

# Unit 02: The Digital Darkroom: The Camera

Content Area: **Fine Arts**  
Course(s):  
Time Period: **Marking Period 1**  
Length: **2-3 Weeks**  
Status: **Published**

## Brief Summary of Unit

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Students will acquaint themselves with the digital darkroom, specifically the digital camera. Through lecture, multimedia presentations, discussion and text readings students will begin to understand the parts and workings of a digital camera. Over the course of the unit students will learn proper care and use of digital camera as well as data storage devices, camera functions, and features. Students will enlarge their photographic vocabulary all while learning and mastering a new type of camera. The unit of study is comprised of various assignments that will build student's skills with digital cameras.

## Transfer

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## Essential Questions

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- • Why are there so many different digital cameras?
- • Why do some photographers choose to use digital cameras?

## Essential Understandings

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- • digital imaging is a newer media within the field of photography that offers many creative possibilities the photographer.
- • there are a wide range of digital cameras on the market to fulfill a variety of shooting needs.

## Students Will Know

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- • the parts of a digital camera and how they function.
- • a histogram aids in accurate exposure control.
- • the digital camera differs from the film camera in how the image is created and stored.
- • the key terms related to the digital camera including but not limited to: histogram, megapixel, noise reduction, file formats (JPEG, PDF, BMP, TIF), etc.

## Students Will Be Skilled At

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## Evidence/Performance Tasks

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- • answer the essential questions.
- • bring in digital cameras to help aid in answering class camera parts worksheet.
- • complete a journal sheet and unit quiz.
- • complete a writing prompt related to unit of study. Example: Based on your experience with cameras, which is more user friendly and why, the digital camera or a film camera?
- • properly expose images of varying subject matter and lighting.
- • refine knowledge of digital cameras by acquainting themselves with different types of cameras, camera controls, camera menus, storage devices, location of histogram, lens focusing and flash functions.
- • use the histogram as a means of accurately checking image exposure.

## Learning Plan

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- • Group critique of first assignment will emphasize troubleshooting technical aspects of digital imaging. Students will build vocabulary during critique session by using appropriate terminology when referencing work.
- • Hands on presentation of digital camera parts and comparison to comparable film camera counterparts.
- • Lecture on proper use and care of digital cameras. Large and small group demonstration.
- • Multi-media presentation on the following material: ☐ Camera parts and menu. ☐ File formats. ☐ Image size and quality. ☐ Reading Histograms. ☐ White balance. ☐ ISO and noise reduction. ☐ Flash functions. ☐ Aperture priority, Shutter priority. ☐ Logging journal sheets. ☐ Memory cards and card readers.
- • Possible topics to explore that address specific technical skills to be learned include but are not limited to: ☐ Backlighting ☐ Depth of Field ☐ Fill flash ☐ Red eye reduction ☐ Night photography ☐ Movement: blurred, panning
- • Preview the essential questions and connect to learning throughout the unit.
- • Students will read and outline textbook chapter on The Digital Darkroom: The Camera.
- • Students will work on first digital assignments in teams to familiarize themselves with digital cameras.
- • Working in pairs students will photograph images in class to download, crop, edit and save work.

## Materials

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- WEBSITES: [www.dpreview.com](http://www.dpreview.com) [www.popphoto.com](http://www.popphoto.com)

## Suggested Strategies for Modifications

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- • additional time on task
- • alternative outcome options
- • assessment based on individual development in the area of study

- • audio tape of instruction
- • cooperative learning groups
- • handouts of notes, procedures, processes, diagrams, etc.
- • images and visual aids
- • one-to-one instruction and assistance
- • preferential seating
- • reading material modified to student level
- • revised techniques, use of tools and media in hands-on activity
- • study partners
- • testing materials appropriate to student level