

**El Paso Community College**  
**Syllabus**  
**Part II**  
**Official Course Description**

<b>SUBJECT AREA</b>	<u>Communication</u>
<b>COURSE RUBRIC AND NUMBER</b>	<u>COMM 1316</u>
<b>COURSE TITLE</b>	<u>Photojournalism</u>
<b>COURSE CREDIT HOURS</b>	<u>3            2            2</u> Credits    Lec            Lab

**I. Catalog Description**

Presents a newsgathering approach to photography. Stresses principles and mechanics of photography in the mass media. **Prerequisite: INRW 0311 or ESOL 0340 (can be taken concurrently) or by placement exam or ENGL 1301 with a "C" or better or ENGL 1302 with a "C" or better. (2:2) Lab fee.**

**II. Course Objectives**

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

- A. Unit I. Elements of Visual Communication
  - 1. Understand basic elements of shapes and colors.
  - 2. Analyze print advertisements.
  - 3. Recognize and discuss the social aspects of the visual.
- B. Unit II. Photography
  - 1. Identify genres in photography.
  - 2. Define the technical aspects of the photograph.
  - 3. Recognize and define cameras, lenses and accessories.
  - 4. Understand and describe the differences between digital and photochemical photography.
- C. Unit III. Composition and Lighting
  - 1. Define elements of composition.
  - 2. Control details of composition.
  - 3. Apply principles of basic lighting.
- D. Unit IV. Photojournalism
  - 1. Cover a news event and bring back usable photos.
  - 2. Use a camera as a reporting tool.
  - 3. Edit digital photos on computer platform.

**III. Evaluation**

Portfolio: Students will maintain a minimum of 12 news photos that meet minimum standards for newspaper publication.

- A. Pre-assessment  
On the first day of class the instructor may give students a preliminary quiz on their basic photographic and camera knowledge. Students failing to demonstrate minimum familiarity with basic workings of a camera may be asked to schedule extra lab time to develop their skills.

B. Unit Assignments

1. Unit assignments are designed to give the student the hands-on practice needed to become competent with cameras and photo newsgathering techniques. Each photo assignment will be geared toward possible use in an issue of the student newspaper, *Tejano Tribune*.
2. Assignments are due at the appointed deadline. It is the student's responsibility to complete assignments as outlined in this syllabus.

C. Unit Written Tests

1. There will be three (3) written tests.
 

Test 1	Unit I
Test 2	Unit II
Test 3	Unit III

C. Final Evaluation

1. Percentages of final grade

Unit Assignments	50%
Written Tests	25%
Instructor's Assessment	10%
Portfolio	<u>15%</u>
Total:	100%

Grading Scale:

90	-100	=	A
80	-89	=	B
70	-79	=	C
60	-69	=	D
50	-59	=	F

**IV. Disability Statement (Americans with/Disabilities Act [ADA])**

EPCC offers a variety of services to persons with documented sensory, mental, physical, or temporary disabling conditions to promote success in classes. If you have a disability and believe you may need services, you are encouraged to contact the Center for Students with Disabilities to discuss your needs with a counselor. All discussions and documentation are kept confidential. Offices located: VV Rm C-112 (831-2426); TM Rm 1400 (831-5808); RG Rm B-201 (831-4198); NWC Rm M-54 (831-8815); and MDP Rm A-125 (831-7024).

**V. 6 Drop Rule**

Students who began attending Texas public institutions of higher education for the first time during the Fall 2007 semester or later are subject to a 6-Drop limit for all undergraduate classes. Developmental, ESL, Dual Credit and Early College High School classes are exempt from this rule. All students should consult with their instructor before dropping a class. Academic assistance is available. Students are encouraged to see Counseling Services if dropping because exemptions may apply. Refer to the EPCC catalog and website for additional information.