

Capturing Unique Photographs of Wildlife and Nature

Lecturer: Adrian Cho

Schedule of topics:

IMPORTANT: The exact timing is subject to discussion with the class and will depend on interests and existing experience and knowledge. As much as possible we'll try to speed through the theory to get into the practical work faster.

For assignments, students will be expected to shoot on their own, individually, or in groups, and may optionally submit their photos before each class for feedback, and if they wish, for group discussion.

The idea is for the instructor to cover most of the following topics at one stage or another.

Getting started

1. How to get good at photography (or anything else) really quickly and keep getting better all the time
2. The role of fundamental technique
3. The role of tools
4. The role of artistry and creativity
5. Bringing everything you already know to the table
7. Feedback and growth
8. Working out of your comfort zone
9. Reaching your goals through photography
10. Developing your individual style

Studying photos and portraits of wildlife and nature

1. Elements of a photo

1. Light
2. Subject
3. Composition
4. Depth of field
5. Focus

2. Portraits

1. What is a portrait?
2. Examples of nature portrait subjects
 1. Landscapes
 2. Skyscapes
 3. Nightscapes

4. Flowers and other small things
5. Wildlife

Using a camera

1. Camera fundamentals

1. Shutter
2. Aperture
3. Sensitivity
4. Focus

2. Techniques

1. Identifying and using natural light
2. Subject choice
3. Composition
4. Exposing
5. Depth of field
6. Focus
7. Editing

Secrets (the things no one talks about)

1. It's a matter of perspective (getting physical)
2. Depth and layers
3. Embracing difficult light
4. Awareness, prediction, and improvisation
5. Doing things differently

Tools

1. Cameras
2. Lenses
3. Other tools

Editing and post-processing

Assignments

- Landscapes
- Macro
- Slow wildlife
- Fast wildlife
- Nightscapes