

# Introduction to Photography



Danny Lyon, **From Dayton to Columbus, Ohio**, c. 1965 - 66

## Assignments



Photo 101

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Introduction to Photography

Due Date \_\_\_\_\_

You earned \_\_\_\_\_ out of 40 possible points on your Project.

You earned \_\_\_\_\_ out of 10 possible points on your Project Summary.

**Project #1**

**Getting to Know Your Camera**

**Goals**

Get to know your camera and feel comfortable using its settings to get the picture you want.

- Change your camera ISO, shutter speed, aperture, and focal length
- Evaluate your shooting conditions and how to adjust your camera settings in response

**Shot Minimum**

- 1 Shallow depth of field (close-range focus)
- 1 Mid-Range focus
- 1 Wide depth of field-(long-range focus)
- 1 Motion shot
- 1 Low lighting shot
- 1 "Trick Shot" that has you shooting under difficult conditions that contradict (such as a shot with low lighting and fast motion, or an image that is in full focus with a long range of detail)

**Print Minimum** (include all prints in manila envelope with this worksheet)

- Sun Print
- Contact Sheet
- Test Strip
- 2 Photos that best represent what you learned

**Project Summary**

Describe how you chose subjects for your photographs.

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What were some valuable lessons learned while shooting?

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What two works from class lecture presentations influenced your photos for this project?

Artist \_\_\_\_\_

Artist \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



Photo 101  
Introduction to Photography

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Due Date \_\_\_\_\_

You earned \_\_\_\_\_ out of 25 possible points.

**Project #1**  
Critique Page

**Rules**

The first rule of Critique Day is: Critiques are not about fighting. The second rule of Critique Day is: Critiques are not about fighting. Third rule of Critique Day: No one should be made to feel like they need to tap out, cry, argue, or shout to be heard. Fourth rule: everyone must participate, and everyone must listen. Fifth rule: we'll look at one student's work at a time. Sixth rule: wear comfortable clothing and feel free to get up and look at the work we are discussing. Seventh rule: Critiques will go on as long as they have to. And the eighth and final rule: use the feedback you are given to improve your work, offer feedback with the intention of helping fellow students improve their work.

**Skills**

Evaluate your ability to do the following, based on the photos you are submitting today:

<b>Adjust film ISO</b>	Skilled	Fair	Needs practice	Need more info
<b>Adjust camera shutter speed</b>	Skilled	Fair	Needs practice	Need more info
<b>Adjust camera aperture</b>	Skilled	Fair	Needs practice	Need more info
<b>Adjust camera focal length</b>	Skilled	Fair	Needs practice	Need more info
<b>Adjust camera settings in response to shooting conditions</b>	Skilled	Fair	Needs practice	Need more info

**Feedback Summary**

According to the critique, list at least three things that worked well in your photos?

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What suggestions were made for ways to improve the technical elements of your photos?

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List at least three ideas you want to try next time, as a result of seeing other student's photos.

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Photo 101  
Introduction to Photography

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Due Date \_\_\_\_\_

You earned \_\_\_\_\_ out of 10 points.

### The Photographer's Eye

Read the Introduction to John Szarkowski's *The Photographer's Eye* and choose one black and white photograph (with fine art intent) to answer the following questions.

In his curatorial practice, John Szarkowski argued that a photo should not look like a painting and believed that photography needed to "abandon its allegiance to traditional pictorial standards and be inventive in terms of inherent qualities with which photography was born whole." He composed a now famous list of characteristics he felt were unique to photography. List these characteristics.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

Identify the black and white photograph you have chosen to apply Szarkowski's formal ideas:

Artist \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Discuss at least three of the characteristics Szarkowski identifies as unique to photography in relation to the photograph you have chosen.

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Photo 101

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Introduction to Photography

Due Date \_\_\_\_\_

You earned \_\_\_\_\_ out of 80 possible points on your Project.

You earned \_\_\_\_\_ out of 10 possible points on your Project Summary.

### Project #2

#### Understanding Lighting & Composition

#### Goals

Better understand lighting conditions, and methods for framing your subject.

- How to change your camera in response to available and artificial lighting conditions
- Frame your subject to give you the most / best options in the darkroom
- Compose your subject to strengthen your message

#### Shot Minimum *three* shots of each of the following:

Candid images of people who are unaware they are being photographed

Subjects who are far away from the camera

Subjects who are close to the camera

Subjects who are moving

Subjects lit by single, artificial light source

Subjects lit with natural light in a low light scene

Subjects lit with natural light in brightly lit scene

Single subject

Multiple subjects

Dramatic image

Subdued image

Funny or creative / experimental image

#### Print Minimum (include all prints in manila envelope along with this worksheet)

Contact Sheet for each roll of film developed for this project

3 photos that best represent what you learned

#### Project Summary

What were some valuable lessons learned while shooting?

