

COURSE CONTENT

Course Code	DP2006
Course Title	Principles of Lighting
Pre-requisites	DP5000 (DP2000) / DN1012 / DP2001 / DN1013
No of AUs	3
Contact Hours	39 hours studio contact

Course Aims

In this core course you will be introduced to the control and manipulation of light for a range of situations for film or digital capture. You will learn to observe the quality of natural light as a basis for photographic studio lighting techniques and creative applications. Classroom activity will discuss the theory and application while studio participation will provide hands on experience.

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO)

By the end of the course, you should be able to:

1. Describe how light behaves, identify its qualities and determine how it can be best applied towards communicating a variety of visual narratives.
2. Utilise strobe lighting and grip equipment safely and proficiently for studio and location photography.
3. Employ natural and artificial light in a variety of schemes to convey a range of emotion and meaning.
4. Document, reflect on and evaluate solutions proposed for solving photographic lighting problems.
5. Contribute to the learning environment by participating positively to class discussion, critiques and activities on principles of lighting.

Course Content

The Right Light

You will review basic lighting principles and the concept of camera exposure. These will include the function of light and the crucial role it plays in the photographic process, as well as, how to obtain correct exposures. This is followed by a study of how to distinguish different types of light, quantify it, determine its quality, perceive the conditions that affect it, and ultimately, recognize how these elements impact the subject and environment photographed.

The Lighting Studio

Introduction to the lighting studio and artificial lighting as an additional platform and means which can be utilised for the production of photographs. You will learn to safely operate a variety of lighting and grip equipment and in the process familiarise yourself with studio etiquette and standard operating procedures. Focus is given to studying how light behaves and to the learning of its ability to “transform” subject matter and scene in a space where control over variables can be exercised. Techniques to control light to obtain proper exposures, and how to shape light to create depth and dimension, emphasize texture and form will be explored in detail.

Unlimited Light

This portion of the course is dedicated to equipping and expanding the student's photographic skillset. You will learn how to combine natural and artificial light, and, balance the different exposure values of the sources used when photographing indoors or on location. You will critically analyse your communication needs and apply your knowledge of lighting to explore and develop appropriate solutions for photographs that are effective in realising your concepts and conveying the desired narrative.

Class assignments

A total of seven assignments are aimed at providing you with the opportunity to grasp the principles of lighting through practice, and, to hone your technical skills in photography.