

Sun City Photo Club Education Catalog

August 15, 2023

1) Taking pictures

a. Basic Composition (“I Just Want to Take Better Pictures”)

A 3-session class designed for the beginner or casual photographer who wants to take better pictures without worrying about the more technical aspects of photography. Topics include basic composition, touching up photos on the computer, and handling common problems. All the equipment that is needed is a camera (phone, point-and-shoot, or more advanced) and a computer (Mac or Windows). The software used in this class is provided free with Macs and Windows computers for photo touch-ups.

b. Advanced Composition – looking for an instructor!

c. Getting Out of Auto

This three week class is designed for people who want to get more out of their camera. The class will cover the basics of the "Exposure Triangle", including aperture, shutter speed, and ISO. Other topics include exposure compensation and white balance.

2) Lighting

a. Intro to Studio Portrait Photography

The Studio Portrait Lighting course will introduce equipment needed and the techniques required to produce studio quality portraits of individuals and groups as well as product and still-life images. Students will receive hands-on experience with studio lights.

b. Natural Light Portraits

Learn creative outdoor portrait photography techniques using available light. This two-hour workshop, led by top Austin professional portraitist Tim Babiak, covers key topics to help you shoot better outdoor portraits using only available light. You'll study light at multiple locations and practice shooting with one or more live models.

c. On-Camera Flash

While many photographers avoid using on-camera flash, some situations such as event photography call for it. For most photographers, use of on-camera flash typically yields unflattering results. This two-hour class will cover key topics to get you using on-camera flash in an unconventional manner to get beautiful results. You'll practice what you learn with other members of the class to ensure you've mastered this new technique.

3) Post-processing and Other Software

a. Editor Options I: Free Post-Processing Software for Windows, Mac, and Mobile

Editing your photos can make a world of difference! In this class you will learn some

basic editing techniques that will bring your photos to life, using free post-processing products that are available for the devices you use. Although this is not a hands-on workshop, participants are welcome to work with their own photos using these products during the class. This class will include demonstration of the key features of each product, along with a comparison of the feature sets of each.

b. Editor Options II: Which Editor is Best for You?

Choosing an image editing program for your post-processing can be a daunting task. The purpose of this course is to help you decide. The instructors will present the essential components of two of the most popular programs, Photoshop Elements and the Adobe Creative Cloud, which includes Lightroom and Photoshop. This will be demonstration of the two programs and not a hands-on course.

c. Using the Snapseed App

This class covers how to use the Snapseed App on iPhone and Android devices. The most useful Snapseed tools will be covered, such as basic adjustments and filters and layering.

d. Introduction to Lightroom Classic

This multi-session class will prepare those who are new to Lightroom to be able to import and organize their photos, select their best images, apply edits, and export their photos for devices and print.

e. Photoshop Elements

Photoshop Elements provides much of the editing functionality provided by its more expensive cousin, Adobe Photoshop. In this class, participants will learn how to resize and crop their pictures, correct color and contrast, adjust the exposure, remove distracting elements or unwanted subjects, and prepare their photos for emailing and printing.

f. Photoshop Topics:

i. Layers in Photoshop

In order to use Photoshop effectively, it's important to have a solid foundation in the understanding of layers. In this class, students will learn what layers are used for, how to create different types of layers, how to use layer masks to apply changes to specific areas of the image, and how to make selections as a method of applying adjustments to selected areas.

ii. Creating a Composite in Photoshop

In order to create realistic composite images in Photoshop, users must have an understanding of directional lighting, perspective, light and shadows and they must be able to extract portions of an image so the edges are clean. The students in this class will learn how to create composite images in

Photoshop. They will learn how to make clean extractions and how to combine them with a base photo to create an entirely new image.

a. Photo Pills

Participants will learn the basic components of the Photo Pills application and how to navigate between those component to plan future shots. Participants are given the opportunity to practice these skills in an outdoor exercise.

4) Photography Genres and Specialties

a. Apple

i. Discovering iPhone Photography

The goal of this three-session class is to provide a full orientation to the operation and uniqueness of the iPhone cameras. Participants will learn everything the iPhone as to offer, from basic photography to the specialty modes to using the editing capabilities in Apple Photos.

ii. iPhone Videography – looking for an instructor!

iii. iMovie

Learn how iMovie can help you prepare a shareable, well-organized file of your memories by combining photos, movie clips with titles, and captions to preserve your experiences—you could even add voice-overs and music! With iMovie, it's never been easier to create memorable, cinema-quality videos; easily add photos and videos to projects, trim film clips, add seamless transitions, and fade audio like a pro.

b. Other genres (landscape, macro, bird, nature, travel, etc.)

