

Research Brief #174

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Top Unexpected Programs with the Greatest Amount of Students Taking Photography Courses

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At the request of the Photography Department, the Office of Institutional Research, Planning and Institutional Effectiveness identified how many students across all programs are successfully completing PHOTO-140, PHOTO-150, and PHOTO-160 among the College of the Canyons' 2016-2017 completers.

Specifically, the research intended to answer the following questions:

1. What are the top programs that would not be expected to have the largest numbers of students successfully completing PHOTO-140, 150 and 160?
2. What programs (aside from Fine Art Photography and Commercial Photography) have the largest percentage of their students completing PHOTO-140, 150, 160 and/or any photography course?
3. How do these top unexpected programs compare to programs that we “expect” to have many photography course completions because they require PHOTO courses?

Method

The data regarding degree and/or certificate completers was retrieved from the 2016-2017 “Degrees and Certificates” report. A Datatel identification number ‘savelist’ of completers was created. This savelist was then used to link degree and/or certificate completion records to photography course completion records located in the “Grades by Subject” Informer report. Only those degree and/or certificate completers who “successfully” completed photography courses were included in all analyses. Success in a course was defined as students whose course grade was a “C” or higher or a “P” (pass). Programs with less than 10 degree and/or certificate completers were excluded from all analyses. Further, Fine Art Photography and Commercial Photography were excluded from analyses related to the first two research questions, as we would expect all students with these majors to complete PHOTO-140, 150, and 160 among many other photography courses.

Results

There were a total of 2,649 unduplicated degree and/or certificate completers for the 2016-2017 academic year. Of those completers, 336 students (12.68%) took at least 1 or more photography courses. Of those (336) students who took at least one photography course, 315 (93.75%) took either PHOTO-140, 150 or 160. This is not surprising as PHOTO- 140, 150, and 160 are GE courses.

Programs with the Greatest Number of Students to Successfully Complete PHOTO-140,150, & 160

To answer question number 1, the top five programs that had the largest total number of successful completers across PHOTO-140, 150, and 160 were: CSU General Breadth, IGETC, Liberal Arts & Sciences Social & Behavioral Sciences, Accounting, and Psychology (see Table 1).

*Table 1 Programs with the Greatest Number of Students to Successfully Complete PHOTO-140, 150, & 160. *Accounting Combined includes Accounting, Accounting for Transfer, and Accounting Technician. Liberal Arts & Sciences Social & Behavioral Sciences includes CSU Social & Behavioral Sciences, IGETC CSU Social & Behavioral Sciences, and IGETC UC Social & Behavioral Sciences.*

Program Name	PHOTO-140	PHOTO-150	PHOTO-160	Total
CSU General Breadth (N= 682)	46	50	16	112
IGETC (N = 399)	41	13	7	61

Program Name	PHOTO-140	PHOTO-150	PHOTO-160	Total
Liberal Arts & Sciences Social & Behavioral Sciences (N = 295)	26	20	5	51
Accounting Combined (N = 213)	14	16	2	32
Psychology (N = 189)	12	9	3	24
Mathematics (N = 112)	11	4	1	16
Art (N= 34)	6	6	3	15
EMT (N =184)	7	6	0	13
Liberal Arts & Sciences Math & Sciences (N = 104)	8	1	2	11
Fire Technology Pre-Service (N = 47)	3	6	1	10

These top “unexpected” programs also had the largest number of overall student completions in general, thus a proportion was also calculated to assess the programs with the highest proportion of its students completing PHOTO- 140, 150, or 160 even if the program was smaller in its overall raw number of completers. For PHOTO-140 the top 3 programs were IGETC, Interior Design, and Art. For PHOTO-150 the top 3 programs were Art, Computer Networking, and Marketing. For PHOTO-160 the top 3 programs were Filmmaking, Administrative Assistant, and Computer Applications. Filmmaking, Art, and Marketing were 3 programs to appear within the top 10 across PHOTO-140, 150, & 160 (see Table 2).

