University of Roehampton International Summer School

School of Arts and Digital Industries
Module Title: Digital Photography Workshop
Module Code: PHT020C108H

Module Rationale

This module introduces students to the principle of digital photography, both theoretically and practically, while laying the foundations of purposeful creative practice in the digital environment.

It encourages students to explore and experiment with a wide range of technical processes from cameras to lighting (both in-studio and on location) to software.

Students will develop an understanding of image-making through research, analysis and discussions. A multitude of examples will be brought to class in order to unfold processes and thinking in the context of different visual languages.

The module also explores a range of critical concepts about aesthetics, authorship, and image manipulation by exploring some of the most forward-thinking image-makers of our time.

A project will be set to develop skills and familiarize students with the meaning of photography.

Learning Outcomes

Students who successfully complete this module will:
- Be able to discuss and use conceptual approaches to photography in order to produce a coherent and meaningful photographic series.
- Be competent in the techniques of digital SLR camera use, including the control of the exposure, lighting (both natural and in-studio), composition and depth of field.
- Be able to communicate a concept or a story via the creation of mood boards.
- Be competent in controlling digital workflow by using Photoshop and Camera Raw for editing purposes and storing images.
- Be participatory in the conventions held in class in order to share research and discuss ideas.
- Be familiar with a range of photographers in relation to their own practice.
- Work safely on location as well as in a photography studio environment.

Assessment

Theme: "Time in photography"

On a theoretical level, photography couldn't exist without first defining "Time".

While working on your two assignments, you are asked to investigate the concept of "Time in photography". This can be done in any form as long as it's present and coherent in both your research presentation and practical project.

Research presentation (20%)
Inspiration comes from everywhere and research is a fundamental step in the creation of any form of art.

For your <u>5 minutes</u> presentation, you are asked to come up with a photographic concept or a story that draws inspiration from any other form of art (such as literature, cinema, sculpture, or nature to name a few) with the exception of photography or other photographers' work. You will then have to pitch your idea to the class. Be aware, it will have to be critic-proof and feasible with all the means available to you as you are then asked to translate it into images for the practical assignment and question the concept of "Time in photography".

Together with your oral presentation please bring to class and submit digitally one-page A3 mood board populated with:

- A title
- External visual references able to illustrate your story
- Extras: lighting example, colour palette, mood, composition, sketches…

Please do not include any direct reference to photography or other photographers' work.
Please read carefully the practical project too before getting started.

<u>Practical project (80%)</u>
For your practical project, you are asked to produce a photographic series based on your mood board and question the concept of "Time in photography".

This can be interpreted in many different ways such as developing a storyline in your series or simply portraying objects, people or situations that are far in time from each other.

Furthermore, you can choose to represent facts in chronological or non-chronological order. You can even decide to feature a timestamp on your images if this helps motivate your choices.

This second assignment must be a reflection of your pitch. My advice is to test and advance simultaneously in order to make sure your concept is weighted to your skills and resources.

Format and minimum requirements: you must present <u>at least 12 photographs</u> well placed on a PDF as follow:

- Page 1 – an overview of ALL your selected photographs
- Page 2 and following – one photograph per page

<u>Indicative Timetable</u>

1	Introduction to the module
2	What is a photograph?
3	Photographic styles and camera technique
4	Focus and lighting
5	Editing
6	Gallery tour – Maximillian William Gallery, Hamiltons Gallery and Atlas Gallery
7	Photographer case studies
8	Photographer case studies
9	Assessment preparation
10	Visit to the Photographer's Gallery

11	Presentations
12	Presentations