

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY FOR DOCUMENTING EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGIES

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Introduction:

As educational technology developers we spend months developing our projects and then document the results for grants and publicity materials. Written usage scenarios and survey data explain projects fairly well on paper, however, pasting a single photograph into documentation is an eye-catching way to quickly show how learners use the project. A well-composed photograph may also help potential customers visualize how the tool may be used in their curriculum.

Stanford University and The University of Kansas use digital photography ubiquitously to document educational projects in the classroom and labs- such as virtual microscopy, tablet computers, audience polling, document cameras, simulation, radiology images, and computer lab learning. The presenters will discuss examples of materials made more successful with photographs and cover additional topics learned through experience with documentation of medical education and photography experience in general:

- Basic controls of a snapshot camera (and discussion of SLR functionality)
- Basic principles of lighting
- Models of cameras suited for indoor photography
- Types of shots to look for and how to pre-plan a shoot
- Release forms
- Management of photo libraries (online and local)
- Tips and Tricks for using flash, photographing computer screens, motion and camera blur, and using a camera to “scan” documents
- Quick demo of workflow for processing and printing accurately in Adobe Photoshop and other image editing applications

Learning Objectives:

- Confidence controlling the full functionality of a snapshot or SLR digital camera
- Know what photos to look for when on a photo shoot
- Organizational side of photography: release forms, library management, workflow

Prerequisite Skills:

- Basic experience with a digital camera

Format:

- **Half-day hands-on workshop (Limit 15)**
- **BRING a digital camera or follow along with someone who has one**

Instructors:

Brian W. Tobin is the technology integration specialist at the Stanford University School of Medicine. He works with faculty to develop unique educational experiences and documents the process using photographs. His photographs have been shown in small gallery shows, published in one book, used in a number of Stanford publications, and included in the Slice of Life photo gallery! Brian shoots with a Canon Digital Rebel XT SLR (lenses: 50mm f1.4, 17-85mm IS f4/5.6, lensbaby 2.0), Canon SD700 IS sidekick camera, and an array of toy cameras.

Michael Karr is the Senior Coordinator of Technology at the University of Kansas, School of Medicine (KUSOM). His responsibilities include aiding in the design of curricula by providing technological solutions, training faculty members and students in the use of software and hardware, notably Tablet PCs and handheld devices, to augment educational goals and to prepare KUSOM students for the electronic world of 21st century medicine.

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