

## Summer Assignments: AP 2D Design/Digital Photography

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**Due Date:** Your images on a flash drive, and completed journal/sketchbook assignments, are due the first day of class.

**Format:** On your flash drive, create one main folder titled "LastFirstName\_AP\_Photo." Inside your main folder, create separate folders for each assignment number.

### **EQUIPMENT:**

- A digital SLR camera (Summer loans are available)

- A flash drive (8GB or larger). Save all images on a flash drive and in another location (like your GOOGLE DRIVE). Always backup your work, saving in at least two locations.

- An 8 x 10 (can be slight size variations) sketchbook / journal to jot ideas down, make sketches in, and do all written work below. **You will be using a sketchbook journal throughout the school year, so get one that you are comfortable with.**

- Photoshop CC or Lightroom- there is no book to buy, so please purchase this software. A student discount is available- details can be found at;

<https://www.adobe.com/creativecloud/buy/students.html>

If unable to purchase, then please be on top of organization, and be fully prepared to spend some time at the beginning of the course selecting and editing the photos which have been taken.

On your camera, be sure your file size setting is set to FINE (the highest resolution) and Or Camera Raw for negatives.

**Low resolution images will not be accepted.**

### **CONTACT:**

- **Join the Remind Classroom** > Text @d8de22 to 81010 if you cannot use a phone visit this site to sign up for email alerts> [rmd.at/d8de22](mailto:rmd.at/d8de22) on a desktop computer to sign up for email notifications. **This is the quickest and most effective way to communicate with me for questions or concerns.**

***I will be gone for the month of August!***

- **Email**> [emwenye@oxps.org](mailto:emwenye@oxps.org) This is also a good contact method, but response time is slower. I check email about once to twice a week- **except August!**

### **EXPECTATIONS:**

Be familiar with your camera, and use Aperture and Shutter Speed PURPOSEFULLY for the effects you want.

*In Photoshop, always edit all of your final images. Use levels and other basic adjustments to make ALL your images reach their full potential. You may turn images to black and white if they have more impact in grayscale rather than in color. If you do not have access to Photoshop, please be prepared to edit the captured images upon our return to school. **Your primary focus should be on building an extensive catalog of images which demonstrate a variety of subjects and skills. A strong AP portfolio shows growth over a period of time, this is the beginning of the journey.***

Summer grading will be based on idea, craftsmanship, and excellent use of design principles as well as the timely submission of the required work.

Spend some time on the AP Central site. I suggest you look at student work, become familiar with the parts of the portfolio, and read the scoring guidelines. We will use these throughout this course:

[http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/members/exam/exam\\_information/2134.html?affiliateId=APSamp&bannerId=st2d](http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/members/exam/exam_information/2134.html?affiliateId=APSamp&bannerId=st2d)

### **Required Text**

The Photographic Eye: Learning to see with a Camera Michael O'Brien/Norman Sibley - shared with you from Google Drive. Free book online.

### **Recommended Texts (not required- but worth a library borrow, or buy USED)**

Photography and the Art of Seeing: Freeman Patterson

Faking it: Manipulated Photography Before Photoshop

Photoshop Darkroom V1 or V2 Harold and Phyllis Davis

Digital Photography: Masterclass Tom Ang (DK book) (Great book- amazon around \$19.00)

### **ASSIGNMENTS:**

**What do the numbers of pictures mean?** Quality "finished" means ready for edit images (after elimination of unsuccessful/don't like) - not the number of images taken. *Remember multiple tries may be required, and it is OK! If you want to set up a folder in your Google Drive and share it with me for feedback/guidance- you can.*

**Important:** For yourself, write a goal statement in your journal which talks about what you would like to accomplish through taking AP photography, as well as what you feel you would like to create with these summer assignments. It is OK if the goal evolves over time, all art and art process does! As your vision becomes clearer add annotations to the goal about what factors have influenced its adjustment. The following assignments should help you discover who you are as a photographer and what type of subject matter you want to photograph.

#### **1. Photographer Research: Find your Inspiration**

Artists like Kehinde Wiley (painter) have taken pieces and inspiration from other paintings/artists in order to incorporate into their overall message. Alphonse Mucha would photograph his models for his paintings and artwork so he could grid them into his paintings. Julia Margaret Cameron (photographer) would stage her models in costume to re-enact particular theatrical scenes or literary passages. Choose any 2 photographers (known or unknown) to research, use a double page spread (you can use more room if needed) in your journal/sketchbook on each one, and on it, include 2 printouts of their most well known works, with all credits given. Answer the following prompts:

- What does this photographer inspire within you?
- Explain ideas you get from reviewing their work.
- From your viewpoint how can you be inspired by their style but use that inspiration as a learning tool?
- Critique the chosen examples and explain how this photographer used Principles of Design within the photo.

