



# Ritz Camera University



## Class Descriptions

Classes are divided into a four-class "Essentials" course (Four classes taken in sequence) and five "Elective" Classes" designed to expand your photographic knowledge.

### **The Essentials Course**

*The four class Essentials Course is recommended for all digital camera owners.*

#### ***1. Introduction to Digital***

This class is designed to teach the basics. First, some universal camera operation basics that apply to all cameras, and the importance of aspect ratio to print sizes. Then, an understanding of how image size in pixels, image compression qualities, print resolution, file formats, and file size will affect both the quality and storage aspects of a digital image.

#### ***2. Digital Photography 1***

Got the basics of digital images? Start taking better pictures! Learn the most fundamental principles of improving your photography skills no matter what type of camera you use. Including: camera handling technique, creative lens use, focusing tips, artistic compositional elements, using automatic exposure modes and some tips on using the built-in flash.

#### ***3. Digital Photography 2***

Unlock the full potential of your camera by understanding the "out of automatic" exposure modes.

By learning how to adjust the Shutter Speed, Aperture, and ISO you can change the creative properties of your image! Then, learn how your camera's light metering works and how the light metering overrides can improve exposure. Get out of automatic and become creative!

#### ***4. Organize, Print, and Share***

Digital image management. For many digital camera owners, it is just as important as learning the "out of automatic" camera operations. First, learn how to create an efficient, useful structure for your *My Pictures* folder. (No matter what computer operating system you have.) Then, discover how digital photography has made possible exciting new options to *Share - Display - Save* your life's memories.

### **The Elective Classes**

*The Elective classes are specific for those that wish to expand their digital and photographic knowledge.*

#### ***Getting Started With Your DSLR***

Affordability, versatility, and ease of use, make the *Digital Single Lens Reflex* camera one of the most popular choices today. If you have recently purchased a DSLR, or just considering this addition your current compact camera system, we highly recommend you attend this class. Attending will give you a "jump start" on learning basic operation and an overview of the advanced photographic DSLR possibilities taught throughout the entire RCU class program.

#### ***Light, Inside and Out***

Discover what the pros know. How to take advantage of the available light and when to use light modifiers in any photographic situation. Learn how both natural and artificial light effect the quality of your photographs. Use your flash more effectively by improving your basic flash skills. Then, some advanced flash techniques.

#### ***Lenses at Length***

For many DSLR owners the ingredient that matters most, the lens, is the one they are the most uncertain about. First, a little fun history on the development of the DSLR. Some lens basics that determine the "speed" and optical quality and thus the price of a lens. Then, different lens types and their specific photographic applications.

#### ***Quality Lighting at Home***

Take your photography to a new level. It's easier than you think. The unique capabilities of digital cameras allow photographers to use affordable lighting solutions. Come learn about the systems, accessories, setups, and secrets of using controlled lighting equipment.

#### ***Filter Factor***

Using filters can be mysterious for even experienced photographers. Come learn how you can dramatically improve indoor, landscape, portrait, and other photography by effectively using filters. Also discover how to transform bland black and white photography into dramatic expression by mastering contrast control using color filters.