

San José State University
Department of Justice Studies
FS 164 Crime Scene and Evidence Photography Fall 2020

Course and Contact Information

Instructor: Eric Kwong
Email: eric.kwong@sjsu.edu
Office Hours: After class or by appointment
Zoom Link: <https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/2504908575>
Class Days/Time: T/TH 1500-1700
Classroom: Online
Prerequisites: FS 11, JS or FS Major/Minor, Upper Division Standing. JS Student substitute JS 10 for FS 11.

Course Format

This course will meet Thursdays for lecture and project review. Attendance Thursdays is required. Students will Tuesdays to complete projects. Most projects will require that students demonstrate a specific problem in photography and then correct it. Students should be able to explain their project review.

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on Canvas Learning Management System course login at <https://sjsu.instructure.com>. You are responsible for regularly checking Canvas/your email eric.kwong@sjsu.edu to learn of updates.

Course Description

Practical use of photography in documenting crime scene evidence. Topics will include 35mm camera operation, lenses, focus, exposure, depth of field, lighting, composition, flash, injury documentation cameras and video, and court presentation of photographic evidence.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- LO1 Demonstrate understanding of digital photographic equipment function and care.
- LO2 Articulate understanding of technical photography and evidence photography concepts and terms.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook(Required)

Robinson, E. M. (2010). *Crime scene photography*, 1/E. Boston: Elsevier. ISBN: 9780128027646
May be purchased from the bookstore from Elsevier, Amazon.com or other websites.

Other Readings

Recommended texts

Staggs, S. (2014). *Crime scene and evidence photography, 2nd Edition*. Steven Staggs Publishing.
Jones, P. (2011). *Practical forensic digital imaging: Applications and techniques*. Boca Raton: CRC Press.
Miller, L. S. & McEvoy, R. T. (2011). *Police photography, 6/E*. Elsevier.

Additional readings and resources will be posted on Canvas.

Other technology requirements / equipment / material

Required: DSLR (Digital Single

Determination of Grades

All assignments are graded based on adherence to directions, thoroughness, thoughtfulness, clarity

Extra credit

Extra credit opportunities may be available throughout the semester and will be used to augment up to 3%.

1. Join a professional organization (CAC, AAFS, etc.), that is of specific interest to *you* and supply proof of membership before the end of the semester.
2. Tour a crime lab and write a page 2, typed, double-spaced synopsis of the experience. Santa Clara has monthly tours, and San Mateo has an annual tour in October.

Penalty for late or missed work

Late work may be submitted for half credit within one week of due date.

Makeups for exams will generally not be possible unless extraordinary, documented circumstances exist.

Recording Zoom Classes

This course or portions of this course (i.e., lectures, discussions, student presentations) will be recorded for instructional or educational purposes. The recordings will only be shared with students of the class through Canvas. The recordings will be deleted at the end of the semester. If, however, you would prefer to remain anonymous during the recordings, then please speak with the instructor about possible accommodations (e.g., temporarily turning off identifying information from the Zoom interface, including student name and picture, prior to recording).

Students are not allowed to record without instructor permission

Students are prohibited from recording class activities (including class lectures, office hours, discussion sessions, and distributing class recordings, or posting recordings. Materials created by the instructor (including syllabi, lectures and notes, presentations, etc.) are the property of the instructor. This university policy is in place to protect the privacy of students in our courses and to maintain academic integrity through the instances of cheating. Students who copy, distribute, or post these materials will be referred to the Student Conduct and Enforcement Development Committee. Unauthorized recording may violate university and state law. It is the responsibility of students to request special accommodations or assistive technology due to a disability.

Zoom Classroom Etiquette

Your Microphone helps keep background noise to a minimum. Please mute your microphone when you are not speaking.

FS 164 Crime Scene and Evidence Photography Fall 2020 Course Schedule

Schedule subject to change with fair notice via canvas

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics	Readings and Assignments
1	8/20	Introduction and course overview Lecture: History of Police Photography, Rules of Technical Photography	Read Intro, Ch 11 1 Read your camera manual, get familiar with your camera's settings and functions
2	8/23	Lecture: The Camera Getting Started, Shutter System	Photo Learning Projects assigned
	8/27	Lecture: Shutter Speed, Digital file type	Read Ch 10, 2, 5
3	9/1	Lecture: The Sensor, Film Plane, Distortion & Angles, Depth of Field, Lenses	
	9/3	Lecture: Composition, Focus & Exposure	Read Ch 4 Project 1
4	9/8	Focus & Exposure Lab: Project 1	
	9/10	Project 1 Review Quiz 1	Read Ch 6
5	9/15	Lecture: Quality of Light	
	9/17	Lecture: Flash Photography	http://www.crimesceneinvestigator.net/nighttime.html Link will be posted on canvas
6	9/22	Lab: Project 2	Project 2
	9/24	Project 2 Review Lecture: Nighttime Photography	Project 3
7	9/29	Lab: Project 3	
	10/1	Project 3 Review Quiz 2	Read Ch 3
8	10/6	Lecture: Crime Scene Documentation* Types of Crime Scene Photos, Capturing Elements of the Crime	
	10/8	Lecture: Crime Scene Documentation* Types of Crime Scene Photos, Capturing Elements of the Crime	Project 4
9	10/13	Lab: Project 4	
	10/15	Project 4 Review Lecture: Evidence & Scale Photography	Read Ch 9.2 Project 5
10	10/20	Lab: Project 5	
	10/22	Project 5 Review Lecture: Photographing Victims, Suspects, Injuries, Quiz 3	Read Ch 9.5 & 9.8 Project 6
11	10/27	Lab Project 6	

Week Date

Topics

Readings and Assignments