



BPS Annual Photography Course

2024 Programme

Date	7.30pm		8.30pm	8.45pm		
Tue 3 Sept	Composition	Q&A	Break	Review Student Photo's		Q&A
<i>In own time</i>	<i>Practice Composition</i>					
Sat 7th Sept	Workshop: Clifton Village (10:30am – 12:00 mid-day) Composition and Camera Settings					
Tue 10 Sept	Exposure Theory	Q&A	Practical Session	Break	Aperture Theory	Q&A Practical Session
<i>In own time</i>	<i>Practice over and under exposure</i>			<i>Practice small & large aperture</i>		
Tue 17 Sept	Shutter Speed Theory	Q&A	Practise	Break	ISO theory & other tools	Q&A Practical Session
<i>In own time</i>	<i>Practice slow & fast shutter speeds</i>			Submit images for review		
Tue 24 Sept	Available Light Photography & Other Special Situations	Q&A	Break	Review Student's images (Composition & Camera Settings)		Q&A
<i>In own time</i>	<i>Practice Available Light</i>					
Sat 28 Sept	Field Trip to Blaise Castle/Hamlet 10.15am – 12.00 mid-day					
Tue 1 Oct	Image Editing Theory	Q&A	Break	Demo (Student Suggested Edits)		Q&A
<i>In own time</i>	<i>Practice basic editing. Crop, straighten, control of highlights and shadows</i>			Submit field trip images for review		
Tue 8 Oct	Natural History Photography	Q&A	Break	Review Student's images		Q&A
<i>In own time</i>	<i>Practice Natural History photos</i>					
Sat 12 Oct	Field Trip to Bristol Docks 10.15am – 12.00 mid-day					
Tuesday 15 October	Studio Photography & other Portraiture	Q&A	Break	Practical studio demo & camera check		Q&A
Sun 20 Oct Mon 21 Oct Tues 22 Oct	BPS Club Rooms – Studio Photography Sessions (Each student can book to attend only one of these sessions) Sunday 2.00pm – 4.00pm, Monday & Tuesday 7.30pm – 9.30pm					
Sat 26 Oct	Field Trip to Clifton – Night Photography 5.00pm – 7.00pm (TBC)					
Tuesday 29 October	Holiday Photography		Break	Review Student Submitted photos Blaise & Bristol Docks.		
<i>In own time</i>	<i>Re-edit Holiday Photos</i>			<i>Submit Field Trip Photos for Review</i>		
Tuesday 5 November	Photographic Seeing		Break	Review Student Submitted photos Studio and Night Shoot.		
<i>In own time</i>	<i>Practice Photographic Seeing</i>			<i>Re-edit Submitted Photos</i>		

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Tuesday 12 November	Architecture	Break	Creative Editing
<i>In own time</i>	<i>Practice Architecture</i>		<i>Submit Best Course Photos for final Review</i>
Tuesday 19 November	Course Quiz	Break	Students Final Image Review

General Notes & Field Trips

General Notes

Thank you for signing up to this year's course. In doing so, you have automatically been enrolled as a member of the Bristol Photographic Society for a period of 12 months from the start of the course. Your membership entitles you to attend the Society's weekly meetings and enter its projected image and print competitions and the many other activities of this prestigious society.

We encourage you to join the course WhatsApp group, where images can be posted, experiences shared and any questions discussed with other students and course tutors.

The 2024 WhatsApp group will run for the duration of the course. After that time, students will be encouraged to start their own WhatsApp group should there be enough interest.

Before the course starts, on Tuesday September 3rd, we would like you to send in two images for discussion with tutors and other students during the second half of the evening. These can be of any subject of your choosing, just images you like or would like constructive feedback or advice on. The aim of this session is not to judge your photographs but to get you thinking and talking about your photography. These images need to be sent to the course portal.

Field Trips

The four popular weekend field trips are an opportunity to take photos with your fellow students and tutors and to put into practice the technical and creative aspects you have learnt from the course. They usually run over two hours and experienced tutors will be on hand to help with any questions or problems you might have, so please don't be afraid to ask.

REMINDER: Before all field trips and the studio photoshoot sessions, please ensure that your camera battery is fully charged and your camera has a memory card in place with sufficient space on it. A lens hood (the right way round) is highly desirable as is a lens cleaning cloth to keep your lens sparkling clean.

Saturday 7th September – Clifton Village

The aim of this session is for you to practice compositional techniques and experiment with the creative possibilities of camera settings such as aperture and shutter speed.

Clifton contains a wealth of photographic opportunities, with its suspension bridge, elegant Georgian terraces and crescents, shops and green spaces. We would like you to take photographs using each of the broad headings: people, place, object, so you will have plenty of scope. Later, we will be asking you to select and send in your two favourite images for subsequent discussion at one of the course evenings.

We will meet at 10.20 for a 10.30 start outside Christ Church on Clifton Down Road, BS8 3BN. After the session, you are welcome to join everyone for a drink/lunch in Clifton Village at around 12.30a.m. (venue to be agreed on the day).

Saturday 28th September – Blaise Castle/Hamlet

Blaise Castle Estate, with its mock medieval castle, Georgian mansion house, limestone gorge and landscaped grounds, offers a wealth of opportunities for landscape and architectural photography amongst others. We usually visit the nearby church, which has a number of interesting gravestones and finish off with a visit to the National Trust's Blaise Hamlet, a delightful enclosure of unique cottages built for the Blaise estate workers.

Once again there will be tutors on hand to provide any help you might need with your photography.

We will meet in the Blaise Castle car park, BS10 7AA , near the café at 10.15 a.m.

Saturday 12th October – Bristol Docks

The aim of this session is to capture the variety of activities taking place around the busy docks area with its sailing boats and ships, cranes and heritage railway. There are usually plenty of opportunities for people photography too, so bear in mind people, place, object if you are not sure what to photograph. Try to be creative and experiment with, for example, unusual viewpoints, wide angle and telephoto shots, or a variety of apertures and shutter speeds to produce photographs unique to you.

We will meet in the car park of the SS Great Britain, BS1 6TY, at 10.20 a.m. for a 10.30 start.

Please note: If travelling by car, be aware that Cumberland Road, parallel to the River Avon, is one-way westbound only beyond Gas Ferry Road, the access to SSGB car park. There is a bus gate beyond this point with cameras that will catch you out!

Our tutors will be available until around 12.30, when you are invited to join them in a local pub for lunch.

Sunday 26th October – Clifton Night Shoot

This field trip is a great opportunity to practice shooting in low light conditions and demonstrates the challenges and rewards that this branch of photography provides. During the evening, you should be able to explore the qualities of light in the golden hour and the blue hour as well as street lighting in darkness; and if we are lucky, a glorious sunset!

We will meet outside Christ Church on Clifton Down Road, BS8 3BN at 16.00

Sunset is around 16.27 so we will have time to walk over to Observatory Hill overlooking the Suspension Bridge and set up our cameras and tripods in time for sunset. We are usually photographing for an hour and a half to two hours, after which time you are invited to join everyone in a Clifton pub to discuss the evening's experiences.