1.2. If further absences are recorded, grade penalties will be applied according to the Instructor's specific attendance policy, as stated in the syllabus, and following the institutional parameters given in the Note* below.

1.2.1. If the Instructor does not specify an attendance policy, there will be no grade penalty other than that attached to the minimum attendance requirement, and any penalized absences recorded above the basic 70% attendance requirement for the course will be invalidated.

1.3. During Summer sessions where courses are taught more intensively over a shorter period the following applies:

- Students will not be penalized for two absences from class.

2.0. Tolerated Absences

Certain categories of absence will not be penalized but they will be counted as an absence (for a 3-credit course meeting twice a week). These absences are:

- The Model United Nations (MUN);
- Permit to Stay,
- SG's "Ambassador Program" (Student Government initiative)
- Religious Holidays

The American University of Rome makes all reasonable efforts to accommodate students who must be absent from classes to observe religious holidays. (Please verify with the Dean's Office for the list of accepted absences for religious holidays)

Not attending a class due to the observance of a religious holiday will not be penalized but will be counted as an absence. Students who will need to miss class in order to observe religious holidays must notify their Instructors by the end of the Add/Drop period (first week of classes), and must make prior arrangements with their Instructors to make up any work missed.

2.1. The list does NOT include academic field trips because these (including arrangements for travel) must not overlap with other classes.

3.0. Cases of prolonged absences caused by an emergency or a medical condition may require students to withdraw from some or all of their courses. Under such circumstances students should first consult their academic advisors.

*Note: No instructor may penalize a student more than one-third of a letter grade for each absence beyond the tolerated limit (e.g. from A- to B+).

Grade Point Average

A student's grade point average (GPA) is computed by multiplying the quality points achieved by the number of credits for each course. The result is then divided by the total number of credit hours taken. The Cumulative or Career Total Grade Point Average (CGPA) is the grade point average for all credit hours taken at the University and at approved study abroad programs. The GPA and CGPA are calculated by truncating after the second digit after the decimal point. Transfer credits have no effect on the CGPA at The American University of Rome.

Grades

Grades are posted on a secure area of the University's official website and are mailed to AUR degree students only upon written request. Grades are mailed to the various study abroad programs. Grades computed in the (GPA) reflect the following grade equivalents:

GRADE		GPA	
A	Excellent	4.00	94 – 100 points
A-		3.70	90 – 93.99 pts
B+	Very Good	3.30	87 – 89.99
B	Good	3.00	83 – 86.99
B-		2.70	80 – 82.99
C+		2.30	77 – 79.99
C	Satisfactory	2.00	73 – 76.99
C-	Less than Satisfactory	1.70	70 – 72.99
D	Poor	1.00	60 – 69.99
F	Failing	0.00	59.99 – 0
WU	Unofficial withdrawal counts as an F	0.00	
P	Applicable to development courses	0.00	
<i>Grades not computed into the grade point average are:</i>			
W	Withdrawal		
AUDIT (AU)	Only possible when the student registers for a course at the beginning of the semester as an audit student		
I	Incomplete work must be completed within the ensuing semester. Failure to do so results in automatically converting the I grade to the default grade, which is then computed into the grade point average		
P	Pass grade is applicable to courses as indicated in the catalog.		
WIP	Work in progress		