

Syllabus: IMAGING A/B (PHOTOGRAPHY)**Instructor:** Alexander McSwain**School:** Duke Ellington School of the Arts | **Visual Arts Department****Email:** alexander.mcswain@k12.dc.gov**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course in Photography is designed to develop your skills in pixel-based photographic design and printing. The dream of film-less photography has finally become a reality. Printers, inks and paper have evolved that are able to not only match traditional continuous tone photographic quality, but can also extend traditional possibilities. Many darkroom activities are made easier and more powerful in the digital realm. We will use Adobe Photoshop CS6 as the primary image-editing tool.

Photoshop is software that allows: "...designers and photographers to create original artwork, correct color, retouch and composite scanned images, and prepare professional-quality separations and output with more flexibility than ever before. With a wealth of powerful painting and selection tools, plus multiple layers, special effects filters, and lighting effects, Adobe Photoshop is a camera for your mind."

COURSE OUTLINE (GOALS):

This is a generalized scheme, and not necessarily in the order given. Topics may include, but are not limited to:

- Basic introduction to computer-based art; overview of methods and strategies; modes and paths of input and output
- Macintosh OS basics and file handling
- Styles, trends, modes and aesthetics of modern photography
- understanding ISO, f-stops, shutter speeds, light metering
- Landscapes (panoramic)
- Still life and/or abstract composition
- Self-portrait—representational work created on computer rules of facial portraiture.
- Image correction/accuracy—A sharp, tonally broad color-corrected and edited complex image imported via scanning.
- Depth of field; (shallow and long) using aperture and shutter speeds to create a sense of distance.
- Motion; capturing still motion, understanding creative techniques: panning for sharp and blurred pictures.

CONTENT STANDARDS:

Six DCPS visual art content standards make up the core skills, concepts and knowledge for the Imaging A/B course:

- Technique, Process, and Media
- Structures and Functions
- Subjects, Symbols and Ideas
- History and Culture
- Reflecting and Assessing
- Making Connections

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Regular attendance, promptness to class, participation and improvement in skill development through class projects, research, and departmental enrichment opportunities. Students must maintain a classroom portfolio.

ASSESSMENT / CRITERIA:

- Maintain assignments in desktop folder or flash drive
- Meet the objectives
- Preliminary Preparation
- Craftsmanship
- Creativity / Originality
- Sketchbook
- Aesthetics
- Critique

SUPPLY LIST:

- To transport, store, or archive your files and media, you should consider obtaining a portable USB keychain or jump drive (e.g. 256 MB)
- Students are encourage to invest in a new or refurbished (used) digital camera

STUDIO CONDUCT:

- Use studio time wisely
- Do not abuse art materials
- Return all borrowed tools and materials
- Clean your area before leaving studio
- Respect fellow students and work
- Use appropriate behavior and language