

Photoshop - Introduction

Suggested duration: 2 days

This course introduces digital imaging concepts and techniques using Adobe Photoshop, and is aimed at anyone wishing to acquire a thorough understanding of the most important features of this powerful program. The course is based around real-world practical examples for both print and screen based production. By the end of this course, you will be able to use Photoshop with confidence and produce high quality and great looking images.

Fundamental concepts

- The Photoshop Workspace - navigation, the tools, palettes, arranging document windows.
- All about pixels, resolution and colour depth.
- Understanding and using colour modes - RGB, CMYK and Greyscale.
- Using Adobe Bridge.

Basic techniques

- Using brushes.
- Choosing colours.
- Sampling colours from an image.
- Multiple undo and taking snapshots using the History palette.
- Cropping and rotating images.
- Changing image size and resolution.

Retouching techniques

- Fixing images using the Clone Stamp tool, Patch and Healing brushes.
- Content-aware erase.
- The History brush.
- The Red-Eye and Colour Replacement tools.

Selection techniques

- The Marquee and the Lasso tools.
- The Magic wand and Quick Selection tools.
- The Color Range command.
- Refining selections.
- Working in Quick Mask mode.
- Saving a selection.

Composition and design techniques

- Working with layers - moving content to new layers, Opacity, Transforming layers.
- Scaling, rotating and other transformations.
- Gradients and Patterns.
- Masking techniques.

Colour correction

- The Levels command - understanding Histograms.
- Using Curves and Exposure.
- Using the Colour Balance command.
- Adjusting Vibrance, Hue and Saturation: general and specific colour adjustments, applying tints.

Working with type

- Working with type layers.
- Point and area type.
- Formatting type.
- Type effects.
- Converting type to pixels.

Effects and Filters

- Working with Layer Styles - drop shadows, glows, bevels etc.
- Using filters - corrective and creative filtering techniques, using the Filter Gallery.

Production

- Importing and exporting images - the mainstream file types and their uses.
- Web graphics - using the Save For Web command - optimisation and file formats.
- Converting images to CMYK, saving for print.