
Assignment 1

Photograph your favorite object in three different lighting conditions. (full daylight, bright indoor light, and low indoor light)

Requirements:

Shoot as many pictures as you can (no less than 50) of an object that has meaning to you. The object should be something that is not living. You will then edit down your shots to three exemplary images, one in each lighting condition described above.

1. Shoot in the highest quality jpeg.
2. Adjust your ISO, Shutter Speed, and Aperture to get a proper exposure according to your light meter and histogram.
3. Look for fine focus in the images.
4. Two paragraph essay, typed, reflecting on your images: How did you select your object, where did you choose to photograph the object and why, what worked well/what didn't, etc.
5. Bring a flash drive with you on Monday, as well as your camera equipment and images still on the SD card :-).

Due: Monday, November 9th at the beginning of class. If images are late 5 points will be deducted each day. We will be importing the images into Adobe bridge on Monday during class and selecting your best three that answer the assignment to print and critique.

Remember:

Always have the light source behind you. Keep the camera steady. Look at the background and foreground. Get closer. Make sure you focus. Are you photographing something that is interesting? How can you make the viewer of your image want to know more? Are you exploring for shadows and highlights in your scene? Focus on what is important. Figure out what you want to say and make a statement with your image.

Name: _____

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	Excellent: 5	Good: 4	Average: 3	Below Average: 2	Poor: 1
Fulfills Requirement: 3 photos (outdoor light, bright indoor, low indoor)					
Two Paragraph Essay: Typed and well planned					
Effort: Care and concern were taken to capture high quality photos.					
Exposure: An even exposure was achieved that showcases highlights AND shadows nicely.					
Focus: Photos are in fine focus.					
Composition: Object is photographed in an artful way, carefully eliminating background detail that is not needed.					

Comments:

Researching Ideas

For every assignment you should pay careful attention to the amount of time you spend researching your project and making sure you don't simply decide "I'll photograph this" and then free associate with your camera and come up with "snap shots." Each assignment should involve a certain amount of time devoted to brainstorming and figuring what is interesting to other people. This is a concept that is the foundation of design and public art and communication. Photography is a tool of communication and is not just for the photographer and his or her immediate friends and family.

When you start to prepare for an assignment ask yourself the following questions:

Has this been done before? Should I do it again?

What books have I consulted?

Did I write down possible places or people that I can gain access to and photograph effectively?

Did I do any mind-mapping?

Am I aware of the best lighting in this assignment and for the subject?

Am I thinking about strong designs in my photographs?

Assignment 2

Photograph a particular place that you are drawn to or has meaning within the Union City/Canadohta Lake area. You can define what the place means, whether it is a personal space or a public place. You should focus on addressing 5 of the 9 compositional terms from this week.

Requirements:

Shoot as many pictures as you can (no less than 50) ... SERIOUSLY!!
You need to choose 5 of the 9 compositional terms to be showcased in your images. This means you will be turning in at least FIVE images for grading. You also need to be able to justify how you are showing the compositional element.

1. Shoot in the highest quality jpeg.
2. Adjust your ISO, Shutter Speed, and Aperture to get a proper exposure according to your light meter and histogram.
3. Look for fine focus in the images.
4. Two paragraph essay, typed, reflecting on your images: How did you select your place, why did you choose it, what compositional terms came naturally to you, what were your settings (aperture, iso, shutter), do you like your photos?
5. Bring a flash drive with you on Monday, as well as your camera equipment and images still on the SD card :-).

Due: Monday, November 16th at the beginning of class. If images are late 5 points will be deducted each day. We will be importing the images into Adobe bridge on Monday during class and selecting your best three that answer the assignment to print and critique.

Examples of Places:

Backyard, Downtown, One Street, Playground, Garden, Woods, Stores, Signage, Old Houses, Churches, Gas Stations, Decay, Parks

The more specific you get, the better and more universal your pictures will be.

Name: _____

/60

	Excellent: 5	Good: 4	Average: 3	Below Average: 2	Poor: 1
Fulfills Requirement: 5 photos (one compositional element in each)					
Two Paragraph Essay: Typed and well planned (describes camera settings for successful images)					
Effort: Care and concern were taken to capture high quality photos.					
Exposure: An even exposure was achieved that showcases highlights AND shadows nicely.					
Focus: Photos are in fine focus.					
Composition: Photos are composed in a meaningful way. (variety at the edge)					

Comments:

Assignment 3

Photograph your sense of "home." What does home mean to you? It can be your actual home or you can use a metaphor to address this theme. All of your pictures must have the same subject matter.

