



PLNU Department of Communication

## COM 2017 | Photography Workshop

1 Unit | In-Person Course

*Fall 2025*⊕

**Wednesday | 3:45-4:45PM**

**Ryan Library 220 - Bresee Computer Lab**

**Final Exam: Wednesday, December 17th | 1:30-4PM**

INFORMATION	SPECIFICS FOR THE COURSE
<b>Instructor name and title:</b>	Arielle Pickerign <i>Department of Communication Adjunct Professor</i>
<b>Phone:</b>	(651) 233-0436
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:apickeri@pointloma.edu">apickeri@pointloma.edu</a>
<b>Office location and hours:</b>	Scheduled by appointment

### PLNU Mission

#### To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service is an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we strive to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

#### Course Description⊕

Students shoot events on campus through still photography and documentary video. May be repeated up to a total of three (3) units.

## Program and Course Learning Outcomes

Outcome	Assessment
Demonstrate proficiency in the use of cameras, lenses, and editing software to generate high-quality media.	Weekly Assignments (eg. Photo Submission Assignments, Discussion Boards), Midterm, Portfolio Presentation
Compose effective captions for newsworthy images.	Weekly Assignments (eg. Photo Submission Assignments)
Compare and select media which best communicates the intended message to its audience.	Weekly Assignments (eg. Photo Submission Assignments), Portfolio Presentation
Critique images in group settings with attention to imaging, techniques, cultural contexts, and professional conduct.	In-Class Discussion, Weekly Assignments (eg. Discussion Boards)
Apply appropriate ethical and legal standards while shooting, editing, and distributing media.	Weekly Assignments (eg. Discussion Boards)

### Required Texts

*No Textbook Required.*

Students are responsible for having the required course textbooks prior to the first day of class.

All supplemental materials posted on this course site (including articles, book excerpts, or other documents) are provided for your personal academic use. These materials may be protected by copyright law and should not be duplicated or distributed without permission of the copyright owner.

### Required Course Materials

A working SD card with sufficient storage for a semester's worth of photos.

*Recommended:* Lexar - Professional 1667x 64GB SDXC UHS-II Memory Card

<https://www.bestbuy.com/product/lexar-professional-1667x-64gb-sdxc-uhs-ii-memory-card-lsd64gcbna1667/J36XPKZYY2>

### Course Credit Hour Information<sup>Ⓢ</sup>

In the interest of providing sufficient time to accomplish the stated Course Learning Outcomes, this class meets the PLNU credit hour policy for a 1 unit class delivered over 15 weeks. It is anticipated that students will spend a minimum of 37.5 participation hours per credit hour on their coursework. For this course, students will spend an estimated 37.5 total hours meeting the course learning outcomes. The time estimations are provided in the Canvas modules.

## Assessment and Grading

Refer to canvas grading rubrics for assignment specific grading policies.

Grades will be based on the following:

### Standard Grade Scale Based on Percentages

A	B	C	D	F
A 93-100%	B+ 87-89%	C+ 77-79%	D+ 67-69%	F 0-59%
A- 90-92%	B 83-86%	C 73-76%	D 63-66%	
	B- 80-82%	C- 70-72%	D- 60-62%	

### Final Examination Policy

Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination on its scheduled day. The final examination schedule is posted on the [Traditional Undergraduate Records: Final Exam Schedules](#) site. If you find yourself scheduled for three (3) or more final examinations on the same day, you are authorized to contact each professor to arrange a different time for one of those exams. However, unless you have three (3) or more exams on the same day, no requests for alternative final examinations will be granted.

### Incomplete and Late Assignments

All assignments are to be submitted/turned in by the due date assigned in Canvas. Late assignments will only be accepted in extremely unusual circumstances. Failure to complete assignments by the due date will result in an automatic **50% grade deduction** per late assignment. Assignments turned in after the assigned date and time can still receive up to 50% credit if submitted before the time of the final exam.

Incomplete assignments will be graded based on the assignment rubric.

### Spiritual Care

Please be aware PLNU strives to be a place where you grow as whole persons. To this end, we provide resources for our students to encounter God and grow in their Christian faith.

If you have questions, a desire to meet with the chaplain or have prayer requests you can contact your professor or the [Office of Spiritual Life and Formation](#).

