

# SCHOOL OF IMAGING & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

## PLAN FOR SUCCESS

# PHOTOGRAPHY

**Course Description - Communication** is a necessary component in the survival of our race and an essential element of being successful in the world of work. The “**Imaging**” portion of our school title, *Imaging & Information Technology*, includes course offerings in video production, printing & desktop publishing, graphic design & illustration and photography: both old-school traditional silver-imaging & cutting edge digital imaging. Your child should make their selection carefully based on ability, interest and future career and educational goals.

**Photography/Media** is a three-year sequential major of study, which prepares students for entry-level work in the field of photography, media/video production, entrepreneurship or higher education. During their study of photography, students will master traditional silver-halide imaging including 35mm manual camera operation, B&W film processing, darkroom printing and gain valuable experience completing a number of off-site thematic projects. In the upper levels, students will master skills related to digital operations including digital SLR manual camera functions, image capture, storage, scanners and professional-quality digital output. Our newly updated state-of-the art PC and Mac computer labs provide every student the opportunity to have their own computer and function using some of the newest software programs related to our fields. At the end of their junior year, students will have the opportunity to select a major of study in either Photography or Media/Video Production for their senior year. Once they have completed their coursework, your son or daughter will be on the cutting-edge of current technological trends in the fields of photography or media production. Additionally, academically qualified students will have the opportunity to earn up to **SIX college credits** for their coursework in photography!

**Course Requirements & Grading** – Career and Technical Education classes (CTE) are project-oriented incorporating assignments relevant to current theoretical lessons. **All photography students are required to have a 2 inch 3-ring binder** for daily note taking (provided by the school). This binder will be cumulative and can be used for all three years in photography. Theory/lecture will be presented at the beginning of class everyday; therefore, it is imperative students arrive to class **on time and are prepared with notebooks and a pen**. Theory lessons are followed by related lab work. My written tests are developed based on the lectures; therefore, students must be in class to be successful. Communication, writing skills and computer keyboarding are skills which are stressed and challenged with photo reports and yearly research papers. Research writing skills will be taught at the college level. CTE classes are extremely beneficial and are not offered in summer school; consequently, it is imperative students stay on grade level with their CTE classes.

*Period grades are determined as follows:*

- 10% Classwork & Homework Assignments
- 10% Participation
- 15% Quizzes
- 25% Tests & Photo Reports
- 40% Photo Projects/Portfolio (including Research Papers)

*Midterm and final exam grades are averaged in during the months of January & June (25%).*

**Attendance** – The RCSD has adopted a **district-wide** attendance policy. When you are out for any reason, you must bring in a legal excuse from your parent or guardian within five class days. Upon your return, it is **YOUR RESPONSIBILITY** to request missed work. You will have ten class days to make up any missed work; after that time, the missing grades become zeroes.

**Portfolios** – Portfolios are a way of showcasing your finest achievements. All photo students are required to create **three portfolios**. A hand-made traditional portfolio will be used to highlight your son/daughter's finest mounted silver images. Upper level classes will display their non-mounted digital images in a store-purchased portfolio. In senior year, students will work on a senior project creating an electronic portfolio to be presented to the class and future employers or colleges. Portfolio review is a requirement for college credit and graduation. The highest honor a senior can achieve in photography is **Portfolio of the Year**.

**Homework** – Although homework will not be assigned on a daily basis due to the nature of our study and the equipment involved, my policy is quite simple. Completed homework assignments received on time earn a 100%; incomplete assignments are a 0%. If you are legally absent, homework will be accepted upon your return.

**College Credit** – Students maintaining a “B” average in their photography coursework will be eligible for up to **SIX credits from Monroe Community College**. *New this year...* both **sophomores and juniors** (Photo 1 and Photo 2) will have the opportunity to register in February of 2011 to earn college credit for their work in traditional silver-halide photographic studies. Eligible **seniors** (Photo 3 majors only) may enroll for credit in digital studies earning an additional three transferable college credits. Transferable means they do not need to attend MCC to utilize the credits. Most colleges nation-wide accept a number of transferable credits. When registering for dual credit, your cost is minimal (usually under \$50,000) and the RCSD pays the remainder. Sometimes there may even be additional scholarship money available from the School of IIT to help defray your portion of the tuition! Soon you will receive a letter with more details regarding enrollment opportunities and dates.

**Extra Help/Office Hours** – I am available for help every school day during my free periods by appointment. I am also available after school by appointment. Parents please feel free to contact me anytime at 324-9794, ext. 2470 if you should have questions, concerns or would just like to check in on your child's progress.. If I am unavailable, please leave me a voicemail and I will return your call promptly. You may also reach me by email if you prefer at [cindy.christian@rcsdk12.org](mailto:cindy.christian@rcsdk12.org). Remember, new this year, you are able to electronically access all course information and student progress through **PowerTeacher Gradebook**.

I look forward to meeting you (or seeing you again) at this year's **Open House and Parent Conference on Tuesday, September 21<sup>st</sup> from 5:30 – 7:30pm**. Our first **Parent Teacher Conferences** will be held **Thursday, October 14<sup>th</sup>**. I thank you for the opportunity to share your child on their academic, creative and vocational journey through high school. Together we can form a team for success!

**Student/Parent Pledge to Succeed** – I have read and understand the importance of success in my CTE class and how it relates to achieving my goals in life. I promise to do my best to be in class everyday, to work productively and strive to achieve my fullest potential.

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Student's Signature

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Date

I have read this Plan for Success and realize the importance of my involvement and commitment to my child's success in high school. I will do my best to attend Open House and Parent Conferences recognizing the benefits of open communication between home and school.

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Parent/Guardian Signature

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Date

**585 - 324 – 9794 Extension 2470**  
**Ms. C. Christian IIT Photography Teacher**