



School of the Arts and Humanities

**Art3021 Photography: Darkroom and Film**

3 Units

*Spring 2026*

**Monday/Wednesday, 1:20-3:40**

**Keller 106**

**Final Exam: May 6, 1:30 – 4:00**

INFORMATION	SPECIFICS FOR THE COURSE
<b>Instructor title and name:</b>	Lael Corbin, MFA
<b>Phone:</b>	619-849-2239
<b>Email:</b>	lcorbin@pointloma.edu
<b>Office location and hours:</b>	Keller 104 (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

Art2021 Photography: Darkroom and Film provides an introduction to the fundamental technical, conceptual, and aesthetic issues of black and white photography. Students will examine photography as a fine art form with an emphasis on visual communication and personal expression. An exploration of photographic history, theory and applied laboratory experience will be conducted in order to facilitate the student's growth as an artist and become prepared for advanced course work.

## Program and Course Learning Outcomes

Develop critical thinking, problem-solving, and knowledge through the completion of assignments and artworks created in this class.

- Idea Objective: Learning to Apply and Develop Creative Capacities
- Activities and Assignments: Weekly Shooting Assignments, Printed Images Sets, In class Lab work

Acquire technical skills such as the manual operation of camera, the ability to determine correct exposure settings, the ability to process exposed black and white film into negatives, and the ability to operate an enlarger to create photographic prints.

- Idea Objective: Developing specific skills, competencies, & points of view needed by professionals in this field
- Activities and Assignments: Weekly Shooting Assignments, Printed Images Sets, In class Lab work

Demonstrate basic rules of pictorial composition, and evaluate photographs in terms of their technical control, and visual content.

- Idea Objective: Develop Creative Capacities
- Activities and Assignments: Weekly Shooting Assignments, Printed Images Sets, In class Lab work

Evaluate personal motivations and conceptual intent about the artworks produced.

- Idea Objective: Developing skills in expressing oneself orally or in writing
- Activities and Assignments: Critiques and Artists Statements

Respond to, and critique the artworks of peers and professional examples.

- Idea Objective: Learning to analyze and critically evaluate ideas
- Activities and Assignments: Critiques and Artists Statements

## **Course Credit Hour Information**

In the interest of providing sufficient time to accomplish the stated Course Learning Outcomes, this class meets the PLNU credit hour policy for a 15-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 112.5\_ total hours meeting the course learning outcomes. The time estimations are provided in the Canvas modules.

## **Assessment and Grading**

### **SEMESTER GRADES:**

Final semester grades are based on a percentage of points accumulated in weighted categories throughout the semester. If class sessions must be canceled due to events out of the instructor's control such as illness, natural disaster, etc., the point total may be reduced, but the percentage assigned to each category will remain the same.

### **FINAL POINT DISTRIBUTION**

30%: Weekly Shooting (300 pts.)

30%: Unit Image Sets (100 pts.)

15%: Participation (100 pts.)

25%: Written Work and Quizes (points will vary)

### **GRADE SCALE**

A = 93 – 100% of possible points

A- = 90 – 92% of possible points

B+ = 87 – 89% of possible points

B = 83 – 86% of possible points

B- = 80 – 82% of possible points

C+ = 77 – 79% of possible points

C = 73 – 76% of possible points

C- = 70 – 72% of possible points

D+ = 67 – 69% of possible points

D = 63 – 66% of possible points

D- = 60 – 62% of possible points

F = 0 – 59% of possible points

### **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.

### **Content Warning**

I acknowledge that each of you comes to PLNU with your own unique life experiences. This contributes to the way you perceive various types of information. In [class name], all of the class content, including that which may be intellectually or emotionally challenging, has been intentionally curated to achieve the learning goals for this course. The decision to include such material is not taken lightly. These topics include [list topics]. If you encounter a topic that is intellectually challenging for you, it can manifest in feelings of discomfort and upset. In response, I encourage you to come talk to me or your friends or family about it. Class topics are discussed for the sole purpose of expanding your intellectual engagement in the area of [subject/major], and I will support you throughout your learning in this course.

### **Trigger Warning**

I acknowledge that each of you comes to PLNU with your own unique life experiences. This contributes to the way you perceive several types of information. In [class name], we will cover a variety of topics, some of which you may find triggering. These topics include [list topics]. Each time this topic appears in a reading or unit, it is marked on the syllabus. The experience of being triggered versus intellectually challenged are different. The main difference is that an individual must have experienced trauma to experience being triggered, whereas an intellectual challenge has nothing to do with trauma. If you are a trauma survivor and encounter a topic in this class that is triggering for you, you may feel overwhelmed or panicked and find it difficult to concentrate. In response, I encourage you to take the necessary steps for your emotional safety. This may include leaving class while the topic is discussed or talking to a therapist at the Counseling Center. Should you choose to sit out on discussion of a certain topic, know that you are still responsible for the material; but we can discuss if there are other methods for accessing that material, and for assessing your learning on that material. Class topics are discussed for the sole purpose of expanding your intellectual engagement in the area of [subject/major], and I will support you throughout your learning in this course.

