rmsp
rocky mountain school of photography

Summer Intensive

Exit Competencies

Graduates of Summer Intensive will be able to exhibit competency in the following areas:

Camera

- Use the zone system of exposure and be confident creating perfect exposures in all lighting situations by using shutter speed, aperture, and ISO.
- Identify why images aren't sharp and learn to correct common causes of blurriness.
- Achieve accurate focus and know how to set up a camera's autofocus in multiple different modes for different shooting situations.
- Understand the differences between exposure controls (what controls movement, depth of field, noise) and use them intentionally to capture a scene in an intentional and creative way.
- Know what types of camera equipment are available and what should be used for specific situations to achieve the look they want.
- Have a thorough understanding of white balance in mixed lighting environments and be proficient at color correcting.
- Understand how a sensor works and how that information relates to noise, ISO, and exposure.
- Thoroughly understand all of your camera's settings like focus modes, metering modes, white balance, exposure modes.
- Understand how to interpret a histogram and how to use that information to make informed decisions about your exposure.
- How the difference in dynamic range between our cameras and our eyes make some images much more difficult to create.

Creative

- Create pleasing and engaging compositions.
- Edit your own work and determine what images should be in your portfolios.
- See like a camera, and visualize what images will look like before clicking the shutter.
- Create a series of images that illustrate a story or theme.
- Understand photographic genres and the differences between them.
- How to see in both black and white and color and create compelling images with both palettes.
- Understand how to critique your own photos so you can continually improve.

Edit

- Store, manage and organize images in Adobe Lightroom Classic.
- How the Lightroom Catalog works, and how you can best utilize all of its features while also preventing issues like missing images, corruption, and misplaced metadata.
- Perform global and local adjustments in Adobe Lightroom Classic.
- Use and create Lightroom Presets to develop a consistent style.
- Learn not just what each slider does, but why you would use each slider on an image and how you can begin to be selective in your editing workflow.
- Develop a consistent workflow in your editing and organization.
- Learn how to back up your images, catalog, and internal hard drive.
- Learn to use advanced local adjustment tools like range masks and auto masking.

Light

- Understand the different types of natural light and how they can be used in a wide variety of photographic genres.
- See the difference between light quality, angle, and temperature, and how that affects the mood of an image.
- Use scrims, reflectors, gobos, and fill cards to augment natural light.
- Use the R,G, and B numbers to make perfect corrections to white balance both in camera and when editing in Lightroom Classic.
- Use the Photographers' Ephemeris to predict when and where the sun or moon will be at any location and time and to visualize your lighting before a shoot.

Output

- Export images for a wide variety of uses on the web, print or digital.
- Outsource prints to a photo lab.
- Understand different color spaces and what each one is used for.
- Look at different types of paper and learn which paper types are best for which types of images.
- Understand the importance of calibrating your monitor and how to perform a routine calibration.
- Build slideshows in Adobe Lightroom Classic to present your work.
- Build a portfolio website to showcase your work.

Genre

Understand compositional, technical, and other skills related to a variety of genres, including:

- Portraiture
- Macro
- Landscape
- Night
- Astrophotography
- Documentary/Street
- Abstract
- Wildlife
- Self-Portraiture
- Moving Action