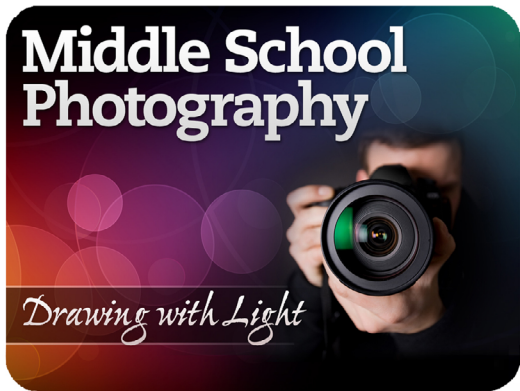


# Course Syllabus



**Course Code:** EDL031

# Middle School Photography: Drawing with Light

## Course Description

What do you think makes a photograph great? Do you want to take fun, interesting photographs of people, places, and pets to post for your friends or hang on your wall? Photo images are everywhere today. Sometimes we see hundreds in one day. But it's obvious that not all photographs are the same—some are definitely cooler than others. In Middle School Photography: Drawing with Light, you'll learn how to take those excellent, jaw-dropping photographs that you see in magazines and on your favorite social media sites. You'll learn the basics of using a camera and how to avoid common photography mistakes. Once you get the hang of this process, you'll be taking photos that will amaze your friends and have them wondering how you do it!

## Required Materials

- A digital camera or camera phone

## Table of Contents

Unit 1: Introduction to Photography . . . . .	3
Unit 2: Meeting Your Camera . . . . .	4
Unit 3: Choosing a Subject. . . . .	5
Unit 4: Elements of Composition . . . . .	6
Unit 5: Background and Foregrounds . . . . .	7
Midterm Exam . . . . .	8
Unit 6: Managing and Editing Photos . . . . .	9
Unit 7: Vacation Photos . . . . .	10
Unit 8: The Wild Side. . . . .	11
Unit 9: Photographing People . . . . .	12
Unit 10: Photographer Etiquette and Display . . . . .	13
Final Exam . . . . .	14



## Unit 1: Introduction to Photography

---

### Unit Summary

In this unit, we will begin our exploration of digital photography. We will learn about some of the early history of photography and some basics on how cameras work. We will discuss what basic equipment is needed for photography and we will talk about how to get digital images from a camera to a computer.

### Learning Objectives

- Define photography.
- Discuss the early history of photography.
- Discuss how cameras work.
- Discuss how to transfer images from a camera to a computer.

### Assignments

Unit 1 Photography Project #1	Homework	25 points
Unit 1 Review Assignment #1	Homework	15 points
Unit 1 Discussion Assignment 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 1 Discussion Assignment 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 1 Quiz	Quiz	10 points



## Unit 2: Meeting Your Camera

---

### Unit Summary

We hear a lot about self-esteem. Nearly everyone seems to agree that self-esteem is an important component of a happy and productive life. Most parents want their children to have a high level of self-esteem. But what exactly is self-esteem? What factors cause a person to have high self-esteem or low self-esteem? As a parent, what role do you have in determining your child's level of self-esteem?

In this unit we will learn what self-esteem is. We will learn how children develop their self-esteem as they grow and develop, and we will learn how parents contribute to this process.

### Learning Objectives

- Discuss the basic functions and features of point-and-shoot cameras.
- Discuss some of the common risks to digital cameras.
- Discuss how to care for your camera so that it will continue to work effectively.

### Assignments

Unit 2 Photography Project #1	Homework	25 points
Unit 2 Photography Project #2	Homework	25 points
Unit 2 Review Assignment #1	Homework	10 points
Unit 2 Discussion Assignment 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 2 Discussion Assignment 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 2 Quiz	Quiz	10 points



## Unit 3: Choosing a Subject

---

### Unit Summary

In this unit, we will discuss how photographers choose a subject. We'll discuss what makes a good subject for a photograph and some of the rules of design that photographers may use in their photographs. We'll also identify and discuss some of the different types of photographs.

### Learning Objectives

- Understand some of the differences between good photographs and great photographs.
- Discuss the purpose of photographs.
- Discuss the elements of art and design.

### Assignments

Unit 3 Photography Project #1	Homework	25 points
Unit 3 Photography Project #2	Homework	25 points
Unit 3 Discussion Assignment 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 3 Discussion Assignment 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 3 Quiz	Quiz	10 points



## Unit 4: Elements of Composition

---

### Unit Summary

In this unit, we'll learn more about composing good photographs. Composing a photograph means that we think about the items we are taking a picture of and try to arrange those items in a way that people will like when they see the photograph. Photographers use many different techniques to compose their photographs, including the rule of thirds and framing.

### Learning Objectives

- Learn about different ways to focus photographs.
- Define and discuss the rule of thirds.
- Understand and use the technique of framing in photographs.
- Discuss portrait and landscape orientations of photographs.

### Assignments

Unit 4 Photography Project #1	Homework	25 points
Unit 4 Photography Project #2	Homework	25 points
Unit 4 Discussion Assignment 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 4 Discussion Assignment 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 4 Quiz	Quiz	10 points



## Unit 5: Background and Foregrounds

---

### Unit Summary

When photographers create a photograph, they look at a three-dimensional scene or object and have to figure out how to turn that into a two-dimensional image. This is not always easy to do. To add depth to images and to prevent them from looking flat, photographers often work with three different parts of an image: the foreground, middleground, and background. In this unit, we'll learn more about these three areas of a photograph and how they can work together to prevent images from looking flat and can, instead, give the photo depth and greater dimension.

