FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT DP 101 AND DP 201

What what will I learn from DP 101 and DP 201?

DP 101: Achieving Quality in Digital Photography, is an introductory to intermediate-level digital photography course that covers the following topics:
- characteristics of 35mm digital cameras including popular models from Nikon, Canon, Kodak, Fuji, etc.
- professional results with consumer-level digital cameras
- the history of digital cameras
- techniques with lighting, lenses, filters, and digital imaging software including Adobe Photoshop and third-party add-on programs
- nature photography, architectural photography, product and portrait photography.

DP 201: Taking Digital Photography to the Next Level, is an intermediate to advanced-level digital photography course that covers the following topics:
- professional digital photography techniques to produce high-quality images
- equipment needed to build digital photography studio
- techniques associated with scanning
- on-location shooting strategies
- medium and large format digital imaging
- digital imaging software

What photography experience does Dr. Nicholas Hellmuth have?
Dr. Hellmuth has over 40 years of experience in photography, ranging from commercial photography, to architectural photography, to fashion photography. His work has been published in National Geographic and Hasselblad Magazine and has been featured in many Japanese coffee table art books. His work has been exhibited in Germany, Austria, Guatemala, and the United States, and several leading publishers have used his images on book covers.

But what counts for you, is that Dr Hellmuth has experience with all four levels of digital cameras:
- 35mm SLR with interchangeable lenses
- entry level 3, 4, 5, 6, and 8 megapixel zoom-lens digital cameras
- medium format digital cameras
- large format digital cameras

Who is the audience for DP 101 and DP 201?
Dr. Hellmuth's courses on digital photography are focused on photographers at all levels with varying degrees of experience. Digital photographers will find the course helpful, as will photographers using Kodachrome, Ektachrome, and Fujichrome film. Amateurs and professionals have both taken the course in the past, and both have found the course to be extremely beneficial.

How are the courses delivered?
Once you are registered for one (or both of the courses), you will be given an account on our online learning portal called "Blackboard" (which is free of charge). The Blackboard portal will be used to transmit files to and from Dr. Hellmuth and Sebastien Dion. Using Blackboard, you can download PDF lessons, and upload digital images that you capture. Dr. Hellmuth's graduate assistant for the course, Sebastien Dion, will help you through the technical aspects of the course.

Is there a video or audio lecture involved?
No, all lessons will be delivered through downloadable PDF files.

In what languages are the courses taught?
All course materials, lectures, and other communications are in English; however, Dr. Hellmuth can read and understand Spanish and German, so you may correspond in whichever language is most convenient for you. Sebastien is bi-lingual, French and English. Dr Hellmuth can also read basic French, so you can correspond in the language of your choice.

What materials are required for the courses?
To successfully complete DP 101 and DP 201, you don't have to have a camera; but if you do have a camera, any make or model will do. A digital camera will be helpful, but it is not required. The courses will stress that anyone can capture beautiful images using any camera; therefore, an inexpensive point-and-shoot camera will work just as well as a high-dollar SLR camera.

It is essential that you have dependable access to the Internet, as you will need to download PDF files and upload images files online using the Blackboard system.

Knowledge of Adobe Photoshop is preferred, but it is not required to complete the courses. Indeed we will suggest other digital imaging software that costs much much less.

Are the courses scheduled and structured, or can I study at my own pace?
The courses are structured in that there is a syllabus so you know what lessons will be delivered when; however, you have complete control over how much time you spend on each lesson, and you can even pick and choose which lessons you want to focus on.

If you will be traveling frequently during the course, this should not affect your ability to learn. Dr. Hellmuth travels regularly, but the courses continue because they are online and dynamic.

Can I take theses courses for credit at my University?
Typically, DP 101 and DP 201 cannot be counted for credit at universities; however, if your university will permit you to take the courses as part of an "Independent Study", Dr. Hellmuth is willing to assist you by signing any necessary paperwork.

Will these courses help me to decide what digital camera I should buy?
Yes, one of the primary goals in each course is to help you examine digital cameras critically so that you can find one that is right for you.

Will someone critique my work during the course?
Yes, both Dr. Hellmuth and Sebastien Dion will critique your work throughout the course. If you choose, you can make your work available for other students to view; however, this is not required. Typically, enrollment in the courses is low; therefore, these courses are practically "private lessons."

Will I be able to meet with Dr. Hellmuth in person?
Yes, Dr. Hellmuth will be attending the PMA trade show in Orlando (February 20-23, 2005), and you can arrange to spend a specified afternoon with him. He will walk you through the trade show and discuss various topics covered in the course. He will also be available at least one evening during the trade show for discussion.

During what dates will the courses run?
DP 101 begins February 21, 2005 and ends April 6, 2005. DP 201 begins April 13, 2005 and ends May 20, 2005.

How much do the courses cost?
- DP 101 - $695.00
- DP 201 - $795.00
- Both Courses - $1195.00 (save $295.00 when you register for both DP 101 and DP 201)