

Sample Syllabus: Art-Driven Photography Workshop

Day 1 – Foundations of Art in Photography

- Morning
- Welcome and introductions
- Lecture: Photography Through the Lens of Art History – How painters influenced visual language – Key movements that shaped composition and light
- Exercise: Museum or gallery study (or image review) to identify art principles in practice
- Afternoon
- Classroom Session: Concept Development – Turning ideas and stories into visual concepts – Pre-visualization and planning methods
- Hands-On Exercise: Sketching concepts and storyboarding images
- Evening
- Field Session: First shoot applying concept planning – Focus on connecting narrative and place – Guided practice with feedback in the field

Day 2 – Color and Pathways

- Morning
- Lecture: Color Theory for Photographers – Harmony, contrast, and emotional impact of color
- Hands-On Exercise: Create personal color palettes and mood sketches
- Afternoon
- Lecture: Visual Pathways and Compositional Flow – Directing the viewer's eye – Balance, weight, and hierarchy in a frame
- Critique Session: Instructor sketch-overs on student images
- Evening
- Field Session: Applying color theory and pathways in dynamic landscapes

Day 3 – Tonal Design and Storytelling

- Morning
- Lecture: Light, Shadow, and Chiaroscuro – Building depth through tonal design – Creating subject separation in the field
- Exercise: Tonal sketches and planning images for light conditions
- Afternoon
- Editing Lab: Designing With Intention – Applying tonal design in post-processing – Peer review and critique
- Evening
- Field Session: Shooting with storytelling in mind – Apply concept, color, and tonal design together

Day 4 – Refining Vision

- Morning
- Lecture: Rhythm, Repetition, and Gesture – Finding patterns and energy in landscapes
- Exercise: Identify rhythm and gesture in natural settings
- Afternoon

- Editing Lab: Refinement of images – Edge control and transitions (sfumato) – Finalizing images to support story and design
- Evening
- Capstone Shoot: Applying all principles in one session – Guided fieldwork with individual feedback

Day 5 – Reflection and Next Steps

- Morning
- Group critique and discussion of final images
- Reflection on personal growth and process
- Workshop wrap-up: Building a sustainable art practice in photography
- Departure

Student Outcomes

- A repeatable process from concept to final image
- A toolkit of art principles adapted to photography
- A mini portfolio of images created during the workshop
- Worksheets and checklists for continued learning