

# West Linn–Wilsonville School District

## The Arts – Course Statement

### Course Title: Photography I

**Length of Course:** Semester  
**Number of Credits:** 1  
**Grade Level:** 9, 10, 11, 12  
**Prerequisites:** None; students will need to provide their own 35mm camera  
**CIM Work Samples Offered in Course:** Speaking work sample

**Date of Description/Revision:** July 2006

#### Course Overview

This course introduces students to 35mm cameras, teaches them to load 35mm film, expose, unload and develop black and white negatives. Students hand-print their work in a black and white “wet” darkroom. Students will focus on visualization, self-expression, and increasing their skills for observation.

#### Essential Questions

#### Concepts providing focus for student learning

- What is Art?
- How do I recognize a “good” photograph?
- What elements are needed to create an aesthetically pleasing photograph?
- How does an artist work differently when seeing the world through black and white?
- How does the physics of light influence this art form?
- How can one capture the observation in print?
- What are some roles of a photographer?
- How can I best use the equipment and the elements and principles of design to visually depict my ideas?
- How can I affect society with my photography?

#### Proficiency Statements

Upon completion of course, students will be able to:

- Understand the workings of the 35 mm camera, including shutter, aperture, film speed, and focus.
- Demonstrate the ability to expose, develop, and print 35 mm black and white film, showing proper and safe use of the darkroom equipment.
- Refine observation skills through the medium of photography.
- Demonstrate discipline in safe use of equipment, organization of time, and care of materials.
- Learn basic photo terms and vocabulary.
- Learn to critique a photograph using the following as a guide: value, clarity, technical execution,

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<p>presentation, composition, and aesthetics. The principles of art and elements of design may also be attributes of photographic critique. This will be done both orally and written.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep a portfolio that will consist of negatives, prints, instructor and self evaluations and reflections, and exposure data for original shooting (camera) settings and printing (enlarger) settings.</li> <li>• Research a famous photographer and give an oral presentation with visuals to the class.</li> <li>• Analyze how technical and aesthetic elements contribute to the ideas, emotions and overall impact communicated through photography.</li> <li>• Analyze photography comparing/contrasting it to another work from a different time or culture.</li> <li>• Describe and explain how the characteristics of a society or culture influence photography.</li> <li>• Analyze photographs from the media to look for specific elements and principles and how the photographer used them in the work.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>General Course Topics/Units &amp; Timeframes</b></p>	
<p>A. Pinhole Camera</p> <p>B. Photograms</p> <p>C. Introduction to the Camera, Lenses, Darkroom Equipment</p> <p>D. Getting Started - Beginning Film Techniques</p> <p>E. Composition and Pattern</p> <p>F. Light and Action (Motion)</p> <p>G. Contrast Filters</p> <p>H. Artist Presentations</p> <p>I. Sabattier (alternative darkroom techniques)</p> <p>J. Perfect Print</p> <p>K. Portfolio</p> <p>L. History of Photography</p> <p>M. Elements and Principles of Design</p>	<p>1 week</p> <p>1 week</p> <p>2 weeks</p> <p>2 weeks</p> <p>2 weeks</p> <p>2 weeks</p> <p>1 week</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>1 week</p> <p>1 week/final</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
<p><b>Resources</b></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Text: <i>Black and White Photography</i>, Henry Horenstein; Little, Brown and Company, 3rd Revised Edition</li> <li>• Text: <i>Photography</i>, London &amp; Upton; Prentice Hall, 8th Edition, 2004</li> <li>• Video: <i>The History of Photography</i></li> <li>• Other: Various videos illustrating photographic techniques and composition guidelines</li> <li>• Other: Class handouts, Internet sites about photography and historical photographers, classroom set of books on photographers and photography, library books about art, the art of photography</li> </ul>	