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What two works from class lecture presentations influenced your photos for this project?

Artist \_\_\_\_\_

Artist \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

For each of the three images you are submitting, explain your intention for the final print (what you wanted to capture, and what technique you were developing). Evaluate the degree of success you had in meeting those intentions. What message do you think each work conveys?

**Image #1**

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**Image #2**

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**Image #3**

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For the images you are submitting, did you utilize the rule of thirds? If so, consider whether the message conveyed by each image was served by that rule, would have been stronger if the rule had not been applied, or operated independent of the rule. Explain.

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Photo 101  
Introduction to Photography

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Due Date \_\_\_\_\_

You earned \_\_\_\_\_ out of 25 possible points.

**Project #2**  
Critique Page

**Rules**

Discuss the choices the photographer made, and the meanings that their framing of subjects with the camera and in the dark room, suggest and encourage. List three to five words that come to mind when viewing each photo. Consider these words as a whole and develop an interpretation of each image from them. Identify the shutter speed and aperture settings the photographer used. Was the rule of thirds obviously applied, and to what affect?

**Skills**

Evaluate your ability to do the following, based on the photos you are submitting today:

<b>Adjust camera shutter speed</b>	Skilled	Fair	Needs practice	Need more info
<b>Adjust camera aperture</b>	Skilled	Fair	Needs practice	Need more info
<b>Use rule of thirds</b>	Skilled	Fair	Needs practice	Need more info
<b>Compose your subject with enlarger</b>	Skilled	Fair	Needs practice	Need more info
<b>Convey message</b>	Skilled	Fair	Needs practice	Need more info

**Feedback Summary**

According to the critique, list at least three things that worked well in your photos?

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What suggestions were made for ways to improve the technical elements of your photos?

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List at least three ideas you want to try next time, as a result of seeing other student's photos.

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Photo 101

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Introduction to Photography

Due Date \_\_\_\_\_

You earned \_\_\_\_\_ out of 80 possible points on your Project.

You earned \_\_\_\_\_ out of 20 possible points on your Project Summary.

**Project #3**

The Landscape Speaks

**Goals**

Craft artful images of various landscapes under a variety of lighting conditions. Learn how to use the Zone System to determine correct exposure and development.

**Shot Minimum** at least *three* shots of each of the following:

Composition includes figures, but landscape dominates

Composition does not include figures

Natural subject that is close to the camera

Natural subject that is far from the camera

Natural subject that is moving

Artificially lit scene

Low light scene

Brightly lit scene

Focus on man-made subject in the landscape

Focus on historical subject in the landscape

Funny or creative / experimental image

**Print Minimum** (include all prints in manila envelope along with this worksheet)

Contact Sheet for each roll of film developed for this project

3 photos that best represent what you learned

**Project Summary**

What were some valuable lessons learned while shooting?

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What results did you achieve by using the Zone System?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What two works from class lecture presentations influenced your photos for this project?

Artist \_\_\_\_\_

Artist \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

For each of the three images you are submitting, explain your intention for the final print (what you wanted to capture, and what technique you were developing). Evaluate the degree of success you had in meeting those intentions. What message do you think each work conveys? Consider whether the message conveyed by each image was served by that system, would have been stronger if the system had not been applied, or operated independent of the system. Explain.

**Image #1**

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**Image #2**

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**Image #3**

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Photo 101  
Introduction to Photography

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Due Date \_\_\_\_\_

You earned \_\_\_\_\_ out of 25 possible points.

**Project #3**  
Critique Page

**Rules**

Concentrate this critique on the formal aspects of the photographs. Describe the composition, framing, quality of line, implied forces, characteristics of textures, and use of available and artificial lighting. Consider the balance of black, gray, and white in the composition, and whether the artist was able to achieve a balanced range of gray tones. What is the overall feeling and mood conveyed through the combination of each of these elements?

**Skills**

Evaluate your ability to do the following, based on the photos you are submitting today:

<b>Use light meter</b>	Skilled	Fair	Needs practice	Need more info
<b>Use the Zone System</b>	Skilled	Fair	Needs practice	Need more info
<b>Use rule of thirds</b>	Skilled	Fair	Needs practice	Need more info
<b>Compose your subject with enlarger</b>	Skilled	Fair	Needs practice	Need more info
<b>Convey message</b>	Skilled	Fair	Needs practice	Need more info

**Feedback Summary**

According to the critique, list at least three things that worked well in your photos?

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What suggestions were made for ways to improve the technical elements of your photos?

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List at least three ideas you want to try next time, as a result of seeing other student's photos.

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Photo 101  
Introduction to Photography

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Due Date \_\_\_\_\_

You earned \_\_\_\_\_ out of 80 possible points on your Project.  
You earned \_\_\_\_\_ out of 10 possible points on your photo mounting.  
You earned \_\_\_\_\_ out of 10 possible points on your Project Summary.

