Creative Arts – Photography

Course length: Full year
Credit value: 20 credits

Only 20 credits of Creative Arts can be counted towards ATAR and SACE.

Advice to students
This is not a course based on ‘Snapshot’, Auto or Programmed modes of exposure. It is a serious study in the fundamentals of Photography, including camera technique, image construction and output. Approximately the first 50% of the course concentrates on traditional B/W film techniques and processes, building an informed foundation for working with digital technologies in the latter half of the course.

No prior knowledge or experience is necessary, however a strong interest in Photography and a willingness to frequently work outside of lesson time is essential for completion. Attendance must be of a high level to ensure that fundamental instructions and demonstrations provide a sound foundation for knowledge and skill development.

Students are required to purchase all consumable photographic materials with the exception of inks and chemicals. This will represent an approximate expenditure of $250 over the full year. The possession of, or purchase of, a SLR camera is not necessary.

Course overview
Photography is structured and assessed under the Creative Arts subject outline.

This is a full year course engaging students in a wide range of traditional and digital photographic techniques and processes used by artists, commercial and professional practitioners.

Four broad areas of study are covered:
1. Creative photographic process
2. Development and production
3. Concepts in photographic discipline

The course is approximately 50% traditional silver halide-based B/W and 50% digital.

Content:
The following are not discrete units but are interrelated topics selected to build an overall body of knowledge and skills:
- SLR camera technique
- accessory lens and filter selection
- black and white film processing and printing processes
- post camera toning and alternative creative techniques
- photography with natural and/or ambient light
- digital metering and exposure control
- studio lighting for products and portraiture
- digital file management
- film type, ISO ratings and applications
- Adobe® Software: Bridge®, Photoshop® and Lightroom®
- Nikon software
- colour management, inkjet proofing and print output through Adobe® Photoshop®
- preparation for a personal exhibition
- investigations into historical and/or contemporary topics and issues.

Assessment
Students present evidence of their learning through the following:

Assessment type 1: School-based – centrally moderated
- Product 50%
  Students produce two photographic products (collections) supported with one folio recording the development of the concepts and ideas, and the materials and processes used in the production of those works.

Assessment type 2: School-based – centrally moderated
- Investigation 20%
  Students produce one or two investigations into a topic of interest. Where possible their investigations should be related to their photographic products.
  The number of Investigations (one or two) and the specific topics are negotiated with the teacher.
**Assessment type 3: External – externally marked**

- Practical skills 30%

Students produce an A3 folio providing a maximum of 12 sets of evidence illustrating their skills, explorations, development and application in the use of processes, technique and materials. The sets of evidence must be accompanied with annotation and personal evaluative responses (maximum of 2000 words or equivalent multi-modal form).

**Pathways**

Creative Arts – Photography is highly desirable for further tertiary study in Photography, Media or Visual Arts through courses such as the Advanced Diploma in Commercial Photography at TAFE, a Degree or Diploma in Visual Arts at ACA, Diploma in Photography at The CCP, a Degree in Media at Adelaide University or a Degree at RMIT.

**Further information**

All photography students are required to pay a ‘maintenance and borrowing’ fee of $100. The college provides all chemicals, physical equipment and printing inks. All other consumables such as film, paper, negative files, DVDs and mounting/framing materials must be supplied by the student. These can be purchased through the college bookroom at very competitive prices.