

BASIC PHOTOGRAPHY

SUMMER SESSION



BASIC PHOTOGRAPHY

This course is a first approach to **indoor and outdoor digital photography**. It starts **from the basics of photographic techniques** and touches upon the main photographic genres. After learning the basics of technique, you will study **portrait photography** and how studio equipment works. Later, you will explore **landscape** and **still life photography**. You will finish your course with a day dedicated to **reportage**. Therefore, you will have the chance to practise different genres and learn how to organise a photo shoot, and you will start learning about **photo editing** and **postproduction**, experimenting the use of **Adobe Lightroom**.

COURSE DATES: MONDAY JUNE 22, 2026 – SATURDAY JUNE 27, 2026

SCHEDULE: from Monday to Saturday.

» Classes: 10:00-13:00 and 14:00-17:00 from Monday to Friday. 10:00-13:00 on Saturday

TOTAL AMOUNT OF HOURS: 32h of classes with a professor.

Language of instruction: English

LOCATION: Istituto Italiano di Fotografia, via Enrico Caviglia 3, Milan (Italy)

TOPICS:

THEORY OF PHOTOGRAPHIC TECHNIQUE:

- » small and medium-format cameras
- » lighting equipment for photo shoots
- » light measurement systems in digital photography
- » basics of digital photography technique

PORTRAIT:

- » features of a photography studio
- » lighting patterns for studio portraits
- » shooting with continuous light and with flash

LANDSCAPE PHOTOGRAPHY:

- » composition
- » shooting technique and equipment
- » critical analysis of images
- » guided outdoor photo shoots

STILL LIFE:

- » lighting for still life photography
- » photo equipment for still life photography
- » photo shoots with a layout

REPORTAGE:

- » shooting technique
- » street photography
- » planning and doing a reportage
- » critical analysis of images
- » guided outdoor photo shoots

PHOTO EDITING AND POSTPRODUCTION:

- » basics of photo editing
- » principles of image selection and storytelling
- » digital imaging and storage
- » a professional photo editor: Lightroom

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS: The minimum number of participants is 4. The maximum number is 12. We'll confirm the course activation enrolled students by June 10, 2026. This way, you will have the time to organise your travel. If the course isn't activated, course fees will be refunded in full.

PREREQUISITES: This course is **for beginners**, so there are no prerequisites.

REQUIRED EQUIPMENT:

- » A digital camera with manual mode, a memory card and batteries compatible with your camera
- » A battery charger (and an adapter to European socket, if your charger doesn't have an Italian plug)
- » Optional: a USB flash drive or hard drive to facilitate file transfer

CERTIFICATE: Certificate of attendance.

PRICE: 600€ (taxes included)

HOW TO ENROLL:

- » Fill in the online Enrollment form
- » Pay the course fee by May 30, 2026
- » Send the receipt of your payment to study@iifmilano.com (and a copy of your passport/ID if you need a visa)

HOW TO PAY:

Methods of payment: cash, check or bank transfer (instructions for the payment will be received via email upon filling in the enrollment form).

Payment options:

- » Option 1: a single 600€ payment when applying (by May 30, 2026)
- » Option 2: pay the 200€ enrollment fee when applying; pay the 400€ balance by May 30, 2026

WITHDRAWAL:

Students can withdraw from the course at any time. Enrollment fees are not refundable. The refunded amount depends on when the student will withdraw. If you withdraw from the course, you will receive:

- » a full refund (the enrollment fee is not included), if you withdraw by April 26, 2026
- » a 50% refund (the enrollment fee is not included), if you withdraw by May 10, 2026
- » no refund, if you withdraw after May 10, 2026

PROFESSOR ANDREA CALVARUSO:

Andrea Calvaruso was born in Verbania. He attended the artistic high school of Lugano, where he became passionate about visual arts and photography. He attended the Biennial Photography Course of Istituto Italiano di Fotografia in Milan and graduated in July 2018. Andrea carried out some conceptual and authorial personal projects, mostly through the use of different types of film. One of these projects (Millennial Chronicles) was on display at Prix Mark Grosset during the photography festival held in Vendôme, France. Another project (Hand-Made Faces) was chosen by the photography festival of Lishui (China) to represent young Italian photographers in the East.

Recently, his project "Sueden – Hymn of his past" was shortlisted by "Coscienza-Conoscenza", and open call organized by 10x10, a festival in Gonzaga. He currently works as a freelance photo assistant and photographer mainly between Pavia and Milan, while he conducts his authorial and artistic research and carries out personal projects and works on commission for agencies and magazines.

PROFESSOR SARA GENTILE:

After graduating in Industrial Design from Politecnico di Milano, Sara graduated with honours from Istituto Italiano di Fotografia. She has worked as a professional photographer for more than 10 years, focusing mainly on still life photography. Besides being a successful photographer, Sara also works in the academic field. From 2005 to 2016 she was honoured with the title of expert on photography by Politecnico di Milano (Design department). She teaches the extracurricular course in photography at Naba (Nuova accademia di belle arti di Milano), and she teaches basic, still life and food photography at Istituto Italiano di Fotografia.

She has been working on several professional and artistic projects with artist Francesco Jodice for a few years. She is the founder, art director and photographer of STUDIO KIND, a creative studio based in Milan.

Some of her clients are: Lorenz, Montegrappa, Moleskine, Colmar, Casadei, Gruppo Indetex.

IIF in English

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