

SNAPIX WELCOME LETTER SPRING SEMESTER 2020

Greetings SNAPIX students!

Donna, Sally, and Tom warmly welcome you to our Spring 2020 Snapix Photo Class. We have designed this class using numerous suggestions from other photography classes. We hope this will be a fun and active learning experience for you!

By the end of this course, you will have improved your technical command of your camera, have a better ability to compose compelling photos, gained a basic understanding of photo editing (also referred to as “post processing”), and learned new creative ideas and techniques.

In addition to this letter, the Welcome Email has three other documents attached: 2. ***Snapix Class Calendar***, 3. ***How to Email Pictures***, and 4. ***Do You Know Your Camera Game***.

Camera/Computer/Software Survey

We have prepared a short survey to ask you about your camera equipment. This will help us to be better prepared to assist you with your specific camera, since the controls and functions can be quite different for each make and model. **We kindly ask that you email ALL 3 coordinators (see email addresses at the bottom of this letter) with your answers to these questions:**

1. What is the make **and** model of your camera (e.g., Canon Rebel T7, Nikon D3500, etc.)?
2. Do you use any photo editing or post-processing software, and if so what application(s) do you use (e.g., Lightroom, Photoshop, Snapseed, Windows “Photos” app, Apple “Photos” app, etc.)?
3. What type of computer do you use for saving and processing your camera images (e.g., Mac, Windows, iPad, etc.)?
4. Do you have a smartphone (iPhone, Samsung Galaxy, etc.) **or** a tablet (iPad, Galaxy Tab, etc.)?
5. Will you be attending the optional Camera Boot Camp (see below)?

Optional Camera Boot Camp

We have scheduled an **optional Camera “Boot Camp” on Thursday, March 5, from 2:15PM to 4:15PM** (immediately following the Fall Convocation) at the Temple in Room 7 to provide assistance to anyone needing extra help understanding how their camera works and some of its basic functions. Please try to complete the ***Do You Know Your Camera Game*** as much as you can before the Boot Camp. It is strongly recommended that you bring a copy of your camera manual to the Boot Camp.

- **If you are planning to attend the Boot Camp and are going to the Convocation as well, please come from 2:15-3:15PM**
- **If you are attending the Boot Camp only, please come from 3:15-4:15PM**

Note that basic camera settings will also be covered in the classes that follow but this additional session may be useful to new students that haven’t used their camera recently and need a refresher, or if you have new equipment. This session will be informal and is intended to provide individual help, so you can stay as long as you want. If you are already comfortable with your camera’s basic settings or have taken this class before, you need not attend.

Classes

We will meet 10 times at the Temple in Room 7 (unless we are on a photo shoot) on Thursdays from 1PM-3:30PM, from March 12 to May 14. Please note that the class is scheduled to go until **3:30PM**. The reason for the extended time is that there will be some sessions where we will be doing a lot of hands on training in class and will need some extra time. We won’t need the extra time for every class

or on photo shoots. If you can't stay for the occasional extra half hour, however, it's not a problem and you can leave when you need to.

Photo Shoots

We have scheduled four photo shoots, two of which will be held during regular class time. The other two will be held on Sunday, April 26 from 10AM-12PM in downtown Providence and on Thursday, May 7 from 6:30-8:30PM at India Point Park. The dates and times of these two photo shoots will be discussed at our first class to make sure these work for everyone. You will be notified by e-mail if a photo shoot will be canceled or changed due to inclement weather.

How Classes Will Work

Photo assignments, reading materials, and YouTube tutorials will be posted to the Syllabus page (<http://snapixllc.org/syllabus/>) on the SNAPIX class website (more below). There will also be a pre-assignment to do prior to the first class as described in the calendar. Links to all of this material will be found on the Syllabus tab of the class website. Please be ready to discuss homework assignments in the classes that follow them.

Except for the days when a photo shoot is scheduled, the general format of the class is that the first hour will be a presentation of new material by the coordinators, with occasional contributions from students. For many of the sessions you will need to bring your camera so that you can practice the concepts that are discussed. After a short break, the second half of the class will be focused on viewing and collaboratively discussing the photos you will be submitting each week. We hope that everyone will actively contribute to the discussion.

SNAPIX Class Website

We are in the process of updating the SNAPIX class website, where the class calendar, syllabus, and coordinator contact details will be found. We will also be posting weekly student photos on the website as we go along. The website can be found here: <http://snapixllc.org>. (Note: A link to the website can also be found under the "Member Resources" page of the LLC website.)

Organizing Your Email and Photos:

It is strongly recommended that you organize your SNAPIX emails and documents as follows:

1. In your Mail Program, make a special mailbox "SNAPIX", where you will keep all your SNAPIX email.
2. On your computer under "Photos" or "Documents", make a folder "SNAPIX-DOCS", where you will store all your downloaded documents and handouts from the course.

We would like to publish a class roster with phone numbers and e-mail addresses for everyone so we can more easily communicate with each other. If you do not want your name on this list, please let us know.

If you have any questions about any of this please, please feel free to e-mail us.

We're very much looking forward to meeting all of you and having fun taking pictures!

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Sally Barker (sbarker@alumni.risd.edu)
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