

---

## *Black & White Darkroom*

---

Richard Rinker

rrinker@coloradocollege.edu

You will need a **film camera**, preferably a 35mm SLR camera with a standard 50mm lens or midrange zoom and the ability to manually adjust aperture and shutter speed. A medium format camera or just about any film camera that is in good working condition could also work for this class. Cameraworks, located at Union and Academy, has a large selection of used film cameras and includes a six-month warranty with purchase.

**If possible, please bring your camera to first class session.** If you don't already own or have access to a film camera, your instructor can make some recommendations as to reliable used cameras that are not too expensive.

***Estimated cost for a reliable used film camera with a 50mm lens is around \$150-\$250***

You may want to wear old clothes or bring an apron as the developer can leave stains on clothing.

### **Supplies:**

**Film\*** –A couple rolls of ISO 400 speed film (Kodak Tri-X or Ilford HP5) and/or two rolls of Ilford FP4 film (ISO 125). You may need to purchase more film later. Please make sure that you buy traditional black & white film, not film that requires C-41 processing. You may want to purchase additional film throughout the course. We will discuss different film options.

***Estimated cost for film is \$40-\$60 (film prices range from around \$8.00 –\$15.00 per roll).***

**Paper\*** – One package of 8x10 photo paper (a 25 sheet package is enough to get you started). Please purchase RC (resin-coated) variable contrast paper. Ilford Multigrade RC is the most commonly available brand and “pearl” surface is the most popular surface sheen but “glossy” or “satin” are other options. You can purchase more paper later or split a package with another student. **Do not open the paper!** The paper will be ruined if exposed to white light. We will discuss proper handling of light sensitive paper.

***Estimated costs: 25 sheet pack \$32.00- \$40.00, 100 sheet box \$100- \$130.00***

Additional supplies that you will want to have are:

Pen and notebook for class notes and field notes

Old hand towel – good to have for film processing (bring it to the 2<sup>nd</sup> class)

3-ring binder (for your negatives and contact sheets) – estimated cost \$2.00 - \$3.00

Canned air or *Rocket-air Blower* (\$14-20) and/or anti-static cloth (\$14.00)

The total estimated cost for supplies (excluding camera and optional items) is \$135.00 - \$200.00

**Local camera stores carry most of the photographic supplies:**

Cameraworks – 5030 N. Academy Blvd. (Academy & Union) 594-6966

Cameraworks offers a **student discount** on most items and is a good place to purchase a used film camera.

Mike's Camera – 1859 N. Academy Blvd. (Academy & Constitution) 597-1575

**Recommended Internet/ mail order stores:**

Freestyle Photographic Supply – [www.freestylephoto.biz](http://www.freestylephoto.biz)

Note: Freestyle Photo's house brand of film and paper (Arista.edu) is good quality and less expensive than Ilford or Kodak, so a great way to save money.

Adorama (1-888-805-4900) or [www.adorama.com](http://www.adorama.com)

B & H Photo and Video – [www.bhphotovideo.com](http://www.bhphotovideo.com)

**\* Please note that film and photographic paper are nonreturnable. You won't need to have all of your supplies for the first session, except perhaps a roll of film to load into your camera on the first day. So you may wish to wait until after the first session before purchasing everything.**