MINIMUM TECHNICAL/TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Portrait Photography Certificate

Technical Requirements:
An important part of developing a career in photography is making an investment in camera equipment. As a student you begin to gradually invest in the professional equipment that will help you learn advanced techniques and build a competitive portfolio. As a professional, the quality of your equipment, along with your technical and visual training, is what will distinguish you from amateur photographers.

The Art Institute of Pittsburgh - Online Division photography program is designed to allow students to build their equipment suite piece by piece. The first photography course in the Portrait Photography Certificate program, PH123 Principles of Digital Photography is where a student makes their first major investment in a Digital SLR Camera, lenses and other accessories. Later in the program an investment will be made for PH136 Lighting in studio lights and a light meter; then studio strobes in PH 212 Studio Photography. Additional smaller investments in a photo-quality printer, backgrounds, and color calibrator will be needed at other points in the program.

By the time a student graduates they will have invested in the equipment they need to set-up their own photography business - a practical investment in their future.

List of Materials and Equipment required for the Photography program

While the total cost will differ for each person, incoming Photography students can expect to invest at approximately $3,100 to $13,000 throughout the duration of this program. These costs are associated with each student acquiring the professional equipment necessary to engage in the primary activities as a professional in the industry; the range is due to the various levels of quality from the minimum required to a higher level.

Equipment List
• View the Potrait Photography Materials & Equipment Overview
• HDSLR (High-definition Digital Single-Lens Reflex camera) with interchangeable lenses, 10 megapixel or higher sensor resolution, capable of recording HD video (Many cameras that are labeled DSLR cameras also meet the concept of an "HDSLR." The distinction is based on whether a camera shoots HD video or not. This can be 1920 by 1080 or it can be 1280 by 720 -- either format will be fine. The camera must be able to record video and sound.)
• Memory Card(s)
• Backup Batteries
• Camera lenses with 18-200mm focal length range
• Camera Bag (Optional)
• Medium Sized Tripod - Must be able to firmly secure a SLR Camera + Flash
• Monopod (Optional)
• 3 Monolights (Studio Strobes) with radio slaves
• Ambient/Flash Meter
• Light Modifiers (umbrellas, softboxes)
• Light Stands
• Reflector(s)
• Diffuser(s)
• Gray Card
• Lavalier Microphone
• External Digital Recorder
• Neutral Density Filters
• LED HOT-Shoe Mount Light
• On-camera Flash (Hot Shoe Flash)

Minimum Technology Requirements:
PC: Users should have systems with the following specifications: Intel® Pentium® 4 or AMD Athlon® 64 processor, Windows 7 with SP 1, 4 GB RAM (8 GB RECOMMENDED), 30 GB available hard disk space recommended, 1366 x 768 minimum (1920x1080 recommended) with 32-bit video card, 512 MB VRAM, and OpenGL 2.0-capable system.

MAC: Mac: Users should have systems with the following specifications: Multicore Intel processor with 64-bit support, *Mac OS X v. 10.7 or higher, 4 GB RAM (8 GB RECOMMENDED), 30 GB available hard disk space recommended, 1366 x 768 minimum display resolution (1920x1080 recommended) Retina display supported., 512 MB VRAM (1GB recommended), and OpenGL 2.0-capable system.
*Mac users must have a minimum of OS 10.7 in order to run Adobe Creative Cloud.

Additional Required Hardware:
• Photo Printer - Should be "capable of handling 5.5 x 11 Photo Paper, and minimum of 4+ separate ink cartridges (Black, Yellow, Cyan, Magenta) to ensure sufficient range of color representation in printing Flatbed Scanner (for G150PH only)
• Color Management System (Xrite ColorMunki Photo)
• Mouse

Software Requirements:
To check your operating system, browser and plug in capabilities, please click here:
https://www.artinstitutes.edu/online/techcheck
• Adobe Creative Cloud Subscription (Contains Adobe Acrobat Professional, After Effects, Animate, Audition, Bridge, Dreamweaver, Illustrator, InDesign, Photoshop, Lightroom, and Premiere Pro)
• Microsoft Office Professional (Version 2010 or higher) or Microsoft Office University 365
• Antivirus Software (Latest Version)
• Skype (Recommended)
• Techsmith SnagIt, Jing, or other screen capture software

Recommended plugins:
Adobe Acrobat Reader, Adobe Flash Player, Windows Media Player and Java

Internet Requirements:
An internet connection speed of 256K is required, 1 Mbps or greater is recommended.

Web Browser Requirements:
Windows Users: The two latest releases of Microsoft Internet Explorer, Mozilla Firefox, or Google Chrome are supported.
Mac Users: The two latest releases of Apple Safari, Mozilla Firefox, or Google Chrome are supported.

Additional Optional Items:
• DVD-ROM drive may be required for some installation disks
• External Hard Drive
• Desktop Monitor (for Laptops)

While our students may use any resource to get the required equipment for the Photography program, The Art Institute of Pittsburgh - Online Division has selected B&H Photo & Video & trade as our recommended vendor for equipment purchasing.
The Art Institute of Pittsburgh - Online Division has done this to make the process easier, and provide our students with a single point of contact. If students decide to use B&H Photo & Video to acquire their equipment, they should expect an B&H Photo & Video Educational Sales Representative to assist them in selection of the best equipment based on spec requirements and budget. Students may also access the B&H Photo & Video student portal and use the search functions to assist in product selection.

A student discount rate is available for those students who are currently enrolled in one video or photo program. Students must select the "Become a Member" option and complete a simple verification form. Proof of enrollment is required. Once verified, students will be a member for one year and will be eligible for all student discount rates on purchases during that time period.

The Art Institute of Pittsburgh Online Division will work directly with B&H Photo & Video during the student verification process to ensure a timely response.

Students should access the following B&H Photo & Video link to become a member:
http://www.bhphotovideo.com/find/eduRootPage.jsp?edu
Customer Service: 800-221-7543 or 212-939-7765
Product Questions: 866-276-1435

* Not all equipment must be purchased at the beginning of the program. Contact your New Student Advisor, Admissions Representative or Faculty member (for those who are already enrolled) about when you will need each item.