

## Mr. Baker's Class Procedures

### First Thoughts:

You need your own memory card. They're between \$5-\$20, depending on what size you get. I suggest at least an 8GB (don't splurge on 64 or higher, you're never going to need that and it'll probably just get stolen). It needs to be an SD card, not a Micro SD. If it has a little adapter that you plug a tiny card into, you got the wrong thing. Our cameras typically won't read them. Get a Sandisk, Lexar, or maybe a PNY or Kingston. If you get some other brand, I can't guarantee it'll work.

You need a flash drive to back your pictures up. 32GB should be sufficient for most people's catalogs. Computers die, things get overwritten and deleted. If you're not backing your work up, you're playing with fire.

No, you don't need your own camera. If you have one and want to bring it, but all means do, but if you don't have a camera (with manual exposure control, sorry point-and-shoots), you can use one of ours.

We have 7 cameras (one died last semester ☹); we have way more than 7 people. You're going to have to share. Don't be a camera hog.

DADII-IV students get priority on gear. I'll make sure they're not hogging it (if you're DADI) but typically what they're doing will require more specialized gear (like certain lenses, flashes, etc.). If you're having a hard time getting gear, make sure you talk to me and I'll make sure you get your hands on some.

Come to school. If you're not here, you better have a camera. No, you can't skip all semester and then shoot everything in the last week of school; I won't even look at your pictures if you try to do that. Everything is on basically a two-week cycle.

Read/watch the assignments. If you don't read the articles or watch the videos I include in the lessons, don't ask me questions until you do. I spend a lot of time hand-selecting the materials I provide you with and I expect you to read/watch them. Some of them are YouTube videos. The school's firewall doesn't like YouTube videos. What does that mean? That means you have homework. Watch them at home, the library, maybe in class (but don't count on that). It's your responsibility to read/watch the materials. I will cover some of it in class, but you have read/watching to do on your own as well.

### At the Start of Class:

Make sure you grab the correct computer

Make sure you use the correct login (DTVNews)

Make sure you are loading the correct Lightroom catalog

Make sure you are importing/exporting to the correct folder

### Last five minutes of class:

Check to make sure you've pulled your memory card

Shut computers down

Put your computer in the correct spot and plug it up

## **Regarding Cameras:**

### **At the beginning of class:**

Grab your camera any gear you need

Check to make sure the battery is full and you have a memory card before you leave the classroom

### **During Class:**

Don't leave cameras sitting near the edge of tables

When you're finished with a camera, if you changed the lens, put the kit lens back on it (Nikon 18mm-140mm)

Pull the battery and put it on the charger

Please put lens caps/hoods on camera before packing them up.

Put cameras back up neatly on the cart.

### **At the End of Class:**

Leave enough time before the end of class to put gear away

Put chairs back neatly

Throw your trash away

### **Going Out to Shoot:**

If you're in DADI, you get 3 days a week to go outside of the class and shoot. Which days you shoot are usually up to you (typically though, don't expect to go out first thing on Mondays, because I'll be going over the new assignments).

If you get busted doing something you shouldn't be doing when you're out with gear, don't expect to be able to go out again. This means you're not going to the café, ordering a latte, and chilling for the duration of class, going outside somewhere you shouldn't (in fact, you're not to be outside other than the front of C-Wing) be outside without me period.

If a teacher, admin, or other staff tells you you're in the way, disrupting their class/ etc., do what they say. Do not argue with them. They will let me know, so there's no use getting into an argument (plus, you're on camera with a large DSLR with a strap that has bright yellow lettering on it).

Use your time wisely

### **Regarding Borrowing Cameras Overnight:**

If you're in DADI, don't bug me about when you can borrow gear; I'll let you know when I'm comfortable with you taking gear home

Ask to be put on the borrow list; don't assume they're not all taken

If you ask at 3:30 on a Friday, I can almost guarantee they'll all be gone

Don't take all the gear; an extra lens, flash, that kind of thing is fine, but you don't need one of every lens and all the flashes

Once you pick it up, it's your responsibility; don't leave it unattended at lunch, in the café, in class, don't leave it in your car, etc.

Bring it back first thing; I will write you a pass

Don't come to school late and then turn it in expecting to get an excused absence

If you keep a camera for an excessively long time (I determine what's excessively long), don't expect me to let you borrow one again

If I don't feel you're being responsible with the camera, don't expect me to let you borrow one again (once again, I determine what being responsible means)

### **Final Thoughts:**

This class is project-based. If you don't do the projects, YOU WILL FAIL. Seriously. I take photography seriously, and I take you doing your work seriously.

Use your time wisely. You know when your assignments are due; everything is online and clearly outlined when assignments are due. You have 1 week to turn an assignment in late with no penalty. Between 1 and 2 weeks late, it's 50 points off the top (not counting any points you lose during grading). If you turn it in after 2 weeks, it's a 0, end of discussion.

If you have something come up and you just can't get an assignment done in time, talk to me PRIOR TO THE ASSIGNMENT'S DUE DATE and we can work something out. If you come to me two weeks after it's due, you're on your own. I will have zero sympathy for you if you sit for weeks at a time doing nothing then realize you're failing the class hard. I will remind you when your assignments are due and offer to help, but I will not make you take photos. This is an elective, if you want to do nothing and fail, that's on you, but rest assured you will fail if you don't turn in quality work.

Each assignment (unless otherwise specified) requires fresh shooting. That means no you can't use those photos you took three months ago for current assignment. Remember, it's very easy for me to check and see when a photo was taken. I will simply not count old photos being turned in for new assignments.

If you need help, don't understand a concept, or what advice on shooting or editing, please ask. Seriously, I'm always ready to answer questions. If you're not asking me questions, I'm going to assume you've got it all under control.

Critique is a vital part of photography. Critique is not bashing; we will talk about what you did well and what could be improved. Yes, I will critique your photos, often publicly. Get used to it. As a photographer, your work is meant to be viewed. If you're uncomfortable putting it out there, don't turn it in to me. If you turn in assignment, just assume that at some point it will be on the board and/or website and we'll talk about it. I regularly pull up all the photos turned in for a given assignment and go over them with that class.

About grading: whether or not I “like” a photo is irrelevant. If you do a good job technically, aesthetically, and compositionally speaking, you’re going to score well. There are hundreds of photos turned in each semester that I don’t “like” but get perfect marks because they were done well. It’s not about what I “like,” it’s about how you choose your subject, compose your frame, capture the light, and process your image.