Requirements:

Shoot a minimum of 75 pictures. The more you shoot the better you will get. You must have two exceptional examples of scenes with shallow depths of field and two exceptional examples of scenes with long depths of field. All four pictures should be very different but stay within the same subject matter/theme. (Try to take the pictures outside for the best lighting, remember to shoot in the golden hour, 4:00 pm, if possible for best exposures).

1. Shoot in the RAW+Jpeg.
2. Adjust your ISO, Shutter Speed, and Aperture to get a proper exposure according to your light meter and histogram.
3. Look for fine focus in the images.
4. Two paragraph essay, typed, reflecting on your images: How did you address the "sense of home" theme? Were you literal or abstract with your photos? What settings did you use for your lighting? Were you inspired to any photographers' works? Explain the research and planning that you did for the project.
5. Bring a flash drive with you on Monday, as well as your camera equipment and images still on the SD card :-).

Due: **Monday, November 23rd at the beginning of class.** If images are late 5 points will be deducted each day. We will be importing the images into Adobe bridge on Monday during class and selecting your best **four** that answer the assignment to print and critique.

Name: _____

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	Excellent: 5	Good: 4	Average: 3	Below Average: 2	Poor: 1
Two shallow depth of field photographs.					
Two long depth of field photographs.					
Four photographs fit with the same theme of Home and have the same subject matter.					
Two Paragraph Essay: Typed and well planned (describes camera settings for successful images)					
Effort: Care and concern were taken to capture high quality photos.					
Exposure: An even exposure was achieved that showcases highlights AND shadows nicely.					
Focus: Photos are in fine focus.					
Composition: Photos are composed in a meaningful way. (variety at the edge)					

Comments:

Thanksgiving Break: Photo Assignment Options

You need to complete at least TWO of the options below and have it ready to import to the computer on Tuesday when you return. You will be graded on your **composition, exposure, focus, written essay, and effort**. You should be thinking about everything that we have covered in class (**Lighting conditions, Compositional Terms, Art elements, Depth of Field**). Shoot as many pictures as you can in RAW + Jpeg.

Things to think about for all assignment options:

- *Think of your view finder as a blank canvas: compose your image carefully within the frame.
- *Remember that composition is a series of decisions that YOU get to make.
- *The most powerful compositional tools that you have are your feet and the ability to move: vantage point (point of view)
- *Look for light and color: if you find light you can find a photo
- *Think about what you have to say and what the best way will be to convey it.

Be in the moment and have something to say.

1. Make it Seem:

Make a photograph of something that is supposed to be happy, like a person laughing, and make it seem sad.

Make a photograph of something that is supposed to be sad, like a person crying, and make it seem beautiful.

Make a photograph of something that is normal, like a cup of coffee, and make it seem shocking.

Make a photograph of something you want the world to know about and make it seem urgent.

2. Wildest Dreams:

Make a photographic series based on a dream you remember having. The dream is your source material and you can recreate it with photos. You can work representationally, abstractly, conceptually, literally, or narratively.

3. Objects:

Look for 5-10 objects that are somehow related. It could be by color, quality, surface, theme ("stuff from the basement"). Arrange and shoot the objects in different formations. You must have 20 images that are high quality and different (yet the same).

4. Hello:

Choose a street corner (Main Street) and stand there for an hour. Say hello to everyone who passes by. Take portraits of the people who stop to talk to you (ask first).

5. Curating Artifacts:

During your holiday travels (or if you are staying at home) observe the houses of your relatives. With your camera, photograph any decorative objects, art, and photographs found in the house (not holiday decor). Pretend you are photographing for an archeological study or museum. The objects we keep near us or display tell us a lot about what we value.

6. Interview:

At a family gathering this weekend, interview each guest. Set up an interviewing area (whether you have the guest sit or stand, make sure it is the same for everyone) and ask them the same question: Describe the best adventure you have ever had. Photograph their reaction to your question. (you should be ready to take the picture when you ask the question)

7. Drive:

Get in the car, set a timer for seven minutes, and start driving in a new direction (one you don't usually go). When the alarm sounds, park the car at the first available opportunity and get out, observe your surroundings, make some pictures. Return to the car. Set the timer again and force yourself to stop and take photos. Don't wait for the "right" subject to materialize....work with what is around you, slow down, and engage yourself in composition. Don't walk more than 50 feet from your car at any location and limit yourself to only 5 pictures per stop.