### Learning Objectives

- Define foreground, middleground, and background.
- Learn how framing (from Unit 4) can be used in the foreground of an image.
- Discuss some of the problems that can occur in foregrounds and backgrounds. These problems can affect the quality of a photograph.
- Study some of the techniques and methods that can be used to draw attention to the subject of the photograph.
- Discuss how using the foreground, middleground, and background can add depth to a photograph.

### Assignments

Unit 5 Photography Project #1	Homework	25 points
Unit 5 Photography Project #2	Homework	25 points
Unit 5 Photography Project #3	Homework	25 points
Unit 5 Discussion Assignment 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 5 Discussion Assignment 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 5 Quiz	Quiz	10 points



## Midterm Exam

---

### Learning Objectives

- Review information acquired and mastered from this course up to this point.
- Take a course exam based on material from the first five units in this course (Note: You will be able to open this exam only one time.)

### Assignments

Midterm Exam	Exam	50 points
Midterm Discussion Assignment	Discussion	5 points





## Unit 6: Managing and Editing Photos

---

### Unit Summary

In this unit, you will learn more about managing and editing photos once they are transferred to a computer. We'll discuss the common types of files that are used to save digital images and the good and bad points of each. We'll also learn more about managing the digital files and common photo-editing functions.

### Learning Objectives

- Discuss the common file types used to save digital images.
- Discuss the advantages and disadvantages (good and bad points) of different file types.
- Discuss the importance of photo management.
- Discuss common photo-editing functions.

### Assignments

Unit 6 Photography Project #1	Homework	25 points
Unit 6 Photography Project #2	Homework	25 points
Unit 6 Discussion Assignment 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 6 Discussion Assignment 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 6 Quiz	Quiz	10 points



## Unit 7: Vacation Photos

---

### Unit Summary

If you've ever sat through a slideshow of someone's vacation photographs, you probably already know that not everyone takes good shots of their travels. We want to capture the beauty, excitement, fun, and unique aspects of the places that we travel to as well as the personality of the people that we travel with. But, often these characteristics just don't appear when we print the photographs. In this unit, we'll learn more about how to improve our vacation photographs so that the next time you show someone photos of your travels, you'll wow them with the photographs that you took.

### Learning Objectives

- Discuss how to prepare to photograph a vacation.
- Identify some common vacation photographs.
- Discuss some of the problems that people have when photographing vacations.
- Discuss tips for improving classic vacation photographs.
- Think about how to use these vacation photograph tips in your hometown.

### Assignments

Unit 7 Photography Project #1	Homework	25 points
Unit 7 Photography Project #2	Homework	25 points
Unit 7 Discussion Assignment 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 7 Discussion Assignment 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 7 Quiz	Quiz	10 points



## Unit 8: The Wild Side

---

### Unit Summary

In this unit, we will learn more about photographing animals. We'll discuss some of the common problems that photographers have when photographing animals and discuss some tips for avoiding these problems. We'll also spend some time learning about photographing birds and pets.

### Learning Objectives

- Identify common problems found in photographs of animals.
- Discuss some tips for taking better animal photographs.
- Discuss how to photograph birds.
- Discuss how to photograph pets.

### Assignments

Unit 8 Photography Project #1	Homework	25 points
Unit 8 Photography Project #2	Homework	25 points
Unit 8 Discussion Assignment 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 8 Discussion Assignment 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 8 Quiz	Quiz	10 points



## Unit 9: Photographing People

---

### Unit Summary

In this unit, we will learn more about photographing people, including how to create self-portraits. We'll study some tips for improving photographs of people, including working with light. In addition, we'll discuss the choice of posed versus candid (non-posed, natural) photographs. Finally, we'll look at creating self-portraits and some creative ways of capturing your own image in digital form.

### Learning Objectives

- Discuss how lighting can affect photographs of people.
- Discuss tips for improving images of people.
- Identify some of the pros and cons of posed and candid photographs.
- Discuss self-portraits and how to create unique self-images.

### Assignments

Unit 9 Photography Project #1	Homework	25 points
Unit 9 Photography Project #2	Homework	25 points
Unit 9 Photography Project #3	Homework	25 points
Unit 9 Discussion Assignment 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 9 Discussion Assignment 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 9 Quiz	Quiz	10 points



## Unit 10: Photographer Etiquette and Display

---

### Unit Summary

In this unit, we will learn more about the rules and laws that photographers should follow. Although you may be taking pictures only for fun, you should still be polite and respectful to other people and follow the laws that relate to photography. We will also discuss how to print your digital images and how to display them once you have printed them.

### Learning Objectives

- Discuss photography etiquette.
- Understand and discuss some of the laws that influence and affect photography.
- Understand and explain to someone else how to print a photo.
- Discuss displaying your photography.

### Assignments

Unit 10 Review Assignment #1	Homework	20 points
Unit 10 Photography Project #1	Homework	25 points
Unit 10 Discussion Assignment 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 10 Discussion Assignment 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 10 Quiz	Quiz	15 points



## Final Exam

---

### Learning Objectives

- Review information acquired and mastered from this course up to this point.
- Take a course exam based on material from units six to ten in this course – the last five units. (Note: You will be able to open this exam only one time.)

### Assignments

Final Exam	Exam	50 points
Class Reflection Discussion Assignment	Discussion	10 points