

## Points of Interest and Clarification: **Photography**

### What are the degree and certificate options offered by your department?

- Associate in Arts Degree – Photography
- Certificate – Professional Photography (Two options: Digital Track or Analog Traditional Film Track)

For more information:

- FC Catalog: <https://www.fullcoll.edu/schedule/>
- FC CTE website: <https://cte.fullcoll.edu/programs/photography/>
- <https://photography.fullcoll.edu/> (examples of student work, course sequences, etc.)s

**Best class to take to explore the major:** PHOT 111\_F, Introduction to Photography from Analog to Digital

### What job/career opportunities do your degrees and certificates prepare students for? (Stories of student successes and struggles are always helpful)

Remember that every industry uses photography. Therefore, the certificate/degree can be a great additional certificate/degree.

A graduate of the Photography AS degree, who also earned her bachelors in Biochemistry, applied for a position at a Biotech company. During the interview the interviewer noticed that she had earned a Photography AS degree and mentioned that they needed someone to take headshots. The FC alumni was hired and now spends the majority of her work taking photographs for the company.

Degree and Certificate	Job/Careers:
Certificate – Professional Photography	Leads to entry level commercial positions (as opposed to fine arts gallery work). <a href="https://photography.fullcoll.edu/careers/">https://photography.fullcoll.edu/careers/</a>
Associate in Arts Degree – Photography	A degree provides other options for careers that require a degree. <a href="https://photography.fullcoll.edu/careers/">https://photography.fullcoll.edu/careers/</a>

**What are the occupational outlooks for these job/career opportunities in Orange County?**

See FC CTE website: <https://cte.fullcoll.edu/programs/photography/>

**How do you explain the benefits of a certificate or associates degree when the student is also planning to earn a Bachelor's degree?**

Very few bachelor's programs focus on acquiring technical photography skills. Rather, Art BA and BFA programs (ie CSULB and CSUF) focus more on theory and preparing a student for gallery work.

**What student populations are your degrees and certificates most appropriate for? For example, are certain certificates more suitable for students who already have a degree?**

This program is good for anyone interested in gaining the skills for employment in the commercial photography field.

**What partnerships do you have with the community and how can those partnerships assist students with networking and career placement?**

The FC Photography department encourages involvement with the following professional associations:

- ASMP - American Society of Media Photographers (one of the top associations in the nation)
- APA – Art Photographers Association
  - As a result of a strong departmental partnership with APA, students' that become members benefit from valuable networking opportunities.

**What websites do you direct students to for employment purposes?**

- LinkedIn.com
- Indeed.com
- <https://www.workbook.com/>
- <https://www.behance.net/>
- <http://home.earthlink.net/~lamontia/id41.html>

**If you were an academic counselor, what additional advice would you provide a student interested in your programs?**

Begin with PHOT 111\_F Introduction to Photography from Analog to Digital. The course is a prerequisite for most of the advanced photography classes that use digital photography.

PHOT 217\_F, Applied Photography, is a useful course for developing a portfolio or developing a 5 year career plan under the guidance of instructor, Melody La Montia. Developing a strong portfolio is a crucial component to success in the field.

PHOT 221\_F Studio Specialties (offered in spring) provides students with the opportunity to go into the community to take location shots of local businesses, gyms, libraries, hostels, etc. As a result of offering their services to the community, students' network, have their work published and gain portfolio samples.

Good questions to ask students:

Are you interested in Commercial or Fine Arts Gallery Work?

**Tips for Transfer:**

- Best options for commercial work preparation: CSUN BFA, ArtCenter College of Design
- Best options for Gallery Work preparation: Cal Arts, ArtCenter College of Design, SF Art Institute, CSULB, CSUF
- The faculty do not recommend transfer to Otis College of Art and Design (Parsons) or The Art Institute of California – Orange County
- In order to enroll in a MFA program, you will need to earn a BFA.

**Program Updates:**

In 2-3 years the 500 building, where the Photography labs are housed, will be renovated. With the renovation the black and white photo labs will no longer be available and analog courses will not be offered.

**Best Faculty to Contact:**

Melody La Montia  
714.992.7527  
[mlamontia@fullcoll.edu](mailto:mlamontia@fullcoll.edu)

**Suggested Sequence:**

Certificate – Photography - <https://photography.fullcoll.edu/professional-photography-certificate/>

Associate in Arts Degree – Photography <https://photography.fullcoll.edu/photography-associate-in-arts-degree/>

**Classes only offered in the fall:**

- **PHOT 114** Professional Portrait
- **PHOT 214** Professional Portrait II

- **PHOT 224** Business Practices Photography

**Classes only offered in the spring:**

- **PHOT 221** Studio Specialties