

**SANTA  
MONICA  
COLLEGE** *A Course of Study for*  
**PHOTOGRAPHY**

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The Photography program teaches the dynamics of visual communication to illustrate ideas, record events, articulate stories, express moods, sell products, and interpret a person's character. Courses stress technical knowledge, proficiency in camera control, digital and analog capture methods, artificial and natural light control, and image manipulation. This program prepares students for careers in photography-related genres including advertising photography, food photography, architectural photography, editorial photography, portrait photography, fashion photography, and photojournalism.

For additional career possibilities, visit the Career Services Center on the main campus to utilize computerized career information systems and other valuable career resources.

SMC has articulation agreements in place with several 4-year institutions. Students planning to transfer should complete the lower-division major requirements and the general education pattern for the institution to which they intend to transfer.

High school students in the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade may begin this program concurrently with their high school program in approved by the high school principal.

Information regarding the Photography program is available in the Photography Department, (310) 434-3547, and through the Photography Department's website: [www2.smc.edu/photo](http://www2.smc.edu/photo).

#### **PROGRAMS OFFERED**

- Transfer Preparation
- Career Opportunities

#### **DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES**

Associate Degree

- Photography

Certificate of Achievement

- Analog Photography
- Digital Technician
- Photographer's Assistant
- Photography

#### **ASSOCIATE DEGREE REQUIREMENTS**

An Associate degree is granted upon successful completion of a program of study with a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 (C) in degree applicable coursework and a minimum of **60 degree applicable semester units**, including:

- Completion of the area of emphasis with a grade of C or higher in each course, or with a P if the course was taken on a Pass/No Pass basis, and the P is equal to a C or higher;
- Completion of one of the following general education patterns: SMC GE, CSU GE, or IGETC;
- Completion of the SMC Global Citizenship graduation requirement.

## CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT REQUIREMENTS

A Certificate of Achievement is granted upon successful completion of a program of study with a minimum overall grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 (C) and a **designated minimum number of units**, including:

- Completion of the area of emphasis with a grade of C or higher in each course, or with a P if the course was taken on a Pass/No Pass basis, and the P is equal to a C or higher;
- Completion of at least 50% of area of emphasis units at Santa Monica College. Department Chairs have the discretion to waive the 50% minimum units required at SMC to meet the major or area of emphasis. All major coursework must be completed with a “C” or better grade.

## CATALOG RIGHTS

A student may satisfy the requirements of a degree that were in effect at any time of the student’s *continuous* enrollment. Continuous enrollment means attendance in at least one semester (Fall or Spring) in each academic year.

## TRANSFER PREPARATION

SMC has articulation agreements in place with several 4-year institutions. Students planning to transfer should complete the lower-division major requirements and the general education pattern for the institution to which they intend to transfer.

Many colleges/universities offer baccalaureate degrees in this field. Students planning to transfer to a four-year college or university should complete the lower-division major requirements and the general education pattern for the specific transfer institution. SMC has articulation agreements with the many UC and CSU campuses, as well as several private and out-of-state institutions.

Exact major requirements for UC and CSU campuses can be found online at [assist.org](http://assist.org).

A listing of private, nonprofit California colleges and universities can be found online at [aiccu.edu](http://aiccu.edu). For articulation agreements between SMC and some of these institutions see [smc.edu/articulation](http://smc.edu/articulation).

**PHOTOGRAPHY, ASSOCIATE DEGREE OR CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT**

**Program Learning Outcomes:** Students completing the program in Photography will analyze and assess photographic situations and solve technical problems and creative challenges as they arise in a photographic production. Students will design and construct photographic images that can communicate ideas or narratives effectively for commercial, editorial or fine art purposes. Additionally, students will have the knowledge and skills pertinent to the successful operation of a freelance photography business and sound business practices in the trade.

**AREA OF EMPHISIS: (38 UNITS)****(Effective Fall 2023)****Required Courses: (33 units)**

PHOTO 1	Introduction to Photography	3
PHOTO 2	Basic Black and White Darkroom Techniques	2
PHOTO 5	Digital Asset Management, Modification, and Output	3
PHOTO 30	Techniques of Artificial Lighting	4
PHOTO 32	Lighting for People 2	4
PHOTO 33	Lighting for Products	4
PHOTO 34	Capture to Composite	4
PHOTO 39	Beginning Photoshop	3
PHOTO 43	Portfolio Development	3
PHOTO 60	Business Practices in Photography	3

