

Photography: Finding and Capturing Compelling Subjects

Study Leaders: Bill Balsam & Jay Fitzpatrick
Week of June 17, MWF, 9:00 a.m. – Noon
AIL Classroom, Lethbridge Lodge, Colby-Sawyer College
& Various Local Destinations
Maximum number of participants: 12

Cameras are everywhere. Cell phones have decent-to-excellent cameras and small point-and-shoot cameras can be affordable and produce quality images. Higher-end DSLR cameras (generally those with interchangeable lenses) can be complicated but offer the user more control over the final image. The truth is, excellent photographs can be taken with any camera.

With this class, we invite you to bring along any camera you have. The course consists of two outdoor photo shooting exercises and a final indoor class for reviewing images.

Our goals are to:

- Provide an opportunity to think beyond the everyday image.
- Practice looking more intently at our surroundings.
- Find interesting things within our surroundings to photograph.
- Emphasize a relaxed approach to finding compelling subject matter.
- Compose images of the subject matter in the viewfinder before clicking the shutter.
- Enjoy being outside in the company of others.
- Have fun.

The class will not focus on the workings of any camera, so prospective students should become familiar with their own camera settings, including “auto” mode. However, the instructors can help students recognize how different settings can produce different results. Knowledge of how to get pictures from your camera to a computer is useful, but not required.

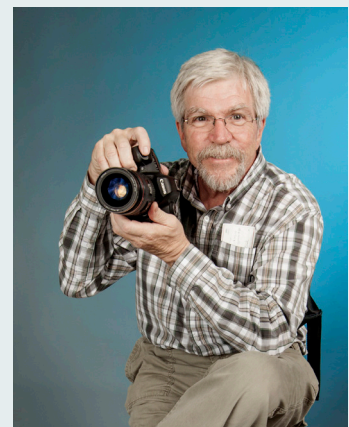
Please be capable of walking at least a mile while carrying your camera. Locations for outdoor shooting will be determined based on timing and nature’s cooperation. An indoor option will be available if needed. Questions can be asked of the instructors by emailing [wbalsam@tds.net](mailto:w Balsam@tds.net).

Jay Fitzpatrick is a freelance photographer based in East Andover, NH. In his early 20s, Jay studied photography and film processing and became staff photographer and darkroom technician at a daily newspaper in western Massachusetts. He subsequently went into news reporting and editing and essentially gave up photography for 30 years. In his mid-50s, he enrolled in photography courses at the Institute of Art in Manchester, NH, and has been working at his craft ever since. He is a member of several area arts and photography groups and exhibits his work at various venues in New Hampshire, including the micro galleries in New London.



Bill Balsam

Bill Balsam is a retired professor of geology who taught at Southampton College of LIU and the University of Texas at Arlington and most recently was a visiting scholar at Dartmouth College. He has a BS from St. Lawrence University and an MSc and PhD from Brown University. He has been interested in photography since he was a teenager and incorporated photography into his work as a geologist. Since moving to New Hampshire, he has been drawn to wildlife and landscape photography, especially water birds on local lakes and coastal scenes. His images have been displayed at the Griffin Museum (Winchester, MA), the Praxis Gallery (Minneapolis, MN) and the Naturally New England Art Show in Sunapee. When not taking photographs, he can usually be found biking, kayaking or making picture frames.



Jay Fitzpatrick