### State Authorization<sup>Ⓢ</sup>

State authorization is a formal determination by a state that Point Loma Nazarene University is approved to conduct activities regulated by that state. In certain states outside California, Point Loma Nazarene University is not authorized to enroll online (distance education) students. If a student moves to another state after admission to the program and/or enrollment in an online course, continuation within the

program and/or course will depend on whether Point Loma Nazarene University is authorized to offer distance education courses in that state. It is the student's responsibility to notify the institution of any change in his or her physical location. Refer to the map on [State Authorization](#) to view which states allow distance education outside California.

### **PLNU Copyright Policy**

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.]

### **PLNU Recording Notification**

In order to enhance the learning experience, please be advised that this course may be recorded by the professor for educational purposes, and access to these recordings will be limited to enrolled students and authorized personnel.

Note that all recordings are subject to copyright protection. Any unauthorized distribution or publication of these recordings without written approval from the University (refer to the Dean) is strictly prohibited.

### **PLNU Academic Honesty Policy**

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. For all student appeals, faculty and students should follow the procedures outlined in the University Catalog. See [Academic Policies](#) for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

### **Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy**

Unless specifically permitted within the assignment outline, the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools (e.g., ChatGPT, iA Writer, Marmot, Botowski, GrammarlyGo, Perplexity, etc.) is prohibited in this course for any aspect of your work, including idea generation, drafting, editing, or final submissions. This course is designed to assess your independent critical thinking, writing, and research skills without the assistance of AI technologies. Violations of this policy will be treated as breaches of academic integrity.

If specifically outlined in the assignment guidelines, you are allowed to use Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Gemini Pro 1.5, GrammarlyGo, Perplexity, etc.) in this course as permitted by assignment description. Any work that utilizes AI-based tools must be clearly identified as such, including the specific tool(s) used. Please use the following sources to guide your citations when using AI.

[MLA Style Center: Citing Generative AI](#)

[APA Style: How to Cite ChatGPT](#)

[Chicago Manual of Style: Citing Content Developed or Generated by AI](#)

\*If you have any questions or doubts about using AI, please gain permission from the instructor.

## **PLNU Academic Accommodations Policy**

PLNU is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all its programs, services, and activities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students with disabilities may request course-related accommodations by contacting the Educational Access Center (EAC), located in the Bond Academic Center ([EAC@pointloma.edu](mailto:EAC@pointloma.edu) or 619-849-2533). Once a student's eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, the EAC will work with the student to create an Accommodation Plan (AP) that outlines allowed accommodations. Professors are able to view a student's approved accommodations through Accommodate.

PLNU highly recommends that students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester/term about the implementation of their AP in that particular course. Accommodations are not retroactive so clarifying with the professor at the outset is one of the best ways to promote positive academic outcomes.

Students who need accommodations for a disability should contact the EAC as early as possible (i.e., ideally before the beginning of the semester) to assure appropriate accommodations can be provided. It is the student's responsibility to make the first contact with the EAC. Students cannot assume that because they had accommodations in the past, their eligibility at PLNU is automatic. All determinations at PLNU must go through the EAC process. This is to protect the privacy of students with disabilities who may not want to disclose this information and are not asking for any accommodations.

## **Language and Belonging**

Point Loma Nazarene University faculty are committed to helping create a safe and hospitable learning environment for all students. As Christian scholars we are keenly aware of the power of language and believe in treating others with dignity. As such, it is important that our language be equitable, inclusive, and prejudice free. Inclusive/Bias-free language is the standard outlined by all major academic style guides, including MLA, APA, and Chicago, and it is the expected norm in university-level work. Good writing and speaking do not use unsubstantiated or irrelevant generalizations about personal qualities such as age, disability, economic class, ethnicity, marital status, parentage, political or religious beliefs, race, gender, sex, or sexual orientation. Inclusive language also avoids using stereotypes or terminology that demeans persons or groups based on age, disability, class, ethnicity, gender, race, language, or national origin. Respectful use of language is particularly important when referring to those outside of the religious and lifestyle commitments of those in the PLNU community. By working toward precision and clarity of language, we mark ourselves as serious and respectful scholars, and we model the Christ-like quality of hospitality.

If you (or someone you know) have experienced other forms of discrimination, you can find more information on reporting and resources at [www.pointloma.edu/nondiscrimination](http://www.pointloma.edu/nondiscrimination).

## Sexual Misconduct and Discrimination

In support of a safe learning environment, if you (or someone you know) have experienced any form of sexual discrimination or misconduct, including sexual assault, dating or domestic violence, or stalking, know that accommodations and resources are available through the Title IX Office at [pointloma.edu/Title-IX](http://pointloma.edu/Title-IX). Please be aware that under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, faculty and staff are required to disclose information about such misconduct to the Title IX Office.