**Project #4**  
Taking Risks

**Goals**

Craft an artful series of works exploring a clear theme with an intentional message. Discover ways to manage new explorations and to encourage growth by taking risks.

**Shot Minimum** at least *three* shots of each of the following:

- A subject you have never photographed before
- A setting you have never photographed before
- A subject that you photographed this semester with unsuccessful results

**Print Minimum** (include all prints in manila envelope along with this cover sheet)

- Contact Sheet for each roll of film developed for this project
- A series of photos that present a clear theme with an intentional message
- Your best photo from the semester mounted

**Project Summary**

What were some valuable lessons learned while shooting? Describe the risks you took. How did the overall project benefit from taking that risk?

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What two works from class lecture presentations influenced your photos for this project?

Artist _____	Artist _____
Title _____	Title _____
Date _____	Date _____

For the series of images you are submitting, what was your intended message? Why was it important for you to convey this message in a body of work? Do you feel this message was resolved in this series? Explain.

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What are your plans for future photo projects? What risks do you challenge yourself to take?

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Photo 101  
Introduction to Photography

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Due Date \_\_\_\_\_

You earned \_\_\_\_\_ out of 50 points.

### Exhibition Response

View an exhibition at an off campus museum or gallery open during the current semester that includes photographic works.

Title of Exhibition \_\_\_\_\_

Venue \_\_\_\_\_

Curator/s \_\_\_\_\_

Dates on view \_\_\_\_\_

In your own words, explain the major themes and curatorial concepts of the exhibition.

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Define the word "curator" and, in your own words, explain what they do with an exhibition.

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Consider how the works on view were placed within the exhibition space. Identify one or a pair of works that appeared to have been placed in a specific location for a particular reason. Did the placement of the work/s inform your understanding or lead you to ask questions that may not have otherwise occurred?

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List the specific types of information that a "wall label," or "caption," gives the viewer?

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Where can viewers find more information on the artists and artworks currently on view? (Give examples of available materials.) Who is available to answer viewer questions at the venue?

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Identify two different works in the exhibition What questions do you have about each? Were you able to find answers to your questions within the exhibition or after viewing? If so, what answers did you find?

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Artist \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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Title \_\_\_\_\_

Artist \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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Photo 101  
Introduction to Photography

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Due Date \_\_\_\_\_

You earned \_\_\_\_\_ out of 25 possible points.

**Project #4**  
Critique Page

**Rules**

Identify the risks taken in each image and compare to previous works by the artist. Consider the series of images and whether they build a cohesive message or narrative. Is a clear theme apparent? What message do you glean from the series of images?

**Feedback Summary**

According to the critique, list at least three things that worked well in your photos?

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What suggestions were made for ways to improve the technical elements of your photos?

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You saw a number of images this semester. Describe one image that proved meaningful to your own exploration of analog photography and explain how it influenced your approach.

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What accomplishments are you most proud of this semester?

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Photo 101

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Introduction to Photography

Due Date \_\_\_\_\_

You earned \_\_\_\_\_ out of 25 extra credit points.

**Extra Credit**

**Citizen Kane**

View the movie *Citizen Kane* (1941) and answer the following.

*Citizen Kane* was voted the best movie by the American Film Institute, and is considered by many to be one of the greatest films of all time. What aspects of the photographic/ filmic devices used to tell the story and develop characters lead critics to give the movie such praise?

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Discuss some of the innovative ways in which Director Orson Welles and cinematographer Gregg Toland communicated narrative, set tone, and created atmosphere with the camera.

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The movie is a lightly veiled story about William Randolph Hearst. Who was Hearst? What efforts did Hearst take to prevent the film's release? Why?

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Photo 101  
Introduction to Photography

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Due Date \_\_\_\_\_

You earned \_\_\_\_\_ out of 25 extra credit points.

**Extra Credit**  
***Flags of Our Fathers***

View the movie, *Flags of Our Fathers* (20026) and answer the following questions.

Why was the photo of the flag raising by Joe Rosenthal misleading? What was actually going on in Iwo Jima? How did the American public interpret the action portrayed in the photo?

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Why did the soldiers in the photo struggle with going home to promote war bonds?

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What meaning did the photograph have to the American public? Why was the military interested in republishing the image widely?

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Art 287

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Black and White Photography

Due Date \_\_\_\_\_

You earned \_\_\_\_\_ out of 25 extra credit points.

**Extra Credit  
Blade Runner**

View the movie *Bladerunner* (1982) and answer the following questions.

Where is the movie set? What is the general tone or mood?

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What is a replicant? How have they been created and how do they differ from humans?

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What is the crime of the replicants? In other words, why do they engage a mutiny and seek out the head of the Tyrell Corporation? What do the replicants want?

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*Bladerunner* was released in 1982, but shrewdly foretold many of the concerns of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Identify some of these issues. What is the film's forecast for the future?

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