

Digital Photography: Beginning Image Making FAQ

Digital Photography: Beginning Image Making

Runs in Semester 1 - September to December

Tuesday Evening 6:30 – 9pm*

5 ECTS Credits at Level 6

* Course usually runs on Tuesday night, but this can vary depending on circumstances

Do I need previous experience for this course?

This is course suitable for beginners with no previous experience. Because the course focuses on Photography and Fine Art, it can also be a good introduction to Fine Art Photography for those with experience.

Do I need to bring a camera?

Yes, you should ideally bring a Digital SLR (DSLR) camera. This is a camera where you can manually set all your camera controls (Shutter, Aperture etc.). Some non-SLR Digital Cameras allow manual controls, but first check with the tutor. A mobile phone is not suitable for this course.

Do I need a tripod?

You can bring a tripod if you have one. For any tripod-based exercises conducted during class time the college will provide a tripod for you to use. If you want to use a tripod outside of class, you should purchase your own. It may be that your style of photography does not require you to use a tripod when making your work.

What do you learn during the course?

- How to use manual settings on your camera
- Experience working with different photographic genres (i.e., Portraiture, Landscape etc.)
- An introduction to the history of Fine Art Photography
- Introduction to using our Photography studio
- Compositional & design skills, i.e., how to make interesting pictures
- Using RAW Files
- Post-Production using Adobe Bridge, Lightroom & Photoshop
- How to set up your images for printing

How is the course structured?

We run over 12 sessions beginning at the same time as the start during the normal MTU semester (see MTU students' calendar). Our sessions sometimes continue during the time when undergraduate students are on holidays, meaning that sometimes we can finish before the end of semester.

What do I bring to class for the first session?

- A DSLR camera (or equivalent) with a fully charged battery
- SD card for your camera to store images
- Tripod (if you have one)
- Visual Diary (Basic A4 or A3 workbook with blank pages, these are available from stationary suppliers or an Art Supply Store)

Do I need to purchase any other materials?

You can physically 'proof' your work by printing through the college photocopiers. You access these with a student card where you can top up credit as required. We do provide a limited supply of art quality photo paper for our printing session.

Do need to submit for assessment?

Assessment is optional. For those that complete assessment you will be awarded 5 ECTS Credits at Level 6. Some participants do not submit and enjoy the course as a hobby or casual learning.

What do I submit for assessment at the end of the course?

At the end of the course, you will hand up a sequence of physically printed finished images and a visual diary of backup work. The finished images will be made by you using your camera and manual settings. Time permitting, we will print these images in college. The visual diary is a collection of all your backup work including test images, weekly assignment work, research into art & photography and you own commentary.