8. First and Last:

What is the first thing you touch in the morning? What is the last thing you touch before you go to bed? Make a series of photos of this action/object.

9. Game Night:

Invite friends over or use your family to play a board game. Hold your camera during the entire game and photograph everything that happens. Can you capture: excitement, suspense, anticipation, laughter, disappointment, encouragement? Don't be afraid to get out of your chair.

10. Childhood:

Create a series based around memories and feelings of your youth. Where did you come from? What do you always look back on? Are these things worth capturing? How can you make a piece of art from a feeling or memory?

Adobe Bridge

"A giant photo browser used to sort files."

Right Panel: Metadata (this is how you know your photos are yours)

*Create a metadata template: Tools>create template>enter info>check everything you want>save

*To add metadata to a photo: Select image>Append (this adds the template to the existing photo data) If you "replace" you are deleting all the original photo data...you don't want to do this.

Left Panel: File sorting panel (you can rate, color code, and build collections of photos here)

Importing Photos

1. Insert memory cards.
2. "get photos from camera"
 - choose memory card (create a folder 1st in the locations you are keeping your photos named "assignment#")
3. Rename files: Your name_assignment#_+#
4. Select "save copies to flashdrive" and create a new folder with the assignment name
5. Click "get media"
6. View>Review mode to make a collection.
 - right arrow advances, left arrow moves back
 - down arrow removes bad photos but does not delete them
 - up arrow goes back to the photo you previously deleted but only the most recent one
7. Click the brief case box at the bottom right of screen to make your collection.
8. From the collection, select all photos and apply metadata preset by appending it.

Create a Contact Sheet

1. Click on your saved collection (brief case looking icon)
2. Click on the output icon and then to the "web or pdf" button.
3. When your screen changes, shift click to select all the images at the bottom of the screen.
4. Click refresh preview for the contact sheet to appear.
5. Make sure that you have 2 columns x 3 rows.
6. Click refresh preview.
7. At the bottom of the right panel click save pdf and save it to a folder on your computer that you will remember (Save this as YOURNAME_ASSIGNMENT#).
8. Print out the contact sheet and turn it in.
9. Share the contact sheet to the shared folder on your desktop by dragging it into the folder. Make sure it is saved with your name and the assignment number!

Assignment 4 (Shutter Speed)

Option 1: "Crossing Paths with Nature"

Think about our interactions with nature (what do we do outdoors that involves movement?). How can you capture motion in this sense? You could capture a built environment within a natural environment (cabin in the woods) or a human interaction with a plant/animal (riding a horse, cutting down a tree).

Option 2: "Play"

How can you capture the energy you produce when you are active in a sport or activity that you love doing? Obviously you should be shooting pictures of someone else doing the action (or if you can figure out a creative way to capture yourself moving).

Requirements:

Shoot a minimum of 75 pictures. The more you shoot the better you will get.

Stay within the same subject matter (if you are shooting a swim meet, all of your photos must be of swimming...it can span several days, but all photos must be of swimming)

Three exemplary photos, one for each category: **Freezing an Action (fast shutter, 1/250 of a second or more), Blurring an Action (slow shutter...tripod..1/30 of a second or less), and Panning (moving with the subject for a blurred background, 1/30 of a second).**

Two paragraph essay: How did you capture the movement best? What did you enjoy more, blurring an action or freezing it? Why? What influenced the direction that you took with this assignment? How can you critique yourself: What did you do well, what could you do better?

Shoot in Raw + Jpeg

Autofocus, AI Servo setting for focusing moving subjects

Constantly adjust your aperture and ISO for a correct exposure according to your light meter.

Due: **Monday, December 14th at the beginning of class.** If images are late 2 points will be deducted each day, with a maximum of 10 points deducted for an assignment that is a week or more late.

