

Berrien Springs Partnership Syllabus and Instructor Qualifications

CLASS TITLE: Photography with Creativity and Fun (online only)

GRADE OR AGE LEVELS: 4th - 12th

FALL Semester 2025

START DATE: August 25th **END DATE:** December 18th

Proposed class time: 4:00pm on Thursdays

SPRING Semester 2026

START DATE: January 29th **END DATE:** May 21st

Proposed class time: 4:00pm on Thursdays

WEEKS TOTAL: 16

WEEKS OFF: DAY OFF: Week of Thanksgiving Fall Semester

Week of Spring Break Spring Semester

DAY/TIME REQUIRED:

Group Class with individual support

Zoom class will be Thursdays at 4:00pm

(call for available times if this does not for for you
or with other questions 269-968-0181)

ADD'L DAYS/WK AVAILABLE:

HOURS/wk (REQUIRED): 1 hours

HOURS (POSSIBLE): 16 hours

TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS POSSIBLE: 16 hours

LOCATION/ADDRESS: Online (Class via Zoom)

MAIN INSTRUCTOR: Robert Ritzenthaler Jr.

ADDITIONAL PRIMARY INSTRUCTORS (background checked): No additional
instructors.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

phone or text: 269-968-0181

email: rob@ritzenthalerstudios.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Ritzenthalerstudios>

ADDITIONAL REGISTRATION AT SITE REQUIRED? YES NO

IF YES, INSTRUCTIONS FOR REGISTRATION:

MAIN INSTRUCTOR QUALIFICATIONS: Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) Degree from
Andrews University. I have been working in the creative graphic design, photo, and
video industry for the past 25year. Owner of my own Creative Design and Photo /

Video business.

COURSE DESCRIPTION (complete overview shown on website):

This is an online class, students with any type of camera can join. From a phone camera to professional camera I will show them tips and tricks that will make their photos look beautiful with whatever camera they have. I also will show them what equipment they may want to buy in the future to further their photographic interest. I will also demonstrate different software options that can help them make their photos look more professional with just a few tweaks. Look forward to having you in my class, see you soon.

SYLLABUS/OUTLINE: weekly breakdown of Project-Based Learning activities

Describe activities that will reinforce the lesson. Include any work and time to be required outside of class. List here or (circle) SEE ATTACHMENT.

Hour 1 - Meet and Great, get to know what camera each student will be using. Over view of the semester.

Hour 2 - Photo assignment 1

Hour 3 - Review of assignment 1 - Instructions for photo assignment 2

Hour 4 - Review of assignment 2 - Instructions for photo assignment 3

Hour 5 - Review of assignment 3 - Instructions for photo assignment 4

Hour 6 - Review of assignment 4 - Pro equipment review

Hour 7 - Special assignment 5

Hour 8 - Half way though review

Hour 9 - Instructions photo assignment 6

Hour 10 - Review of assignment 6 - Instructions for photo assignment 7

Hour 11 - Review of assignment 7 - Instructions for photo assignment 8

Hour 13 - Review of assignment 8

Hour 14 - Pick photos for final Virtual Exhibition

Hour 15 - Virtual Exhibition

Hour 16 - Final class, review of the semester and final good-byes

Assignments are simple photos students take outside of class based on the in class instructions. Students participation in class is the most important.

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND APPROXIMATE TARGET DATES:

Steps to check for student understanding, along with dates or # of weeks into class:

Class is split into three phases of learning:

Weeks 1 - 5:

1. Assessing the skill level of each student.
2. Doing group assignments to test these skills

Weeks 6 - 11:

1. Using what the student has learned the first 5 weeks and applying their knowledge to create project of their own.
2. Some beginner student may continue to work on assigned lessons.

Weeks 12 - 16:

1. Students will start to review their work and decide what they want to submit for presentation.
2. Students will make ready their work for show.

STUDENT ASSESSMENT - what will be used to evaluate student progress and/or end of semester pass/fail status?

All classes abide by the following:

- 1) Student agrees to attend at least 80% of class sessions/lessons offered. Attendance is kept online and tracked by Partnership staff. Failure to meet 80% or be on track to meet 80% may result in program discontinuation.
- 2) The Partnership Student Assessment or Performance Form is filled out by the teacher and turned in to Partnership staff. The link to this form is found on the web page for this class. Failing marks for lack of participation, behavior issues, practice time, etc. may result in program discontinuation.

A student will be evaluated on willingness to learn. Learning the subject fast or slow is not a factor but making progress is.

Each student will submit a project(s) created in class at the end of the semester. This project should be representative of what the student has learned in class.

If students do not attend at least 80% of the classes as specified by the partnership a student will fail. Make up hours can be discussed for excused absences.

Class-specific assessment: discuss and include the form or a link to the form that you use.

Photo Students: Overview of camera and settings, three initial project to evaluate students abilities to set a direction for the rest of the semester.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES: (online, books, video, etc.):

No additional resources required

Below are useful links:

Photography:

www.Adobe.com

www.apple.com

<https://www.pcmag.com/picks/the-best-digital-cameras>

<https://shop.usa.canon.com/shop/en/catalog>

<https://www.bhphotovideo.com>

<https://www.adorama.com>

CLASS POLICIES: ATTENDANCE, BEHAVIOR, WEATHER, ETC.

Attendance: Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. If a student needs to be absent for any reason please let me know ahead of time.

Behavior: Students in class must be attentive, be willing to learn, and not distract other students from learning. If a student is having trouble conducting themselves in this way I will talk to the parent about the problem and we will agree to a solution.

Other: If for any reason I am unable to teach a scheduled class, that hour will be scheduled to be made up at the end of the semester.