Table 2 Top 10 Programs with the Highest Percentage of its Students Successfully Completing PHOTO-140, 150 or 160

PHOTO-140		PHOTO-150		PHOTO 160	
IGETC (N = 399)	19.25%	Art (N= 34)	17.65%	Filmmaking (N = 14)	28.57%
Interior Design (N = 16)	18.75%	Computer Networking (N = 12)	16.67%	Administrative Assistant (N = 13)	15.38%
Art (N= 34)	17.65%	Marketing (N = 31)	16.13%	Computer Applications (N = 14)	14.29%
Computer Networking (N = 12)	16.67%	Filmmaking (N = 14)	14.29%	Graphic and Multi Media Design (N = 26)	11.54%
Filmmaking (N = 14)	14.29%	ECE Combined (N = 14)	14.29%	Art (N= 34)	8.82%
Biological & Physical Sciences (N= 43)	13.95%	Automotive Technology (N= 14)	14.29%	Engineering (N= 12)	8.33%
Political Science (N = 26)	11.54%	Fire Technology Pre-Service (N = 47)	12.77%	Human Resources (N = 15)	6.67%
Mathematics (N = 112)	9.82%	Animation Production (N = 17)	11.76%	Medical Lab Technician (N = 15)	6.67%
Marketing (N = 31)	9.68%	Graphic and Multi Media Design (N = 26)	11.54%	Marketing (N = 31)	6.45%
Physics (N = 52)	9.62%	Physical Education & Kinesiology (N = 35)	11.43%	Computer Animation (N = 16)	6.25%

Programs with the Greatest Proportion of its Students Completing Any Photography Course

The top 5 programs (excluding Fine Art Photography and Commercial Photography) which had the highest percentage of completions that completed any PHOTO course were Filmmaking (42.86%), Graphic and Multi-Media Design (42.31%), Art (32.35%), Administrative Assistant (30.77%), and Computer Applications (28.57%) (see Table 3).

Table 3 Programs with the Greatest Percentage of its Students Successfully Completing Any Photography Course *This table excludes Fine Art Photography which had a total of 100% of its students successfully completing photography courses. This table includes ANY photography course including those no longer currently active such as: PHOTO 90L, 91L, 98B, 98F, 165, 175, and 180.

Program Name	Students Completing at Least 1 Photography Course (N)	% of Students Who Completed at Least 1 Photography Course
Filmmaking (N = 14)	6	42.86%
Graphic and Multi Media Design (N = 26)	11	42.31%
Art (N=34)	11	32.35%

Program Name	Students Completing at Least 1 Photography Course (N)	% of Students Who Completed at Least 1 Photography Course
Administrative Assistant (N = 13)	4	30.77%
Computer Applications (N = 14)	4	28.57%
Computer Networking (N = 12)	3	25.00%
Physical Education & Kinesiology (N = 35)	7	20.00%
Interior Design (N = 16)	3	18.75%
Fire Technology Pre-Service (N = 47)	8	17.02%
American Sign Language (N=18)	3	16.67%

A Comparison of the Programs that Require Photography Courses to Those That Do Not

The visualization below (Figure 1) illustrates the primary programs that **require** Photography courses. These programs (blue bubbles) include: Fine Art Photography, Commercial Photography, Journalism, and Computer Animation. The blue bubble titled “GE courses” has branches that flag which PHOTO courses (yellow bubbles) are GEs. These include PHOTO-140, 150, 160, 170, and 285 (see Figure 1).

In comparing the below visualization to the above presented data in Tables 1, 2, and 3 we can conclude that while Fine Art Photography, Commercial Photography, Computer Animation and Journalism **require** 1 or more photography courses, students from other programs that **do not require any photography courses** are completing them at high proportions as well. These programs include: Filmmaking, Graphic and Multi Media Design, Art, and Marketing (Tables 2 & 3).