If you wish to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility, you can contact Counseling Services at [counselingservices@pointloma.edu](mailto:counselingservices@pointloma.edu) or find a list of campus pastors at [pointloma.edu/Title-IX](http://pointloma.edu/Title-IX).

If you (or someone you know) have experienced other forms of discrimination or bias, you can find more information on reporting and resources at [www.pointloma.edu/bias](http://www.pointloma.edu/bias)

## PLNU Attendance and Participation Policy

Regular and punctual attendance at all class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent for more than 10 percent of class sessions, the faculty member will issue a written warning of de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university withdrawal date or, after that date, receive an “F” grade.

## PLNU Course Modality Definitions

*\*COM 2017 | Photography Workshop is instructed as an In-Person Course.*

1. **Online Courses:** These are courses with class meetings where all instruction and interaction is fully online.
  - a. **Synchronous Courses:** At least one class meeting takes place at a designated time.
  - b. **Asynchronous Courses:** All class meetings are asynchronous.
2. **Hybrid Courses:** These are courses with class meetings that take place both in the classroom and online synchronously and/or asynchronously.
3. **In-Person Courses:** These are courses that meet in person with the instructor and students in a physical classroom setting. With approval by the area dean, this may include up to 25% of qualified class interactions through a Learning Management System (such as Canvas).

In some courses, a portion of the credit hour content will be delivered asynchronously and attendance will be determined by submitting the assignments by the posted due dates. See [Academic Policies](#) in the Undergraduate Academic Catalog.

## Use of Technology<sup>Ⓢ</sup>

Problems with technology do not relieve you of the responsibility of participating, turning in your assignments, or completing your class work. In addition, technology during class time is to only be used

when and as instructed. Disruptive / distracted technology use is warrant for a decrease in participation grade.

## Loma Writing Center

The Loma Writing Center exists to help all members of the PLNU community cultivate transferable writing skills to engage their academic, professional, personal, and spiritual communities. We work toward this goal by conducting one-on-one consultation sessions, supporting writing education across the PLNU community, and participating in ongoing writing center research.

Getting feedback from the Loma Writing Center while you're in the process of working on an assignment is a great way to improve the quality of your writing and develop as a writer. You are encouraged to talk with a trained writing consultant about getting started on an assignment, organizing your ideas, finding and citing sources, revising, editing for grammar and polishing final drafts, and more. For information about how to make in-person or online appointments, see [Loma Writing Center webpage](#) or visit the Loma Writer Center on the first floor of the Ryan Library, room 221.

- [Appointment Calendar](#)
- [Website](#)
- Email: [writingcenter@pointloma.edu](mailto:writingcenter@pointloma.edu)

## Assignments At-A-Glance

\*See Canvas for deadlines and assignment details.

Week	Class Date	Topic	Assignments	Due Dates	Grade Value
<b>Week 1</b>	<b>09/03/25</b>	Course Introduction	Syllabus Signature	09/03/25 11:59PM	5 pts
			Skill Assessment Quiz	09/03/25 11:59PM	5 pts
			Introduction Discussion Board	09/07/25 11:59PM	5 pts
			Discussion Board Replies	09/09/25 11:59PM	5 pts
			Attendance / Participation		5 pts
<b>Week 2</b>	<b>09/10/25</b>	<b>Key Elements &amp; Principles of Art + Design</b>	<b>Key Principles Photo Submission</b>	09/16/25 11:59PM	20 pts
			Key Principles Discussion Board	09/14/25 11:59PM	5 pts

			Discussion Board Replies	09/16/25 11:59PM	5 pts
			Attendance / Participation		5 pts
<b>Week 3</b>	<b>09/17/25</b>	<i>Exposure Triangle:</i> <b>Shutter Speed</b>	<b>Shutter Speed Photo Submission</b>	09/23/25 11:59PM	20 pts
			Shutter Speed Discussion Board	09/21/25 11:59PM	5 pts
			Discussion Board Replies	09/23/25 11:59PM	5 pts
			Attendance / Participation		5 pts
<b>Week 4</b>	<b>09/24/25</b>	<i>Exposure Triangle:</i> <b>Aperture / F-Stop</b>	<b>Aperture / F-Stop Photo Submission</b>	09/30/25 11:59PM	20 pts
			Aperture / F-Stop Discussion Board	09/28/25 11:59PM	5 pts
			Discussion Board Replies	09/30/25 11:59PM	5 pts
			Attendance / Participation		5 pts
<b>Week 5</b>	<b>10/01/25</b>	<i>Exposure Triangle:</i> <b>ISO + Lighting</b>	<b>ISO + Lighting Photo Submission</b>	10/07/25 11:59PM	20 pts
			ISO + Lighting Discussion Board	10/05/25 11:59PM	5 pts
			Discussion Board Replies	10/07/25 11:59PM	5 pts
			Attendance / Participation		5 pts
<b>Week 6</b>	<b>10/08/25</b>	<b>Lens Types</b>	<b>Lens Types Photo Submission</b>	10/14/25 11:59PM	20 pts
			Lens Types Discussion Board	10/12/25 11:59PM	5 pts

