

Photography Tips and Tricks

Compiled by Sheila Jones CJE, JEA Mentor for her mentees. Fall 2015.

Photography Basics:

It's said that a picture is worth a thousand words. That being true, this website does a great job covering what beginning photographers need to know with pictures, but it also allows students to delve into more advanced topics. Upon opening the website, scroll below the ad to the rows of pictures that provide the links to the tutorials. Each tutorial is clearly explained and illustrated with photos of the topic. Each tutorial would make an excellent mini-lesson during class or provide independent study for beginning photographers. Once done with all the tutorials under the tab "Photography Basics," check out "Photography Tips" and "Image editing."

<http://www.exposureguide.com/photography-basics.htm>

Photo Composition Tips

Great video using the photos of award-winning photographer Steve McCurry that discusses 10 principles of composition from rule of thirds to leading lines. Again, this would make a great mini lesson. The graphics used in the video to illustrate the principles in the photos will help students to immediately "get it".

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kkd-rRIxvbM>

Tips for Cell Phone Photography

Many times students can capture photos with their cell phones, but there are ways to make those photos better. This article outlines ways to do that.

<http://yearbooks.picaboo.com/using-cell-phone-yearbook-photography/>

Caption Writing

Good photography is enhanced with captions that add storytelling power. Here's a quick handout on writing good captions from Lifetouch Yearbooks.

<http://yearbooks.lifetouch.com/files/files/WritingCaptions.pdf>

Become a connoisseur of good photography

Once students have mastered the basics, they can enhance their skills and techniques by studying quality photos. This is just one of many websites that provides links to great photography. Those students who really want to master photography might check out and join a local photography club, where they can find mentors and hone their skills.

<http://www.awwwards.com/websites/photography-sites/>

Storytelling through photography and Photo essays

Photo essays are growing in popularity, especially online, but this applies to print journalism and yearbook equally well. This is a great tutorial that will take your photography to a whole new realm.

<http://www.poynter.org/2012/5-types-of-photos-that-make-for-strong-photo-essays-audio-slideshows/171050/>