**Travel Photography**  
**200-Level  
Summer session 2024**

**Section:**

**Location:**

**Instructor: Stacey Leasca**

**Office Hours:** By appointment

**Contact Info:** sleasca@gmail.com; Cell: +1401-465-1400

1. **UNIDADE CURRICULAR (COM ECTS)**

CURRICULAR UNIT (WITH ECTS)

Name: Visual Journalism: Travel and Lifestyle Photography **6 ECTS**

1. **DESIGNAÇÃO DO CICLO DE ESTUDOS EM QUE SE INSERE A UNIDADE CURRICULAR (COM SEMESTRE E ANO LETIVO)**

STUDY CYCLE TO WHICH THE CURRICULAR UNIT BELONGS (WITH ACADEMIC SEMESTER AND SCHOLAR YEAR)

*BA in Communication Sciences / Summer Session, 2025*

1. **DOCENTE(S) DA UNIDADE CURRICULAR**

ACADEMIC STAFF

Name: Stacey Leasca

1. **CARGA LECTIVA NA UNIDADE CURRICULAR**

LECTURING HOURS IN THE CURRICULAR UNIT

24 horas

*24 hours + 21 Field Hours*

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Students will gain an understanding of visual journalism through theory and practical application while exploring current and emerging story forms, specifically for travel and lifestyle journalism. Students will learn photo and video for digital platforms, principles of photography and social/mobile platforms, and the roles each play in interactive and engaging storytelling. An emphasis will be placed on narrative, documentary-style stories for web and social media.

In addition to providing you with skills necessary to produce journalistic multimedia stories, we will also cover an introduction to the ethical, legal, and social issues affecting visual journalists.

We will take a practical, hands-on approach in this class, shooting stills and video and have an introduction to photo and video editing software on mobile devices.

A modern mobile device such as the iPhone or Samsung Galaxy, will be used as a primary content-gathering device in the class. The device, mobile apps are also major topics addressed during the course. There will be a section on this course that introduces students to the basics of DSLR cameras and its functions, so if you have a DSLR/Mirrorless camera, please bring it with you.

**OBJETIVOS DE APRENDIZAGEM (CONHECIMENTOS, APTIDÕES E COMPETÊNCIAS A DESENVOLVER PELOS ESTUDANTES)**

LEARNING OUTCOMES OF THE CURRICULAR UNIT

Working with Inﬂuencers aims to explore the burgeoning inﬂuencer industry. Students will walk away with:

* + Students will learn and practice the skills to create short, narrative-style video journalism content for web and social platforms for travel media.
  + Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the principles of photojournalism, including composition, framing, light, color, editing, and depth of field.
  + Students will demonstrate the ability to work as a journalist with industry-standard DSLR and mobile gear to enhance and tell compelling stories using a variety of mobile apps and techniques.
  + Students will understand ethical codes of professional journalists, and legal issues involved in visual journalism.

**CONTEÚDOS PROGRAMÁTICOS (Syllabus)**

**Topic 1: What Makes a "Good" Photo? (In class)**

→ Syllabus, Intros  
→ Ethics, Journalism and professional responsibilities.

→ What makes a good photograph? Composition, rule of thirds, depth of field.   
→ Portraits/variety of shots/wides/close/establishing

**Topic 2: Understanding the Travel Media Landscape (In class)**

→Understanding the possibilities as a photographer/visual journalist in today's media market

→Review and critiques of iconic travel photos.

→Reviewing content types as visual journalists

→Learning to create content for social media, how to tell a linear photo story on social media.

**Topic 3: Working With DSLR Cameras (In class)**

→Using a DSLR. ISO, aperture, and lenses.   
→Capturing moments in photojournalism. Light and color (golden vs. blue hour).  
→How mobile and DSLR differs.

**Topic 4: Technique in Crowds/Candids (In class)**

→Techniques for candid shots and portraits  
→Managing compositions with movement and crowds  
→Addressing diversity and authenticity in cultural imagery

**Topic 5: Field Work**

→Capturing content of Lisbon's most iconic destinations.

→We will be joined by one of Lisbon's top tour guides for this morning/afternoon tour.   
  
**Topic 6: Editing and Pitching (In class)**→Lightroom for desktop and mobile basics. Cropping, resolution, formats with Lightroom.

→More on Ethics. And introduction to Lightroom mobile app.

→How to pitch photo and video stories.

**Topic 6: Editing and Pitching (In class)**

→Building a narrative series of images

→Editing and curating photos to tell a travel story

**Topic 7: Field Work**

→Capturing the foods of Portugal.   
→We will visit several of Portugal's best restaurants and cafes to capture content aimed at food + travel publications.

**Topic 8: Moving Images**

→Telling stories with video.   
→Narrative storytelling examples.

→The basics of the five shots.

**Topic 8: Moving Images**

→Developing character-based stories. Setting a scene.

→What’s next in visual journalism. VR, GoPro, etc.

→Final reflections, pitching final projects in class.   
  
**Topic 9: Field Work**   
→Visiting the National Tile Museum in Lisbon followed by a Tile Workshop to capture social video content.

**Topic 9: Flex Field Work**

→Capturing co-curricular activities in whichever format you choose (photo, social, video)

1. **METODOLOGIA DE ENSINO (AVALIAÇÃO INCLUÍDA)**

TEACHING METHODOLOGY (INCLUDING ASSESSMENT)

In-class sessions will be a mix of lectures and practical work based on the discussion and assigned reading. We will focus on creating and publishing multimedia stories. Your multimedia stories will revolve around travel throughout Lisbon and the surrounding community, helping tell stories that would appear in publications like National Geographic, Lonely Planet, Travel + Leisure, Afar, and beyond. You will work individually on most projects but may also be assigned to work in teams for some assignments.

As part of this class, students will complete a combination of the following:

* A short-form video story for social media
* A photo series aimed at print media
* A photo narrative assignment on Instagram and miscellaneous class assignments. Assignments will be published natively to social media outlets and/or submitted via class assignment boards.

**Grading**

FInal Project: Video stories OR photo series (narrative) 40%

Misc. assignments 10%

Instagram narratives 30%

Class participation 20%

TOTAL =100%

1. **BIBLIOGRAFIA PRINCIPAL**

*Sontag, Susan. On Photography. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1977.*

This seminal text explores the impact of photography on culture and perception, critically examining how images shape our understanding of places and people.

*Freeman, Michael. The Photographer’s Story: The Art of Visual Narrative. New York: Ilex Press, 2012.*

Freeman covers the fundamentals of storytelling through images, with practical advice for building compelling visual narratives in travel photography.

*Evans, David. Appropriation. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2009.*

Evans’s exploration of appropriation in art and photography offers insights into the ethical implications of capturing images in foreign cultures.

*Kobre, Kenneth. Photojournalism: The Professionals’ Approach. 7th ed. Burlington, MA: Focal Press, 2013.*

A comprehensive guide to photojournalism techniques, ethics, and practices.

***Further readings to be determined***

**About Your Instructor**

**STACEY LEASCA** is an award-winning journalist and photographer who has spent time in the illustrious newsrooms of the Los Angeles Times, GOOD Magazine, and GlobalPost. Now, you can find her globetrotting as a contributing editor to both Travel+Leisure and Food & Wine magazines, along with her work in Glamour, Men's Health, Hotels Above Par, TIME, and many more.