**Restricted Electives: Select 5 units from the following courses:**

PHOTO 7	Advanced Portfolio Development ( <i>same as JOURN 21</i> )	3
PHOTO 13	News Photography ( <i>same as JOURN 21</i> )	3
PHOTO 14	Photography for Publication ( <i>same as JOURN 22</i> )	3
PHOTO 21	Alternative Photographic Processes	3
PHOTO 29	Video Production for Still Photographers	3
PHOTO 37	Advanced Black and White Printing Techniques	3
PHOTO 42	Advanced Photoshop	3
PHOTO 50	Basic Color Printing	3
PHOTO 52	History of Photography ( <i>same as AHIS 52</i> )	3
PHOTO 64	Community Documentary Photography	4
PHOTO 70	Intro to Video for Photographers	4
PHOTO 71	Intro to Video Editing for Photography	3
PHOTO 72	Video for Commercial Photographers	3
PHOTO 88A	Independent Studies in Photography	1
PHOTO 88B	Independent Studies in Photography	2
PHOTO 88C	Independent Studies in Photography	3
PHOTO 90A	Photography Internship	1
PHOTO 90B	Photography Internship	2
PHOTO 90C	Photography Internship	3
PHOTO 90D	Photography Internship	4

**ANALOG PHOTOGRAPHY, CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT**

This certificate program cultivates the skills learned in a variety of analog courses within the Photography Department. Coursework focuses on artisanal photographic techniques with emphasis on skills necessary for transferring to a 4- year programs of study in the arts, and qualifies students for employment in custom photography labs, running a wet darkroom, and to work for professional fine artists. Students will learn the characteristics of shooting/processing film, make custom prints in traditional color and B&W darkrooms, learn to use large format cameras, and experiment with non-silver alternative processes.

**Program Learning Outcomes:** Upon completion of this program, students will demonstrate the ability to master basic techniques in analog photography, successfully execute an image previsualized in their mind, subjectively critique their own work along with their peers', and articulate intentions and purpose when making art.

**AREA OF EMPHISIS: (15 UNITS)**

**(Effective Fall 2023)**

**Required Courses: (15 units)**

PHOTO 2	Basic Black and White Darkroom Techniques	2
PHOTO 21	Alternative Photographic Processes	3
PHOTO 37	Advanced Black and White Printing Techniques	3
PHOTO 50	Basic Color Printing	3
PHOTO 64	Community Documentary Photography	4

**DIGITAL TECHNICIAN, CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT**

This certificate prepares students for entry-level employment as a Digital Technician in photography. Coursework provides training in photo editing using industry standard software on macOS as well as tethered shooting in both a studio environment and on location. This includes retouching for beauty and commercial photography applications, image compositing, thorough color management, on-set asset management, and an overview of studio lighting. Students will also gain an understanding of industry trends, workplace demands, studio safety protocols, software troubleshooting, and expected professional etiquette.

**Program Learning Outcomes:** Upon completion of the program, students will demonstrate a high level of proficiency in a color-managed tethered capture workflow using digital asset management software. Students will also demonstrate advanced compositing and retouching techniques using industry standard software. Students completing the program will gain confidence in using the DSLR camera, using strobe and continuous lighting, studio safety, and working in a fast-paced collaborative environment.

**AREA OF EMPHISIS: (17 UNITS)**

**(Effective Fall 2023)**

**Required Courses: (18 units)**

PHOTO 5	Digital Asset Management, Modification, and Output	3
PHOTO 30	Techniques of Artificial Lighting	4
PHOTO 34	Capture to Composite	4
PHOTO 39	Beginning Photoshop	3
PHOTO 42	Advanced Photoshop	3

## PHOTOGRAPHER'S ASSISTANT, CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

Upon completion of this certificate students will have received hands-on instruction in the use of digital cameras, electronic strobe equipment and lighting techniques as applied to photography in a professional studio setting. Includes a foundation in image editing software, studio safety, on-set etiquette, lighting concepts and effective use of photography grip equipment. Students completing this certificate program will have the skills, knowledge, training and discipline necessary to apply for employment as a photo assistant in the fields of commercial photography, product photography, portrait photography, event and fashion photography, food photography, and entry-level positions in medical and forensic photography.

**Program Learning Outcomes:** Upon completion of this certificate, students will demonstrate skill in the control of studio and location lighting techniques utilizing continuous light, strobe and mixed lighting situations as well as demonstrating the necessary skills to work accurately, efficiently and safely in a studio or location environment. In addition, students will demonstrate a proficiency in operating digital cameras and will demonstrate skills in the digital workflow using Adobe Lightroom and Capture One software

### AREA OF EMPHISIS: (18 UNITS)

**(Effective Fall 2023)**

#### Required Courses: (18 units)

PHOTO 1	Introduction to Photography	3
PHOTO 5	Digital Asset Management, Modification, and Output	3
PHOTO 30	Techniques of Artificial Lighting	4
PHOTO 32	Lighting for People 2	4
PHOTO 33	Lighting for Products	4