Camera Equipment

Basic camera feature required for the course:

- Digital camera only.
- Preferably Single-Lens Reflex (SLR) digital cameras, Point and Shoot (P&S) acceptable if they meet the requirements below.
- With full control on aperture (f-stops) and shutter speed.
- With full control on exposure compensation.
- At least 3x zoom ability on the lens.
- Have flash AND able to control its ON and OFF.

SLR digital cameras

Canon

EOS digital Rebel XT (350D), w/18-55mm, f3.5-5.6, 8 MP, $480
EOS digital Rebel XTi (400D), w/18-55mm, f3.5-5.6, 10 MP, $570
EOS digital Rebel XS (1000D), w/18-55mm, f3.5-5.6, 10 MP, $490
EOS digital Rebel XSi (450D), w/18-55mm, f3.5-5.6, 12.2 MP, $650
EOS 500D (Rebel T1i) w/ 18-55mm, f3.5-5.6. , 15 MP, $900
EOS 50D (body only), 15 MP, $1,170

Canon lens

Canon EF-S 18-55mm, f/3.5-5.6 OS AF, $170
Canon EF-S 17-85mm f4-5.6 IS USM AF, $500
*Sigma build lens for Canon cameras, about 20-40% less expensive, quality suffers a little though.
Recommended: Sigma 18-200mm f/3.5-6.3mm DC OS (Optical Stabilizer) for Canon camera, $360

Nikon

D40, w/18-55mm, f3.5-5.6, 6.1 MP, $500
D40x, w/18-55mm, f3.5-5.6, 10 MP, $550
D60, w/18-55mm, f3.5-5.6, 10.2 MP, $600
D90, (body only) f3.5-5.6. 12.3 MP. $940
D200 (body only) 10.2 MP, $800
D3000, w/18-55mm, f3.5-5.6, 10.2MP, $600 (available in Sept.)
D5000, w/18-55mm, f3.5-5.6, 12.3MP, $850

Nikon Lens

Nikkor 18-55mm f/3.5-5.6G ED II AF-S DX, $119
Nikkor 18-55mm f/3.5-5.6G VR AF-S DX, $190 (Vibration reduction)
Nikkor 18-200mm f/3.5-5.6 ED-IF AF-S DX VR II Autofocus Lens, $680
*Sigma build lens for Nikon cameras, about 20-40% less expensive, quality suffers a little though.
Recommended: Sigma 18-200mm f/3.5-6.3 DC OS (Optical Stabilizer) HSM Lens for Nikon camera, $360

Point &Shoot digital cameras

Too many to list, they need to meet the basic camera requirement listed above. Consult your instructor asap if in doubt.

*Price based on B&H Photo Video 2009 (http://www.bhphotovideo.com/)

Advantage of SLR over P&S

- Bigger lens produce sharper, better color and contrast in terms of image quality.
- Larger sensor size produce far better image quality in low light environment.
- More setting allowed, more flexibility,
- Lens exchangable, more flexibility such as getting wide angle and long lens.
- Less vibration in low light environment.
- More control in shooting.
- Faster in turning on and focusing, less lag time in shooting.
- Faster in continous shooting, 3-5 fps, good for capturing action.
- Mostly use compact flash card (CF), more durable than Secure Digital (SD) card as for P&S cameras (A small number of SLR use SD cards).

Disadvantage of SLR over P&S

- Cost at least 30% - 100% more at same function levels.
- Heavier and bulkier, not convenient to carry.
- No LCD live viewing while shooting.
- Easily get dust inside the camera, such as on the digital film and focusing screen.
- Mostly unable to shoot video.

Website for more info on camera equipments:

B & H Video Photo
http://www.bhphotovideo.com/

Digital Photo Review
http://www.dpreview.com/

*** Bring camera and manual to discuss with your instructor asap well before your first shooting assignment.**

*** Keep camera manual/handbook handy this semester especially when you come to class and on assignments.**