

A.J.K. MASS COMMUNICATION RESEARCH CENTRE

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NEW DELHI - 110025

SYLLABUS

**P.G. Diploma in Still Photography and Visual Communication
(Semester-1)**

Session 2025-26

Credits Distribution for P.G. Diploma in Still Photography and Visual Communication
(Semester-1)
(4 Core Papers)

S. No.	Paper Code	Paper Name	University Exam Theory Marks (UET)	Internal Assessment Theory Marks (IAT)	University Exam Practical Marks (UEP)	Internal Assessment Practical Marks (IAP)	Total	Credit Points
1	DSP101	Evolution of Photography	60	40	-----	-----	100	3
2	DSP102	Essentials of photography	60	40	50	50	200	3 + 4
3	DSP103	Studio and commercial photography	60	40	50	50	200	3+4
4	DSP104	Digital post production	60	40	50	50	200	3+4

UEP - External Viva exam 50 Marks break-up

S. No.	Paper ID	Subject	Final Assignment	Submitted format
1	DSP 101	Evolution of Photography	-----	-----
2	DSP 102	Essentials of Photography	Photo- Feature	Pdf file soft copy & Hard Copy
3	DSP 103	Studio and Commercial Photography	Portfolio	Pdf file soft copy & Hard Copy
4	DSP 104	Digital Post production	Digital Creative Image	Pdf file soft copy & Hard Copy

P.G. Diploma in Still Photography and Visual Communication

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SEMESTER- I

DSP 101: EVOLUTION OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Course Description: The course is designed to familiarise learners with the history of photography, visual theories, aesthetic framework and critical debates in photography. This channelizes them towards the process of thinking before clicking an image. Through the designed course, a learner would engage with the works of renowned photographers and learn more about the contemporary photographic practices.

Course Objectives:

1. To familiarise learners with the historical background of photography, visual theories, aesthetic framework and critical debates
2. Reading and analysis of the works of renowned Indian photographers & contemporary Indian photographic practices

Topics:

Unit 1: Major land marks in History of photography (Colonial Indian photography and studio spaces)

Unit 2: From Painting to Photography

Unit 3: Photography and the work of Major theorists; Debates around photography (Indexicality, performative, authenticity etc.); Post Modern Theory

Unit 4: The effect of technological changes on photography; Photography in the Age of Digital: multi-media, web and installation art

Unit 5: Master Indian photographers (Raghu Rai, Raghubir Singh, Dayanita Singh, Prabuddha Das Gupta, Homai Vyarawalla, Pablo Bartholomew etc.)

Unit 6: Contemporary Indian Practices

Reading List

- The Coming of Photography to India - Christopher Pinney
- Camera Indica ‘ The Social Life of Indian Photographs’ - Christopher Pinney
- Camera Chronicles of Homai Vyarawalla

- Raja Deen Dayal Artist Photographer in 19th Century
 - Raja Deen Dayal Prince of Photographers
 - The Last Empire: Photography in British India
 - Early Bombay Photography - Susan Hapgood
 - India Now - New Vision in Photography
 - Varanasi - Raghu Rai
 - My Land its People - Raghu Rai
 - Raghu Rai's India
 - River of Colour -Raghubir Singh
 - Edge of Faith - P Dasgupta
 - Photography in India - Gaskell & Gujral
 - Photographing India - Sunil Janah
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DSP 102: ESSENTIALS OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Course Description: The course is designed to acquaint learners with the basics of photographic practices and image-making techniques. It seeks to strengthen their technical ability towards the journey of image creation. Through the coursework, a full range of aesthetic and creative skills concerning image making are taught and nurtured. The course emphasises the application of theory, serving as the foundation for hands-on training. It seeks to foster an ideal balance of technical as well as theoretical knowledge in photography.

Course Objectives:

1. To familiarise learners with the basics of photography and its techniques.
2. Up-skilling them to handle the camera and adjust settings for producing the quality image.
3. Preparing students to use photography as a tool of creative expression.

Topics:

Unit 1: Understanding camera (Basic camera controls, menu and working); Types of Cameras (On the basis of format, structure)

Unit 2: Exposures (Aperture - F stop, T spot, Shutter speed and types of shutter, ISO), White Balance

Unit 3: Types of Lenses (Classification of lens on the basis of focal length, perspective and angle of view)

Unit 4: Depth of Field (Circles of confusion, Use of Aperture, distance, type of lenses on DOP)

Unit 5: Filters; Light meters and Metering modes.

Unit 6: Photo Feature

Reading List

- Basic Photography - Michael Langford, Anna Fox & Richard Sawdon Smith
 - Advanced Photography - Michael Langford, Anna Fox & Richard Sawdon Smith
 - Photography - Upton, Stone, London
 - Photography - Bruce Warren
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DSP 103: STUDIO AND COMMERCIAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Course Description: The course is designed to familiarise learners with advertising and commercial photography scenario. In process, they will develop portfolio that showcases their commercial photography to cater to the industry clients, art directors and modelling portfolio managements.

Course Objectives:

1. To familiarise learners with studio lightings and equipments, composition and camera settings.
2. Enable them to create compelling portraits.
3. Training to work with models & products, building professional portfolios, budgeting, contracts etc.

Topics:

Unit 1: Understanding Nature of Light and its implications - Natural Light (v/s) Artificial light; Direct Light, Soft light, Hard light, Directional Light.

Unit 2: Understanding Brightness, Contrast, Mid-tones, Highlights, Shadow and Silhouettes

Unit 3: Lighting equipment (Soft boxes, umbrellas, Fresnel, Skimmers, reflectors, etc)

Unit 4: Flashes & Gels - Use of portable Flash Units and colour filters, gels; Basic of flash light, Strobe etc with concept such as Guide no and inverse square law

Unit 5: Lighting setups - Portrait/Fashion/Food/Product Photography (Split, Rembrandt, Butterfly, Loop, Broad light, Short light, Three-point light, Five point light); Studio & On-location lighting exercise

Unit 6: Portfolio Project

Reading List

- Basic Photography - Micheal Langford, Anna Fox & Richard Sawdon Smith

- Advanced Photography - Micheal Langford, Anna Fox & Richard Sawdon Smith
 - Photography - Upton, Stone, London
 - Photography - Bruce Warren
 - Studio and Commercial Photography - Jack Reznicki
 - One Face Fifty Ways: The portrait photography idea book - Dyer and Wilkinson
 - The Art of Photography - Bruce Barnbaum
 - How to Photograph Food - Beat Lubas
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DSP 104: DIGITAL POST PRODUCTION

Course Description: The course is designed to familiarise learners with the comprehensive digital photography editing. In process, they will learn the essential techniques and tools to enhance their captured images through retouching and digital manipulations.

Course Objectives:

1. To familiarise learners with the fundamentals of digital image editing and effects.
2. Training on professional editing softwares to enhance the final look of an image.
3. Learning techniques for exposure correction, colour grading, noise reduction.

Topics:

Unit 1: Introduction to digital recording file formats (RAW, JPEG, TIFF etc.)

Unit 2: Editing and Digital Manipulation (Photo editing software: Adobe Photoshop CC, Adobe Lightroom).

Unit 3: Levitation, HDR and Panorama Stitch.

Unit 4: 360-degree, Time-lapse Photography, Stop-motion Animation.

Unit 5: Digital Creative Portfolio Project.

Reading List

- The Photoshop Darkroom - Harold Davis
 - The Creative Digital Darkroom - Katrin Eismann
 - Photoshop CC and Lightroom CC for Photographers: Classroom in a book - Adobe
 - The Photographer's Portfolio Development Workshop - William Neill
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