i. Travel Photography

Travel Photography encompasses everything from landscapes to street photography, people to wildlife. In this course you will learn to identify the photographic elements that can help you turn your vacation snapshots into captivating travel photos.

ii. Landscape Photography

The students in this class will learn the attributes of a landscape photo that set them apart from average photos. They will learn how to make landscape photos with everything in focus throughout the image and how to ensure that the image is sharp. They will learn to create images with depth and balance and to use light to illuminate and shadows to define the subject. Except for polarizing filters and Depth of Field Apps, photo gear will not be included.

iii. Astrophotography

In this class you'll learn the basics of astrophotography, including the best camera settings for capturing the night sky; different types of lenses and filters that are best suited for astrophotography; how to focus your camera

in the dark; and timing your session to minimize light pollution. The classroom session will also cover post-processing techniques that can enhance the final result of your images.

iv. Sports Photography

If you're interested in learning how to shoot sports like a pro, then this the class for you. The same basic principles apply whether you are shooting your kids on the weekends or covering a profession sporting event. You'll learn about the gear and settings you need to bring the viewer into the heart of the action.

v. Still Life Photography

Still life photography is the art of capturing inanimate objects and arranging them in a way that tells a story or evokes emotion. In this class, participants will have the opportunity to experiment with various props, backgrounds, and lighting setups to create their own still life photographs. The workshop will include both classroom instruction and hands-on practice, with feedback and guidance provided throughout.

vi. Street Photography

c. Video – looking for instructors!

i. Recording Video

ii. Video Post-processing

5) Printing

a. Getting Ready to Print

In this class, we will be viewing 'printing basics' chapters from 'The Perfect Print' tutorial. The chapters are geared for photographers that are considering printing their images. We will also discuss the "Framing/Printing Discussion Group" and their role in the PSA Print SIG. This class answers the questions:

Why do I want to print? Do I use a photo lab or print at home? We will walk through the steps to make a basic print.

b. Printing Basics

The Instructor, Wes Odell, will show you, with examples, the many things that you can do only with a printer; how to use a simple "letter-size" printer for large exhibits; demonstrate how these prints compare to those from a full size (13 x 19) photo printer; and describe what tools and education a person needs who already knows how to photo-edit a digital image. Essentially, it will cover the "what" and "why." The "how to do it" will be covered in one or more workshops depending on interest.

6) Evaluation and Critique

a. Core Principles of Photography / Image Critique

This course is designed for photographers of all abilities who have an interest in

learning what makes a strong image and learning how to review and evaluate their own images more objectively. Users of all cameras, including iPhone cameras, will have the opportunity to actively participate in the review and discussion of the Core Principles of Photography. All attendees will receive a packet of information that can be used for future reference. Included will be a handout which defines the appropriate language everyone should use when providing helpful, kind, and respectful comments of other photographer's work.

b. Photo Judging Criteria

This course is designed for photographers of all abilities who have an interest in learning the guidelines judges use when evaluating photos in competition. The course will include a set of tips and thoughts about the process of photo competition. It will also include information that will help improve the student's abilities, whether or not they are interested in submitting photos for competition. All attendees will receive a packet of information that can be used for future reference. Included will be handouts which define the criteria for what judges look for when choosing a winning photo, and information on preparing the presentation of the photo including tips on printing, matting, and framing the image. Also included will be a checklist the student can use to self-evaluate their images.

7) Presentation and Exhibiting

a. Matting and Framing

Learn the basic techniques of framing and matting photos for exhibition, including what supplies you may need, and where to purchase them; deciding about matting with single or double mats along with discussing colored mats; and how to wire and mat frames for Sun City and outside venues.

b. Cutting Your Own Mats

In this class, students will learn how to use a mat cutter to make straight and angled cuts and to create either single or double mats

8) Fun stuff

a. Creating Greeting Cards

This class will teach participants to create their own greeting cards by adding their own images and messages to the cards that they print themselves.

b. Instagram

In this workshop, you'll learn the mechanics of Instagram (the menu icons, hashtags, when to post, feature pages, etc.). Once you understand the basics, you can quickly post your photos on the go and you can begin using Instagram to create a gallery that shows off your favorite images.

c. Making a Photo Book

A hands-on class using a dedicated online program to create and produce a photo

book all your own. The course will cover getting started, moving your photos from your desktop to the program, how to organize your photos in the booklet, making choices for backgrounds, narratives and page layouts. You will be able to actually develop a short story with photos.

- d. Websites – looking for an instructor!
- e. Making Your Photos into Abstract Art
Learn how to turn a regular photo into an abstract using a variety of post-processing tools and techniques for creating a unique piece of photographic art.
- f. Intentional Camera Movement
Learn techniques for producing striking images in-camera that are intentionally blurred (but not out of focus).