

COURSE SYLLABUS						
Course Title	Course Code	Semester	Course Hour/Week		Credit	ECTS
Basic Photography I	COMM105	1	Theory 1	Practice 4	3	6
Course Type	Compulsory Courses	Department Elective	Faculty Elective	University Elective	CoHE (YÖK) Compulsory	Other
	x					
Level of Course	Associate Degree (Short Cycle)		Undergraduate (First Cycle)		Graduate / Doctoral (Second / Third Cycle)	
			x			

Language of Instruction	English
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Course Instructor(s)	Asst. Prof. Dr. Farshad Asgarikia	E-mail : farshad.asgarikia@arucad.edu.tr Office : TI - OFF18	
Course Objectives	• Introduce the camera as a tool for creative and documentary expression. • Teach the technical foundations of exposure, focus, and composition. • Develop the ability to analyze visual structure and photographic meaning. • Foster awareness of light, space, and visual rhythm. Encourage a disciplined and reflective photographic practice.		
Course Learning Outcomes	Students will able to:	Teaching Methods	Evaluation Methods
	Define and explain the basic functions of a DSLR or mirrorless camera, including aperture, shutter speed, and ISO	Instructor-led demonstrations, visual presentations, and in-class discussion.	In-class participation, short quizzes, and practical tests.

	Describe and summarize how exposure and depth of field affect image creation.	Lectures, camera exercises, and review of sample photographs.	Written reflections and photo analysis assignments.
	Apply the principles of composition and design in photographic framing.	Hands-on shooting sessions, guided practice, and peer feedback.	Evaluation of shooting assignments and composition exercises.
	Compare and interpret different uses of light, texture, and color in photography.	Case studies, image analysis, and group critiques.	Class critiques and portfolio assessment.
	Plan and produce a photographic series that communicates a concept or emotion with aesthetic control.	Individual projects, instructor feedback, and project-based learning.	Midterm and final project evaluations
	Examine and criticize photographs for their technical quality and conceptual depth.	Group discussions, critiques, and instructor-led review.	Oral critiques, written evaluations, and portfolio review.
	Organize and present a cohesive body of photographic work in digital and print form.	Project supervision, printing workshops, and presentation sessions.	Final portfolio submission and presentation.
Course Content	This introductory course provides a foundation in the visual, technical, and conceptual aspects of photography. Students learn how to operate digital cameras, understand the exposure triangle, and apply principles of composition and light to produce expressive photographs. Through lectures, demonstrations, and creative exercises, students explore photography as both a visual language and an artistic medium. The course emphasizes observation, visual awareness, and the relationship between form and meaning.		

COURSE OUTLINE/SCHEDULE			
Week	Topic	Implementation (theory/practice)	Required Reading, Preliminary preparation

1	Introduction to Photography: Camera as a visual tool Course overview, examples from art and design	T	N/A
2	Camera Operation and Functions Hands-on practice with camera settings	T/P	Digital Photography : a basic manual / Henry Horenstein / Allison Carroll. Call number: TR267 .H67 2011
3	Exposure Triangle – Aperture, Shutter, ISO Controlled exposure exercises	T/P	Digital Photography : a basic manual / Henry Horenstein / Allison Carroll. Call number: TR267 .H67 2011
4	Composition and Framing Photographic composition study	T/P	Design principles for photography / Jeremy Webb Call number: TR179 .W38 2020. The photographers eye : a graphic guide : instantly understand composition & design for better photos./ Freeman, Michael. Call number: TR 267 .F74 2019
5	Light and Shadow Shooting with natural light	T/P	Learning to See Creatively design, color, and composition in photography/ Peterson, Bryan Call number: REF TR179.P47 2015
6	Focus and Depth of Field Depth of field project	T/P	Digital Photography : a basic manual / Henry Horenstein / Allison Carroll. Call number: TR267 .H67 2011
7	Color and Black & White	T/P	Advanced digital black & white photography/ John Beardsworth. Call number: TR267 .B435 2007.

	Visual contrast and tonal control		
8	MIDTERM Presentation and critique of works	T/P	N/A
9	Motion and Time in Photography Shutter speed experiments	T/P	Digital Photography : a basic manual / Henry Horenstein / Allison Carroll. Call number: TR267 .H67 2011 The photographers eye : a graphic guide : instantly understand composition & design for better photos./ Freeman, Michael. Call number: TR 267 .F74 2019
10	Texture, Pattern, and Detail Close-up studies	T/P	Design principles for photography / Jeremy Webb Call number: TR179 .W38 2020. The photographers eye : a graphic guide : instantly understand composition & design for better photos./ Freeman, Michael. Call number: TR 267 .F74 2019
11	Perspective and Space Creating spatial depth in images	T/P	Design principles for photography / Jeremy Webb Call number: TR179 .W38 2020. The photographers eye : a graphic guide : instantly understand composition & design for better photos./ Freeman, Michael. Call number: TR 267 .F74 2019
12	Visual Narrative and Meaning Photo sequence exercise	T/P	Photographers on photography : how the masters see, think & shoot / Henry Carroll. Call number: TR139 .C37 2018

			Learning to See Creatively design, color, and composition in photography/ Peterson, Bryan Call number: REF TR179.P47 2015
13	Digital Workflow I – File management, RAW/JPEG Lab session	T/P	Advanced digital black & white photography/ John Beardsworth. Call number: TR267 .B435 2007. Color Management & Quality Output : working with color from camera to display to print / Tom P. Ashe. Call number: TR510.A79 2014
14	Critique Session – Review of progress Peer feedback	T/P	N/A
15	Final Assignment: Thematic Series Submission and presentation	T/P	Portfolio submission

