



# Certificate in Photography Level 1

## Course Notes

### Unit 1

You will learn how to use a tablet or 'phone camera to take images

Start by taking pictures of the things which interest you

Work alongside others in the group on taking the pictures

Show the images on the tablet or camera 'phone screen and discuss with the group which they think is the best image and why

When you have learnt to use the camera you will be given an assignment

Carry out a risk assessment of any hazards to your health and safety while doing this task

### Using the tablet or 'phone camera

Switch on the tablet or 'phone camera

Press the Camera button on the front screen to open the Camera App



Set the Mode to Normal  
Compose the image on the display  
Hold the tablet or 'phone camera very steady  
Press the shutter button

To see the pictures you have just taken press the 'back button' 1  
On the front screen press the 'Gallery' button 2



Your pictures will now show on the screen. You can choose between 'Grid' or 'Filmstrip' view. When you look back at your pictures, see which one you like best and think of the reasons why that is

### Project Assignment: Take a self portrait

Later in the course you will be learning how to upload your pictures onto the internet and in order to be able to find your pictures again you will have your own album (folder) with your name and a pictures of yourself on the cover.

For this task you will take a self portrait ('selfie') or working with 2 or 3 others in the group you can each take pictures of each other. Take plenty of images so that you can choose the best one when we come to set up your folder on the internet.

Switch on the tablet or 'phone camera

Press the Camera button on the front screen (just like you did in the first step)

Set the Mode to Normal (blue icon top left of the display)

Press the 'rotate camera' icon at the top right of the screen – this will now set the front camera and you will be taking the image of yourself

## **Some tips on taking good pictures**

If you want to show your image in a particular environment or context which helps describe who you are or the places you like, hold the tablet or 'phone camera in Landscape (horizontal) format.

On the other hand if you just want to concentrate on yourself, then hold the tablet or 'phone camera in Portrait (vertical) format.

Don't hold the tablet or 'phone camera too close to your face as the image will look distorted because of the effect of 'perspective'. The camera records the parts of your face nearest to it larger than those which are far away – your nose will look bigger in the picture and your ears will be smaller than they really are!

## **Health & Safety, Legal and Ethical considerations**

### **Risk assessment**

In order to stay healthy and safe at all times you need to be aware of any additional dangers which might bring you harm while doing your photography. Make sure you understand how best to avoid those risks. We will discuss risk assessment during our live video-link sessions so please be ready by thinking about the following -

Please imagine that you are out and about taking pictures and think of any dangers you might face. Could there be any risk from -

- Animals (such as snakes, insects, dogs, anything else you can think of)?  
What will you do to avoid the dangers?
- People (authorities such as police, military, security guards)?  
What will you do to avoid the dangers?
- Vehicles (traffic accident - car, bus, boda boda, bicycle)?  
What will you do to avoid the dangers?
- Natural hazards (blocked road, broken path, thorns)? What will you do to avoid the dangers?

### **Legal considerations**

It is important to understand a little about who 'owns' an image and how it can be used. Our photographs are going to be put onto the internet so the WHOLE WORLD can see and appreciate them! But if we've taken an image that is so good someone wants to use it in a brochure or newsfeed, or to print off and hang on the wall in their house, we need to make sure that as we've taken that picture we have the final decision on whether to let the other person use our image.

The person who takes the photograph, who composes it on the screen and presses the button on the tablet or camera is the owner or 'Author' of that image. The ownership of the image is subject to 'Copyright' laws which exist worldwide. The author of a photograph, or any other piece of artwork or writing for that matter, maintains the right to say how the picture is 'Licensed' for use; in other words when the image is uploaded to the internet the author might not wish to license it at all so that other people could look at the image on the screen but not download it or use it

in any other way, or the the author could license it for non-commercial sharing by others as long as they acknowledged his/her authorship by using the description to caption the image 'by **Thandiwe Muria**' (very famous Kenyan photographer).

**We will cover this topic in much more detail when we start to upload our pictures to the Hub web-based image-sharing account but in the meantime it is important to remember that if you already use the internet and you download an image, you should take notice of the terms of the copyright licence (whether its for general sharing, only for non-commercial use, or with some uses restricted) and always give the author of that image a 'by-line' as it is called. In turn, you can have peace of mind that your own images will be protected by law from other people using them in bad ways which you wouldn't like.**

\* Full details on licencing can be found here <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/>

## **Ethical considerations**

As well as copyright and the protection which the law will give you as the author of your images, there are other basic human rights and common decency to consider when you take photographs. It is always good practice to ask permission if you want to take someone's picture in the street, or even in your own home. Unless you are a news photographer its a polite thing to do to ask someone first, either by speaking to them or even just a questioning nod of your head and a smile and pointing to the camera - most people will be delighted to have their picture taken and strike a pose for you or just carry on with what they are doing; very few people will scowl or be angry but if that is the case just turn round and walk away.

## **Assessment & Feedback**

Since the course is delivered orally, either at the Hub by the Course Leader or via online video-link sessions, group and individual assessment must be continuous and concurrent with the delivery of the course and may be recorded for the purposes of future review. Feedback should also be given contemporaneously with ongoing encouragement to learners as they proceed through the various steps of each task. Time should be given both within each online video-link session and as an extra-curricula activity for peer assessment and feedback.

On completion of each Unit the achievement of the learning outcomes of the group and each individual will be assessed and feedback given by the course leader and/or external assessor via appropriate channels (video link or written via email)