			Discussion Board Replies	10/14/25 11:59PM	5 pts
			Attendance / Participation		5 pts
<b>Week 7</b>	<b>10/15/25</b>	<b>Photography Ethics + AI</b>	<b>AI Generated Photo Submission</b>	10/21/25 11:59PM	20 pts
			Photography Ethics Discussion Board	10/19/25 11:59PM	5 pts
			Discussion Board Replies	10/21/25 11:59PM	5 pts
			Attendance / Participation		5 pts
<b>Week 8</b>	<b>10/22/25</b>	<b>*MIDTERM EXAM* + Intro to Editing</b>	<b>*MIDTERM EXAM*</b>	10/22/25 4:45PM	50 pts
			Course Assessment Quiz	10/28/25 11:59PM	5 pts
			Submit Photos for Editing	10/28/25 11:59PM	5 pts
			Attendance / Participation		5 pts
<b>Week 9</b>	<b>10/29/25</b>	<b>Editing (Lightroom)</b>	<b>Editing Photo Submission</b>	11/04/25 11:59PM	20 pts
			Photo Editing Discussion Board	11/02/25 11:59PM	5 pts
			Discussion Board Replies	11/04/25 11:59PM	5 pts
			Attendance / Participation		5 pts
<b>Week 10</b>	<b>11/5/25</b>	<b>Landscape / Architectural Photography</b>	<b>Landscape / Architecture Photo Submission</b>	11/11/25 11:59PM	20 pts
			Landscape / Architectural Photography Discussion Board	11/09/25 11:59PM	5 pts

			Discussion Board Replies	11/11/25 11:59PM	5 pts
			Attendance / Participation		5 pts
<b>Week 11</b>	<b>11/12/15</b>	<b>Self-Portrait / Portrait Photography</b>	<b>Self-Portrait / Portrait Photo Submission</b>	11/18/25 11:59PM	20 pts
			Self-Portrait / Portrait Photography Discussion Board	11/16/25 11:59PM	5 pts
			Discussion Board Replies	11/18/25 11:59PM	5 pts
			Attendance / Participation		5 pts
<b>Week 12</b>	<b>11/19/25</b>	<b>Street / Event Photography</b>	<b>Street / Event Photo Submission</b>	11/25/25 11:59PM	20 pts
			Street / Event Photography Discussion Board	11/23/25 11:59PM	5 pts
			Discussion Board Replies	11/25/25 11:59PM	5 pts
			Attendance / Participation		5 pts
<b>Week 13 (NO CLASS)</b>	<b><u>*THANKS-GIVING BREAK (NO CLASS)*</u></b>	<b>Documentary Photography</b>	<b>Documentary Photo Discussion Board</b>	11/30/25 11:50PM	5 pts
			Discussion Board Replies	12/02/25 11:59PM	5 pts
<b>Week 14</b>	<b>12/03/25</b>	<b>Sports Photography</b>	<b>Sports Photo Submission</b>	12/09/25 11:59PM	20 pts
			Sports Photography Discussion Board	12/07/25 11:59PM	5 pts
			Discussion Board Replies	12/09/25 11:59PM	5 pts
			Attendance / Participation		5 pts

<b>Week 15</b>	<b>12/10/25</b>	<b>Photography as a Foundation</b>	<b>Still Shot Video Submission</b>	12/16/25 11:59PM	20 pts
			IDEA Evaluation Form	12/13/25 11:59PM	5 pts
			Attendance / Participation		5 pts
<b>*FINAL EXAM*</b>		<b><u>Portfolio Presentation</u></b>	<b><u>Portfolio Presentation Project</u></b>	12/17/25 1:30PM	100 pts
			Attendance / Participation		5 pts
			<b><u>*OPTIONAL* Extra Credit Assignment</u></b>	12/21/25 11:59PM	+10 pts
<b><u>TOTAL POINTS</u></b>					<b><u>620</u></b>