

**The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology**  
**UG Course Syllabus**

## **Photography**

**HUMA1154**

[3 Credits]

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### **Course Description**

This course provides an overview of the various forms of Photography, explores the relationship between visual communication and art. The course will examine the collaborative process between light and graphic, concepts and skills. The increasing influences of images and trends from visual media will also be discussed.

### **Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs)**

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

1. Understand the usage of camera and lens, skills of photography
2. Apply photographic styles, compositions, usage of light and visual elements
3. Analyze photos through case studies, and the influences in the society
4. Explain the taught concepts and apply analytical skills to photography in both oral and written format"
5. Develop a theme, interpret a concept by a series of photos

### **Assessment and Grading**

This course will be assessed using criterion-referencing and grades will not be assigned using a curve. Detailed rubrics for each assignment are provided below, outlining the criteria used for evaluation.

#### **Assessments:**

| <b>Assessment Task</b> | <b>Contribution to Overall Course grade (%)</b> | <b>Due date</b> |
|------------------------|---|-----------------|
| Mid-Term 1             | 25%   | Week 4          |
| Mid-Term 2             | 25%   | Week 8          |
| Final Project 1        | 20%   | Week 12         |
| Final Project 2        | 20%   | Week 13         |

\* Assessment marks for individual assessed tasks will be released within two weeks after students' presentations.

## Mapping of Course ILOs to Assessment Tasks

| Assessed Task      | Mapped ILOs              | Explanation  |
|--------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Mid-term 1         | [ILO1, ILO2]             | These tasks assess students' ability to explore the medium & skills (ILO 1), (ILO 2)   |
| Mid-term 2         | [ILO2, ILO4, ILO5]       | The specific project aims at documenting the community, communicate and finding stories. ILO2, ILO4. Make a good photo selection with strong visual impact. ILO5 |
| Final Projects 1+2 | [ILO2, ILO3, ILO4, ILO5] | Through photo project, presentation and photo book reviews assess students' ability to critically evaluate their set of body works. (ILO2, ILO3, ILO4, ILO5)     |

## Grading Rubrics

[These rubrics clearly outline the criteria used for evaluation. Students can refer to these rubrics to understand how their work will be assessed.]

| Criteria                    | Excellent   | Good  | Satisfactory  | Fair   | Fail   |
|-----------------------------|---|---|---|--|--|
|                             | >=85/100 A range  | >=70/100 B range  | >=55/100 C range  | >=40/100 D   | <40/100 Fail   |
| Photography skills:         | Strong sense of "series" with rich storytelling contents, well-composed photographic shots showing a consistent theme and the decisiveness in timing.   | A solid sense of "series" photo story with well-composed consistent theme. Diversified visual elements are applied.                   | Demonstrates some basic photo skills. Standard in compositions, and usage of visual elements on the artworks. | Fair works without much effort are found. Weak in overall visuals and a non-set selection. | Weak execution, lack of focus and styles, and poor photo quality selections. |
| Research/documentary report | Sufficient information on the research topics, excellent points on analyzing or comparing angles; reasonable findings and relevant good writing skills. | Evidences of regular research works and solid findings of the research topics, some good points on documenting the issue and stories. | Basic attempts on researching, traces of observations and some analyzing angles are found.                    | Lack of research in related topics, weak in overall writings.                              | Inadequate research support and weak learning progresses can be seen.        |

## **Course AI Policy**

The use of Generative AI in project is NOT permitted. (except research)

This course will be assessed using criterion-referencing, and grades will not be assigned using a curve.

## **Communication and Feedback**

Assessment marks for individual assessed tasks will be communicated via Canvas within two weeks of presentations. Feedback on assignments will include comments on strengths and areas for improvement. Students who have further questions about the feedback including marks should consult the instructor within five working days after the feedback is received.

## **Camera Requirement**

Students need to bring their OWN camera (**NOT smart phone**) to class, which need not to be a professional one, but it should be equipped with “**Manual mode**” in the shooting mode setting (e.g. M mode).

- *We learned through lectures, exercises, outdoor practice, demo, visits, project consultations, assignments critique and discussions.*

## **Academic Integrity**

Students are expected to adhere to the university’s academic integrity policy. Students are expected to uphold HKUST’s Academic Honor Code and to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. The University has zero tolerance of academic misconduct. Please refer to [Academic Integrity | HKUST – Academic Registry](#) for the University’s definition of plagiarism and ways to avoid cheating and plagiarism.