Required Course Material(s) / Reading(s)/ Text Book(s)	Each student must have a digital camera with an image resolution of at least 10 megapixels, and at least one SD cards of 32 GB for image capture. Books: Digital Photography : a basic manual / Henry Horenstein / Allison Carroll. Call number: TR267 .H67 2011. Design principles for photography / Jeremy Webb Call number: TR179 .W38 2020. Photographers on photography : how the masters see, think & shoot / Henry Carroll. Call number: TR139 .C37 2018 The photographers eye : a graphic guide : instantly understand composition & design for better photos./ Freeman, Michael. Call number: TR 267 .F74 2019 Advanced digital black & white photography/ John Beardsworth. Call number: TR267 .B435 2007. Color Management & Quality Output : working with color from camera to display to print / Tom P. Ashe. Call number: TR510.A79 2014 Learning to See Creatively design, color, and composition in photography/ Peterson, Bryan Call number: REF TR179.P47 2015
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Recommended Course Material(s)/ Reading(s) /Other	The students could use the websites below as resources: https://www.dpreview.com/ https://www.photo.net/ https://www.nationalgeographic.com/ https://www.cambridgeincolour.com/tutorials.htm https://photographylife.com/
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ASSESSMENT		
Learning Activities	NUMBER	WEIGHT in %
Mid-Term	1	40
Contribution of Final Examination/Final Project/ Dissertation to the Final Grade	1	60
TOTAL	2	100

CONTRIBUTION OF COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES TO PROGRAMME LEARNING OUTCOMES						
	PROGRAMME LEARNING OUTCOMES	Level of Contribution (1- lowest/ 5- highest)				
		1	2	3	4	5
1	Knows the historical development of the field of communication, basic concepts, theories and research methods.	X				
2	Knows the principles and elements of basic design.				X	
3	Knows the history, theories and theorists of visual communication.		X			
4	Knows advanced practical skills in various commercial and creative contexts, including graphic and audiovisual multimedia design.				X	
5	Knows national and international ethical rules, standards and legal documents on communication and visual communication design.			X		
6	Able to use the tools, methods and techniques and computer software required for visual communication design applications.				X	
7	Able to produce innovative and original works that reflect abstract and concrete concepts by emphasizing creativity			X		
8	Has the knowledge and skills to transform creative and innovative ideas into graphic, photographic, typographic, illustrative, 2 and 3-dimensional, animated and interactive visual expressions.		X			
9	Applies visual communication design techniques with design technologies in developing and changing media environments.		X			
10	Has the competence to create visuals with designs that emphasize aesthetics in design processes.				X	
11	Has the competence to define the problem, solve the problem, plan, manage the project and present in the design-based project development process.		X			

12	Has the ability to use research methods and techniques in the field of Visual Communication.	X				
13	Has the competence to research, plan, implement and report during the project phase.		X			
14	Has the competence to establish the connection between design and aesthetic values.				X	
15	Has the competence to interpret universal visual culture and associate the ties of symbols with universal visual culture.					X
16	Has the competence to analyze, understand and interpret projects in the field of visual communication design with a critical and independent approach.		X			
17	Knows how to integrate and use digital technologies and artificial intelligence based/supported design tools creatively and innovatively in visual communication design and production stages.			X		
18	Knows how to integrate and use digital technologies and artificial intelligence-based/supported design tools creatively and innovatively in visual communication design and production stages.			X		
19	Evaluates artificial intelligence applications in design studies with a critical approach in terms of aesthetics and originality, and uses them in accordance with ethical rules.		X			

ECTS / STUDENT WORKLOAD				
ACTIVITIES	NUMBER	UNIT	HOUR	TOTAL (WORKLOAD)
Course Teaching Hour (X weeks * total course hours)	14		5	70
Preliminary Preparation and self- study	14		4	64
Mid-Term	1		10	10
Final Examination/ Final Project/ Dissertation	1		10	10
TOTAL WORKLOAD				154
TOTAL WORKLOAD / 25				6.16
ECTS				6

ETHICAL RULES WITH REGARD TO THE COURSE
Plagiarism Disclaimer

Detected and undetected plagiarism is a serious offence at any time and it could have devastating effects on your degree result and future professional lives.

Plagiarism is easy to avoid if you make sure to identify and acknowledge your sources thoroughly and do not copy directly from visual examples, designs, or notes that have in turn been taken word for word from your sources.

	SDG 1: No Poverty	
	SDG 2: Zero Hunger	
	SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	
	SDG 4: Quality Education	☑
	SDG 5: Gender Equality	☑
	SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation	

	SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	
	SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	■
	SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	■
	SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities	■
	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	
	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	
	SDG 13: Climate Action	
	SDG 14: Life Below Water	
	SDG 15: Life on Land	
	SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	■
	SDG 17: Partnership for the Goals	

ASSESSMENT DETAILS AND EVALUATION CRITERIA:

Mid-Term percentage of total score is divided to:

Participation & Attendance: 5% (Active engagement in discussions, critiques, and workshops), **Weekly Assignments:** 25% (Small exercises that develop technical skills), **Midterm Project submission and discussion:** 10%

Final percentage of total score is divided to:

Participation & Attendance: 5% (Active engagement in discussions, critiques, and workshops), **Weekly Assignments:** 35% (Small exercises that develop technical skills), **Final Project submission and discussion:** 20%

PREPARED BY	Asst. Prof. Dr. Farshad Asgarikia
UPDATED	16.10.2025
APPROVED	