

# Dawson College Commercial Photography AEC

## Equipment List

### **Equipment**

- Digital Single Lens Reflex Camera (dSLR) with kit lens and media cards
- Portable flash
  - Preferably dedicated to the camera system
- Tripod
- Flash Meter
- Portable (2 ½") hard drive; 500 gig or greater
- Optional: laptop and/or desktop computer

### **Equipment Notes**

#### **Camera:**

There are many brands and models to choose from. Our advice would be to get the best camera you can afford. Entry-level cameras will suffice but you might find yourself wanting a change fairly quickly. Note that camera models are being released on an 18 month to 2 year cycle.

Camera bodies form the heart of the system. When buying a camera consider the lenses and accessories that would be available. These peripherals will outlive the useful life of the camera itself.

#### **Lenses:**

For program entry, we suggest a lens that covers a wide-angle to short-telephoto range in order to address a variety of assignments. Prime lenses (fixed focal length) are fine if you own them and are sometimes preferred in specific shooting situations. Lenses can be acquired gradually according to your working preferences.

#### **Portable flash:**

This would need to be purchased during the first semester. It is not necessary at the beginning of classes. A dedicated flash that will work in unison with your camera system is suggested. Be cautious about attaching older flash units to your camera before doing your homework. High trigger voltage output may damage your camera.

**Tripod:**

Sturdy is better. Most tripods that will securely brace your camera are at least \$150. Should you opt for individual leg and head units, you are shopping in the \$250 range and up.

**Portable hard drive:**

This is necessary to back-up and transport your data from the computer labs. They are not intended as your prime storage units. Overloading a drive without additional backup is not recommended.

**Computer:**

Instruction is given on Macs. Every student is provided with an individual working station. There are times outside of the classroom hours when computers are accessible to students.

A computer purchase is not required at the outset of the program but you might choose to buy one. Either Macs or PCs may be used for digital imaging.