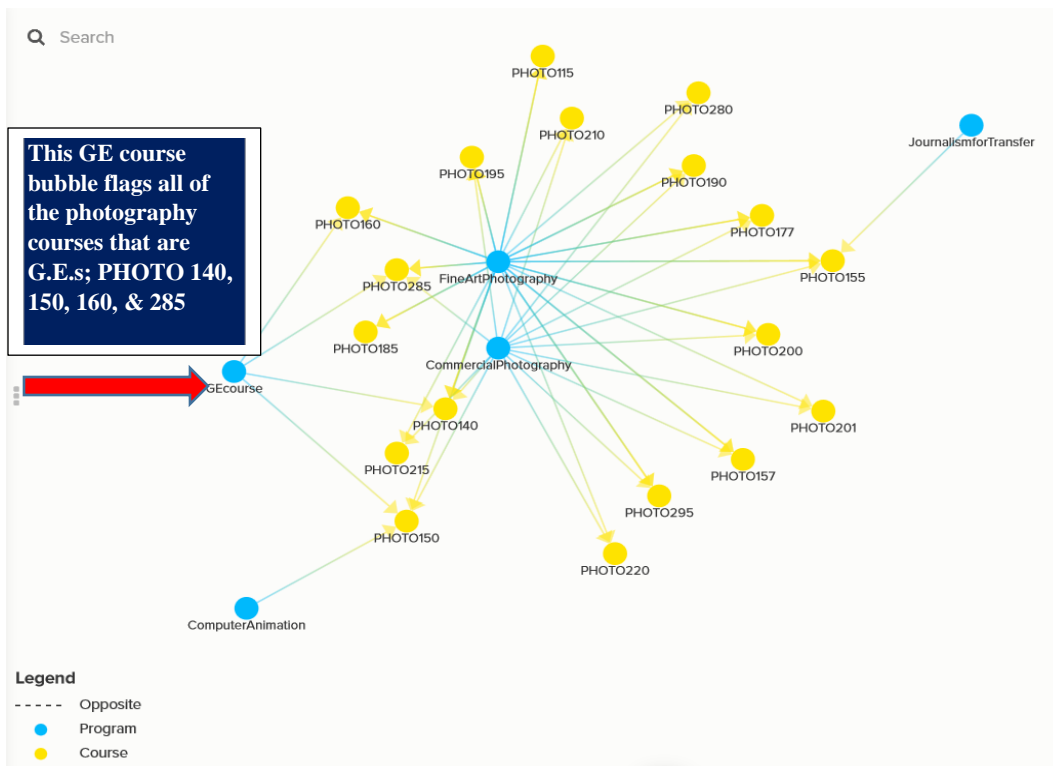


Figure 1 Programs that Require PHOTO Courses for Degree, Certificate, and/or Transfer

Recommendations

Upon review of how many students successfully complete photography courses across all programs, the following recommendations should be taken into consideration:

- Consider these results so that they may inform curricular planning and course mapping. Results illustrate that photography courses are taken by large amounts of students in programs that ***do not require photography*** and are thus not ***usually expected*** such as: Liberal Arts & Sciences, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Psychology, Filmmaking, Art, Marketing, Computer Applications, and Graphic and Multi-Media Design.
- Disseminate the result to programs/departments that do not have a photography course requirement, yet have high proportions of students completing photography (e.g., Filmmaking, Marketing, etc.).
- Explore ways these departments in conjunction with photography can support students' pathways.
- Consider these results during the planning of curricular maps and meta-majors as part of the Canyons Completes (Guided Pathways) efforts.

For more detailed information on this research brief, stop by the Institutional Research, Planning, and Institutional Effectiveness office located in BONH-224, or contact Vida M. Manzo, Senior Research Analyst at 661.362.5871, or Daylene Meuschke, Dean of Institutional Research, Planning and Institutional Effectiveness at 661.362.5329.