Name: _____

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	Excellent: 5	Good: 4	Average: 3	Below Average: 2	Poor: 1
Motion Blurred					
Motion Frozen					
Motion Panned					
Two Paragraph Essay: Typed and well planned (describes camera settings for successful images)					
Effort: Care and concern were taken to capture high quality photos.					
Exposure: An even exposure was achieved that showcases highlights AND shadows nicely.					
Focus: Photos are in fine focus.					
Composition: Photos are composed in a meaningful way. (variety at the edge)					

Comments:

Assignment 5 (Self Portrait)

The essential self portrait: Be a risk taker, look inside yourself, be vulnerable

1. Write ten nouns that best describe you

2. Now write ten adjectives

3. Add ten verbs to the list

Each word should be a direct reflection of how you feel about yourself at this specific moment. The last words of the lists can be more abstract if you need them to be. You must use this list of words to enter into making a photograph that is different from taking a photograph. It must be crafted.

You must be alone with your camera, no one else can click the shutter for you.

“A photograph is shaped more by the person behind the camera than by what’s in front of it.”
--Canon

Due: **Monday, January 4th at the beginning of class.** If images are late 2 points will be deducted each day, with a maximum of 10 points deducted for an assignment that is a week or more late.

Name: _____

/60

	Excellent: 5	Good: 4	Average: 3	Below Average: 2	Poor: 1
Self Portrait: Unique image has been crafted creatively					
Two Paragraph Essay: Typed and well planned (describes camera settings for successful images)					
Effort: Care and concern were taken to capture high quality photos.					
Exposure: An even exposure was achieved that showcases highlights AND shadows nicely.					
Focus: Photos are in fine focus.					
Composition: Photos are composed in a meaningful way. (variety at the edge)					

Comments:

Camera Raw Basic Adjustments

Remember: Ctrl>Alt>Z for multiple "undos" to an image

White Balance.

Do this first! When you select as shot you allow Raw to attempt to decode the white balance data stored when your camera captured the image. Many times it is a good idea to check the light settings based on the type of lighting when you shot the image.

The white balance adjustment is split between Temperature and Tint. **Temperature** controls the color temperature of the lighting, setting the blue and yellow color balance. Lowering the temp. makes the image more blue...raising it makes the image more yellow. This slider compensates for the light present in the picture. **Tint** controls the fine tuning of the color balance. Negative values add green and positive ones add magenta.

Tone Adjustment Sliders

Once the white balance has been adjusted you can begin editing your image.

Exposure

Controls the mapping of the highlight tone values in the image. Be careful to not lose the highlights or shadows of your image. Press the arrows to increase/decrease .05 of an F stop.

Recovery

Impacts extreme highlights in an image. "Highlight recovery"

Fill Light

Draws out shadow detail. Over use of this can lead to visible halos on areas of extreme high contrast edges.

Blacks

Lets you darken your shadows. Increase the blacks slider fist and then increase the fill light to get a better tone in your shadow. Zoom deep in the shadow ares of your image and hold the alt key down to see the effect of small adjustments to your image. Black pixels indicate shadow clipping.

Brightness

Lets you redistribute the midtone values without clipping the highlights or shadows. Try not to raise the values to greater than 100 or it will look like highlights are clipping.

Contrast

Leaves the extreme shadows and highlights alone. Increasing the values above the default setting lightens the values above the midtones and darkens values below the midtones, reducing does the reverse.

Clarity

"Lens cleaning filter" If you wish to go beyond the limit of +100 you can use an adjustment brush with a clarity parameter to add even more.

Vibrance

Increases the saturation of unsaturated colors. Will adjust all colors except for skin tones, so it is safe to use on people.

Saturation

Boosts overall saturation...Use sparingly or you will get saturation clipping.

***Tone Curve Panel**

Go to the Tone Curve Panel, then make an S-shaped curve. Drag one point upwards near the top right of the curve line to lighten the highlights, and a second downwards near the bottom left to darken the shadows. Add a third in the middle to tweak midtones.

***Graduated Filter**

Allows you to draw into your image horizontally, vertically, or diagonally (hold shift key down to do this) and change all tonal adjustments mentioned above only in segmented areas, not overall. You can even darken the edges of your image to create a border.

***Adjustment Brush (for skin tones)**

Grab the Adjustment Brush and zoom in close to the face. Click on the cheek to set a pin. Go to the settings on the right and reset all sliders, then drag Clarity to -60. Tick Show Mask then click the color box next to it and choose a for the mask.

Set Feather to 100 in the brush options, then paint over the skin with the Adjustment Brush. Use the] and [brackets to resize your brush as you paint. If you go wrong, hold Alt and paint to subtract areas. Once done, press Y to hide the mask overlay.