

**Photography High School 1AB**  
**(Annual Course for grades 9-12 High School)**  
**No Prerequisite. Submitted for UC/CSU Credit**

**Course Description**

The purpose of this course is to provide a balanced visual arts program, which guides students to achieve the standards in the visual arts. In Photography 1AB, students learn how to communicate visual ideas using basic photographic techniques incorporating historical and contemporary traditions. Traditional photographic traditions may be extended with digital cameras and multimedia technologies, including the addition of text, and scanned images. Students learn about photography as an avocation, vocation, and its relationship to other careers.

**Standards: Visual Arts**

**Content knowledge and skills gained during this course will support student achievement of grade level Student Learning Standards in the Visual Arts.**

*Upon graduation from the LAUSD, students will be able to:*

1. Process, analyze, and respond to sensory information through the language and skills unique to the visual arts. Students perceive and respond to works of art, objects in nature, events, and the environment. They also use the vocabulary of the visual arts to express their observations.  
**Artistic Perception**
2. Create, perform, and participate in the visual arts. Students apply artistic processes and skills, using a variety of media to communicate meaning and intent in original works of art. **Creative Expression**
3. Understand the historical contributions and cultural dimensions of the visual arts. Students analyze the role and development of the visual arts in past and present cultures throughout the world, noting human diversity as it relates to the visual arts and artists. **Historical and Cultural Context**
4. Respond to, analyze, and make judgments about works in the visual arts. Students analyze, assess, and derive meaning from works of art, including their own, according to the elements of art, the principles of design, and aesthetic qualities. **Aesthetic Valuing**
5. Connect and apply what is learned in the visual arts to other art forms and subject areas and to careers. Students apply what they learned in the visual arts across subject areas. They develop competencies and creative skills in problem solving, communication, and management of time and resources that contribute to lifelong learning and career skills. They also learn about careers in and related to the visual arts. **Connections, Relationships, Applications**

**Representative Objectives**

Student will be able to:

- Create original works of art using photographic media of increasing complexity and with increased skill.
- Engage in expressive art experiences, gaining personal insight and appreciation of his or her accomplishments and the accomplishments of others.
- Integrate what he or she learns in photography to learning in other subject areas.
- Learn skills in photography that translate to careers.
- Recognize, describe, analyze, discuss, and write about the visual characteristics of works of photography, objects in nature, events, and the environment.
- Identify, record, and use the elements of art and principles as he or she explores, analyzes, and talks about what he or she sees in the physical world and in what he or she creates in photographic media.
- Compare, contrast, and analyze styles of photography from a variety of times, places, and cultures.
- Recognize that photographs and photographers reflect, play a role in, and influence culture.
- Make informed judgments by applying the four steps of art criticism to his or her artwork and the work of others (describe the work, analyze the work in terms of the elements of art and principles of design, interpret the work in terms of ideas and emotions, and judge the work as to its success both technically and in terms of communicating an idea or emotion).

**Representative Performance Skills**

*In accordance with their individual capacity, students will grow in the ability to:*

- Produce a work of art effectively using the elements and principles of design in photography, or other media or emerging technology utilizing photographic sensibilities.
- Demonstrate the ability to synthesize different subjects, themes, images, and visual metaphors in creating artworks in photographic media.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the varied functions of an artist, art critic, art historian, art collector, and art philosopher (aesthetician) in relationship to the photographic arts.
- Research art and art-related careers in California.
- Describe the use of the elements of art and principles of design as they relate to specific images, styles, and periods of photography.
- Discuss and make choices about materials and equipment as they relate to function in photography.
- Identify some trends of contemporary styles in American photographic art and discuss the diverse cultural developments reflected in the artworks she or he has examined.
- Investigate a universal concept expressed in photography in visual and written form.
- Develop chains of reasoning for his or her judgments about photographic works of art that link the art elements and the principles of design, expressive characteristics, and technical qualities to the interpretation of meaning.

**Samples of Classroom Activities for Standard 5**

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Students will be able to:

- Research the style, role, and influence of a well-known photographer
- List the photographer's roles in and influence on their culture
- Create a work with stylistically related images to the well-known photographer
- Present an oral report, including information about the photographer and examples of his or her work and their own stylistically related images.

**Instructional Topics**

Historical Foundations of Photography  
Introduction to Photography  
Elements of Art  
Photographer as Storyteller  
Careers in Photography

Critical Comparison and Aesthetic Evaluation  
Traditional Materials and Equipment of the Photographer  
Principles of Design  
Digital Photography

\*Topics should be presented in an integrated manner where possible; time spent on each topic is to be based upon the needs of the student, the instructional program, and the scheduling needs of the school.

**How Parents Can Help**

- Talk about photographic images that made a difference in your life.
- Ask your child to discuss activities they are involved in and things they are learning about, especially in photography.
- Look at photographs in newspapers and magazines and on billboards and the like; ask clarifying questions such as, "what is the photographer trying to say?" "What does the photograph mean?"