

LOYALIST COLLEGE

PHOTOJOURNALISM EQUIPMENT & SUPPLY LIST



Students entering the Photojournalism program must possess a Single-Lens-Reflex (SLR) Digital camera with both Automatic and full Manual operation, and the capability of using interchangeable lenses. The following list is intended as a guide for the purchase of equipment and supplies. Prices are estimates only and reflect the status of pricing at the time the list was prepared. Pricing is competitive, so applicants should check with several sales outlets before making a final purchasing decision. This list is subject to continual change. Many digital related prices are actually dropping as new models are introduced, so careful price comparison should be encouraged. Students will need a video and sound capture capability by second semester. Many of the newer cameras such as the Nikon D300s and Canon 7D have HD video and sound capture ability. Purchase of these cameras may suffice as video capture cameras for semesters two and three. Some students may prefer to purchase an HD video camera at an additional cost of \$1,000. There is a small pool of loaner video cameras for student use, but they are older models and in great demand at certain times of the semester.

Year I Students:

The following list of photographic equipment and supplies represents the **minimum** requirement for students entering the first year of the program. Prices shown are based on the purchase of new equipment. Used equipment in good working condition can offer considerable savings but should be checked thoroughly before purchasing. All purchases should be thought out carefully. Be sure the camera is in good working order and will be compatible with lenses and accessories you may be required to purchase in the future. Some older models may not be suitable for the program. If in doubt, ask one of the faculty.

Do not be let a salesman's pitch talk you into something not recommended.

1) **Camera:** A Digital Single Lens Reflex (SLR) camera body is required. There are many excellent camera systems available, but the most commonly used in the photojournalism industry are either Nikon or Canon. We maintain a lens pool for occasional loan in both of these systems. A student entering the first year of the photojournalism program **must** have one of the following models or its model replacement or predecessor. Equipment specs and costs are constantly changing. The estimated costs below are for new equipment of an acceptable standard. Students are expected to have the standard tools required to do the job, and should not rely on borrowing from the lens pool. The pool is designed to expose the student to the more exotic or expensive lenses.

<u>Nikon:</u>	<u>Estimated Cost:</u>	<u>Canon:</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>
Nikon D90	\$1300(with lens)	Canon EOS Rebel T2i	\$1,000. (with lens)
Nikon D300s	\$1650 (body) *	Canon EOS 7 D	\$1850 (body)*
Nikon D700	\$2500 (body) *	Canon EOS 7 D	\$2600(with lens)
Nikon D3s	\$5300 (body) *	Canon EOS 5D II	\$3,000 (body) *

* Note that these prices unless noted are for camera body only. See below for lens recommendations.

The following cameras are NOT ACCEPTABLE:

- Any non-SLR digital camera system. This includes point-and-shoot cameras, cameras without lens interchangeability and without external flash capability, digital cameras with extreme lag-time exposure delays, etc.

2) **Image Storage Card:**

CompactFlash card (minimum 2 GIG recommended) Estimated Cost \$35. 4 GIG \$ 50. 8 GIG \$80

3) **Lenses:** Having the right lenses will give you a solid foundation for your photographic education. Most digital photojournalists work with a selection of zoom lenses. The speed of the lens is extremely important, particularly for lower light level situations. **Avoid lenses slower than f/2.8 (eg. f/3.5; f/4; f/5.6).** An ideal zoom lens for working photojournalists is within the wide angle to normal range. These lenses are offered by both Nikon (17mm - 55mm for \$ 1,500.) or Nikon (24-70 f2.8 for \$1900) and Canon (16mm - 35mm for \$ 1,800.) or Canon EF-S 17-55 f2.8 for \$1,350.) If the cost of this zoom lens is prohibitive, the ideal option is to purchase a fixed 35mm f/2 lens (approximately \$ 400.). Additional lenses such as a 80-200mm f2.8 or 70-210 f2.8 should be budgeted for and will be needed later in the first semester. They are new priced in the \$1200. range. Lens purchases and focal length choices may depend on camera models and sensor sizes of each camera model. Good deals are often found in used lenses. Make sure the lens is compatible with your camera body. It is a complicated market to say the least!

4) **Flash equipment:** The minimum requirement is a flash unit capable of both automatic and manual operation in the first semester. Flash units are usually dedicated to a comparable camera model range.

Recommended Models

Estimated Cost (new)

Nikon SB-900-DX

\$ 550.

Canon Speedlite 580EX

\$ 500.

5) Students will be expected to have their own lighting equipment in second semester. A flash stand and convertable umbrella will be required. (estimated \$200.) Remote firing devices for the flash (Pocket Wizard Plus is the industry standard) will cost about \$500 for a pair plus connectors

6) **Gadget Bag:** A gadget bag is the ideal way to transport your camera equipment and to protect it. Popular bags for photojournalists are manufactured by LowePro (Reporter Series), and Domke.
Estimated Cost: \$ 150. (new)

7) **Books:** All required textbooks are available at the Loyalist Bookstore. Students will be given a list during registration.
Estimated Cost: \$200.

8) **Miscellaneous Supplies:** Students will be required to supply their own batteries, chargers, recordable DVDs, etc. These items are available at local suppliers. Some assignments may require the expense of digital photo-quality prints (included in estimated cost).
Estimated Cost (First Year): \$ 300.

9) **Digital Sound Recorder with microphone :** Students are required to have a digital sound recorder with a USB or similar output for use in multi-media and other interview applications by second semester. \$300.

10) **External Hard Drive** - minimum 500 GIG minimum(LaCie recommended) \$150.

Personal Computers (optional):

We do not require students to possess their own personal computer. There are sufficient on-campus computer labs and ample access for assignments. However, some students find it useful to have their own. It is better to put limited funds into lenses and image capture equipment over computers, but a laptop is a great asset. The photojournalism industry is primarily based upon the Macintosh CS4 system.

Special pricing may be available for registered students.

Most of the work performed will be done using Adobe Photoshop software. We also use Photo Mechanic software as the editing software of choice in the program. Computers in the department are equipped with this software.

Some students have realized additional savings by printing their assignments on their own photo printers using photo-quality paper. Printers capable of handling quality 8-1/2 x 11 inch prints are available for under \$ 200.