Freelance Photography Certificate

PART TIME

This program roadmap represents one possible pathway to complete the program. **Please see a counselor** to create an education plan that is customized to meet your needs. This roadmap is not a guarantee of course availability or financial aid applicability.

Catalog: 2026-27

Total Units: 30.5

Start Term: Fall

First Year

Semester 1 (Fall) — 9.5 Units

CAT.	COURSE	UNIT	PREREQUISITES
Req	ART 101[1] Lightroom and Photoshop Basics	0.5	
Req	ARTPH 300 Basic Film and Darkroom Photography	3	
Req	ARTPH 305 Digital Photography	3	
RE	ARTH 300[2] Art Appreciation	3	

[1] May be waived by petition with proof of prior knowledge of Adobe Photoshop and Lightroom

[2] or ARTH 335/ARTPH 345 *(Survey of Photography)*

Semester 2 (Spring) — 12 Units

CAT.	COURSE	UNIT	PREREQUISITES
Req	ARTPH 310 Intermediate Photography	3	ARTPH 300 or 305
Req	ARTPH 315 Trends in Software and Social Media for Photographers	3	ARTPH 305
RE	ARTPH 340[3] Alternative Process Photography	3	
RE	ARTPH 370[4] Fashion, Wedding, and Portrait Photography	3	ARTPH 300 or 305

[3] or ART 320 *(Design: Fundamentals)*

[4] or take ARTPH 350 *(Documentary Photography)* in the fall

Second Year

Semester 3 (Fall) — 9 Units

CAT.	COURSE	UNIT	PREREQUISITES
Req	ARTPH 322 Color Photography	3	ARTPH 300 or 305

CAREER PATH

Career Options:

This certificate prepares students for careers such as a small photography business owner, studio assistant, studio photographer, freelance photographer, editorial photographer, stock photographer, and photo lab manager.

Advising Notes:

- Students interested in documentary photography are encouraged to take ARTPH 350 in the 3rd semester rather than ARTPH 370 in the 2nd semester, which is intended for students interested in family and lifestyle photography.
- This map shows the fastest way to complete this program. See a counselor to adjust the coursework to meet your specific needs.
- This certificate can be started in the spring as well. See a counsel or to adjust the course work.

Scheduling Notes:

- ARTPH 310, 315, 322, 340, 350, 360, 370, and 375 are offered occasionally. See the class schedule for their availability.

Other Notes:

- ARTPH 302, 306, and 361 are not required for the certificate, but

CAT.	COURSE	UNIT	PREREQUISITES
Req	ARTPH 360 Studio Lighting	3	ARTPH 300 or 305
Req	ARTPH 375 Freelance Photography Careers	2	
RE	ARTPH 376[5] Photography Lab: Portfolio Development	1	

[5] or 1 unit of ARTPH 498 *(Work Experience in Art Photography)*

EXPLANATION OF CATEGORIES		
Req	Required Core	A course that is required for this program
RE	Restricted Elective	A course selected from a list of elective courses specified for this program in the course list in the catalog, which can be replaced with another course from the same list

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provide additional lab time for students who need it.

- Students should select restricted elective options based on future goals. Please read course descriptions carefully.
- Internships in fashion photography are available for photographing the Fashion department's collections and show each spring. Other internships are available through the ARC Design Hub and area businesses. Students interested in an internship should enroll in ARTPH 498 the same semester the internship takes place.