

# Massachusetts College of Art

## The Beginning Digital Photographer – NC422-1

Fall 2011 (rev. 9/9/11)

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### Class Meetings:

Class meets on Saturdays in Room K-625 of the Kennedy Building :  
(9/10/11) 9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.  
(9/17/11) 9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

### Course Description:

This class will allow you to take control over your photographs by teaching the basics of the digital camera. We will explore effective techniques for taking better pictures with the most automated of digital cameras to the latest digital SLR's. In addition we will look at options for editing images ranging from Adobe Photoshop to iPhoto. You will gain an understanding of resolution, basic retouching techniques, a familiarity with file handling and a greater appreciation for the aesthetics of your photography.

### Course Materials:

#### Required:

- An email address
- A charged digital camera with all cables, and memory card
- Any form of portable media that you can use to easily store and retrieve your work

#### Recommended:

- Your camera's operating manual
- A tripod of any kind (if your camera can be mounted on one)
- A card-reader
- Photo Editing Software (such as iPhoto, Photoshop, etc.) on a computer of your own
- Inkjet Photo Paper (preferably Epson brand)

### Course Schedule:

- 9/10 Introduction to the course  
Review course outline  
Digital vs Analog (Megapixels, SLR's, sensors, file types)  
Basics of Photography (Shutter Speed, Aperture, Focusing, Macro, Flash)  
Manual Camera Operation (M, A, S, P, Auto, ISO, White bal. histograms)  
On site shooting practice & assignment worksheet
- 9/17 Image Capturing and File management  
Editing with Bridge (discussion of other software options)  
RAW Processing  
Basics of Retouching and color correction with Photoshop  
On-site color correction of edited images  
Image resolution/resizing  
Sharpening  
Printing Services & Websites  
Color Management, File versioning and high-quality output for Web & Print  
Printing to Inkjet printers (media and ink choices)  
On site image processing & print practice  
Question/Answer session  
Course Evaluation

## Resources:

### Photography Equipment & Supply Vendors:

- Massart Educational Pricing on Software & Hardware:  
[http://inside.massart.edu/Technology/Purchasing\\_Deals.html](http://inside.massart.edu/Technology/Purchasing_Deals.html)
- E.P. Levine:  
[www.cameras.com](http://www.cameras.com) Levine's has an extensive inventory and is a pro shop. They have a knowledgeable staff.
- Calumet Photographic:  
[www.calumetphoto.com](http://www.calumetphoto.com) 617-576-2600 Calumet is another pro shop with good inventory. They are close to the Cambridge side Galeria mall and T accessible.
- Hunt's Photo/Video  
520 Commonwealth Avenue Boston, MA 02215 617-778-2222 [www.huntsphotoandvideo.com](http://www.huntsphotoandvideo.com) Hunt's in Kenmore Square is a small store, but they do have decent inventory. It is more of a consumer store than a pro store. It is easily accessible via the T. They also have several other locations.
- B & H Photo, Video, Audio  
[www.bhphotovideo.com](http://www.bhphotovideo.com) B & H is one of the best sources for gear. They have excellent prices, extensive inventory and quick shipping.

### Online Display/Galleries:

- Flickr (Flickr.com)
- Sports Shooter (sportsshooter.com)
- American Photography Museum (photographymuseum.com)
- Editorial Photographers (editorialphoto.com)
- PhotoArts (photoarts.com)
- Pixel Press (pixelpress.org)

### Trade Publications:

- Aperture (aperture.org)
- Art on Paper (artonpaper.com)
- Black and White Photography (bandwmag.com)
- Blind Spot (blindspot.com)
- Digital Photography and Imaging (digitalphoto.com)
- Lens Work (lenswork.com)
- Photo District News (pdnonline.com)
- Photograph Magazine (photographmag.com)
- Photo Techniques (phototechniques.com)

### Online Info & Organizations / Equipment Reviews / Tutorials & Education

- Massart free access to Lynda.com for students: <http://inside.massart.edu/Technology.html>
- DP&I ([www.dpandi.com](http://www.dpandi.com)) digital printing, Harald Johnson author of *Mastering Digital Printing*
- Digital Photography Review ([www.dpreview.com](http://www.dpreview.com)) reviews of digital cameras
- Creative Commons ([www.creativecommons.org](http://www.creativecommons.org)) Shared licensing of media
- Free Culture ([www.free-culture.cc](http://www.free-culture.cc)) Lawrence Lessig's site on digital media and copyright issues
- Steve's Digicams ([www.steves-digicams.com](http://www.steves-digicams.com)) Digital camera reviews
- [www.photoshoptv.com](http://www.photoshoptv.com) the "Photoshop Guys" tutorials, video podcast
- [www.adobeevangelists.com](http://www.adobeevangelists.com) Adobe enthusiasts, tutorials for all adobe products including Photoshop