## **Incompletes and Late Assignments**

All assignments are to be submitted/turned in by the beginning of the class session when they are due—including assignments posted in Canvas. Incompletes will only be assigned in extremely unusual circumstances.

## **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**

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 online (distance education) outside of 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**

You are allowed to use Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Gemini Pro 1.5, GrammarlyGo, Perplexity, etc) to generate ideas, but you are not allowed to use AI tools to generate content (text, video, audio, images) that will end up in any work submitted to be graded for this course. If you have any doubts about using AI, please gain permission from the instructor.

You are allowed to use Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Gemini Pro 1.5, GrammarlyGo, Perplexity, etc.) in this course. 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

### **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 619-849-2486). 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. The EAC makes accommodations available to professors at the student's request.

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 special 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 a bias incident regarding language, you can find more information on reporting and resources at [www.pointloma.edu/bias](http://www.pointloma.edu/bias).

## 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.

**Note:** The information below must be included under the “PLNU Attendance and Participation Policy” Section if you are teaching an Online or Hybrid course.

## PLNU Course Modality Definitions\*

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.

### Asynchronous Attendance/Participation Definition

A day of attendance in asynchronous content is determined as contributing a substantive note, assignment, discussion, or submission by the posted due date. Failure to meet these standards will result in an absence for that day. Instructors will determine how many asynchronous attendance days are required each week.

### Use of Technology

**Note:** Include this section if teaching an Online or Hybrid course.

In order to be successful in the online or hybrid environment, you'll need to meet the minimum technology and system requirements; please refer to the [Technology and System Requirements](#) information. Additionally, students are required to have headphone speakers, microphone, or webcams compatible with their computer available to use. Please note that any course with online proctored exams requires a computer with a camera (tablets are not compatible nor allowable) to complete exams online.

Problems with technology do not relieve you of the responsibility of participating, turning in your assignments, or completing your class work.

### 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: <https://plnu.mywconline.com/>
- Website: <https://www.pointloma.edu/centers-institutes/loma-writing-center>
- Email: [writingcenter@pointloma.edu](mailto:writingcenter@pointloma.edu)

## **Assignments At-A-Glance**

### **ALTERNATIVE PROCESS STUDIO PRACTICE + EXPERIMENTS**

Demonstrations of new processes will be frequent throughout the semester. Class attendance is therefore vital. We will experiment with alternative processes including non-silver and historic emulsions such as cyanotype, van dyke and gum bichromate, and Lith printing. We will explore pinhole cameras, wet-plate processes, and scanning and digital negative making.

The pace of work will be faster than in an introductory course, projects will be running concurrently (time management!!), and expectations for the integration of content and meaning into each project are higher than in your earlier photography courses. Students should be prepared for this intensity.

Additionally, students are being provided greater access to the raw materials of photography (hand made pinhole cameras, hand coating liquid emulsions on a variety of papers, etc.) and working this way will require more patience, but is rewarded with much more freedom to personalize the materials to match your intentions and imagery.

### **THREE UNIT PROJECTS:**

Student will complete three photo related projects this semester. Each of these projects will deal with a different approach to creating contemporary art. Time will be given to explore materials, techniques, themes, create "experiments" and develop ideas. In addition to representing your best artistic efforts, projects must be complete and exhibition ready by the date of your assigned critique in order to receive full points.

### **WRITTEN WORK:**

Upon completion of each of the Unit Projects and in preparation for each critique, the student will be asked to create an artist statement reflecting on their work. An artist's statement is a short writing that

offers insight into the images by describing your creative process, philosophy, vision, and motivation. Its goal is to enlighten, engage and provide insight about an artwork.

In addition to the written artists statements, students will be asked to complete short written responses to assigned readings, and topics of discussion.

**CRITIQUES AND PARTICIPATION:**

At the end of each major project, there will be a group critique. The primary purpose of critique is to practice utilizing the language of design, which is an essential skill for professional artists and designers. Dialogue and constructive criticism also help the artist/designer recognize the strengths and weaknesses of their work and others. Each student is expected to contribute to the discussion. In fact, your participation grade is based in part on your willingness to join in during the critique. If you are absent from a critique your project will be marked late. There will be no opportunity to make up for the points lost for missing a critique. Students are given a grade for each critique. 50% of the grade is based upon participation during the critique, and 50% is based upon overall class participation up to that point.