Read: [How to Let Go of Perfection in Photography](#) (link) or Digital Photography School is source.

Reflect on these guiding questions in your journal:

How do you relate to the author's point of view in regards to your own photographic work? What helps you to be accepting of your work? Is there always a purpose behind good photographs?

Read (skim) pgs. 67-82 in [The Photographic Eye: Learning to see with a Camera](#). Pay particular attention to pgs. 76-82. These pages are sample critiques- which we as a class will be having on a regular basis. Please be mindful as you progress into the shooting assignments at the end of the summer you will be expected to select photos which will be hung as a part of a AP Showcase, and potentially sent to Boston as part of the MAEA Photo Exhibition.

## 2. Photo Prompts - (30 Finished/different photos)

Check out this link: <https://currentphotographer.com>

Watch this video- [Photographic Journey to the Point of Departure](#)

Look at the link ([here](#)) or <https://photographyicon.com/photography-themes/> and choose 10 of the prompts to work at capturing. Literal translation of the word is not what is expected- for example, if the prompt is the word Orange- photos should not only be of oranges or orange items. Think outside the box! Find your Point of Departure! Use skillful framing, and other techniques to bring forward the photo. The purpose of this is to free up your mind and break into a new way of interpreting/ seeing items.

## 3. Self Portrait Collection

Create an autobiographical statement using at least 20 photos.

*Plan to spend at least 4 hours on planning and execution of this series. Use the journal/ sketchbook to list ideas for each category- make predictions about what the envisioned outcomes could be. Reflect on the outcomes- come out as expected? Improved? Worse? This collection should reveal something about you as an artist/photographer and person. Viewpoints are a definite tool which can differentiate a collection of photos.*

- 5 photographs of **yourself**- You are both responsible for the design/composition of this photograph, as well as the subject. Once the shot has been established another person may push the shutter, or a release cable/remote may be used. **(Check out these channels on YouTube- search Portraits: Adorama, Sydney Portraits)**
- 5 photographs of **interiors** which are meaningful to you in some way.  
<https://digital-photography-school.com/6-helpful-tips-interior-architecture-photography/>
- 5 photographs of **people you know**- be careful these are not "snapshots"- try to establish mood/feeling/importance in the shot. **(Read: [The Photographic Eye: Learning to see with a Camera](#) pgs.187-196- these will give you some ideas how to proceed)**
- 5 photographs of **places you go** - street photography, walkabout, neighborhood.(Read: [On Realizing You are a Street Photographer, not Becoming One](#) or [How to Tell a Story with your Street Photography](#)) link- or google title

## 4. Weekly Challenge: DPS (4 Finished Photos)

Visit the site <https://digital-photography-school.com/?s=weekly+challenge> and scroll through the challenges (regardless of whether they are ongoing or not). Please use your sketchbook to pre-plan each chosen

challenge. You will be expected to participate in (4) of your choosing- and remember this is not about what you already know *but how you can use what you know to learn/experience more!*

For each challenge in your sketchbook please complete the following:

- What is the challenge, and why did you choose it?
- **First Impressions!** What was envisioned at the beginning of this? Sketch out rough ideas or diagram, mind map, web are also fine.
- **Planning-** what steps, people, locations, equipment are required for this? What kind of lighting would work best? Focal length? Composition?
- **Research-** What do you not know? What did you have to look up? Try?
- **Execution-** What went well? What difficulties arose which can be now worked around? What would you tell someone else who was attempting this?
- **Alternatives-** *What would you/did you change? Explain the motivation for the change/edit. If you could do it again what is something you should have considered or tried?*

## 5. **Photobank**

This is completely open ended. During this class you will need to have an extensive catalog of images to draw from. ***Please take at least 100 (not including raw files) images of your choosing while diversifying your subjects and perhaps stretching your wings.*** Keep in mind that these can and should be usable for class.

## **Tips, Words of Advice, Definitions:**

Think outside the box...each of these themes/ideas/assignments can be considered in a literal way or in a creative way. Be creative in your thinking, break out of the box! Most successful students shoot at least 40-50 shots for each assignment. This is a college level class. Snapshots of your vacation will not be counted. Snapshots are great for your scrapbook and memories; they are not acceptable for this class. If you are taking your camera on vacation and plan to shoot some assignments, then make sure you are focused on a theme that goes beyond sunsets, beach scenes, etc. For those of you who love nature and scenic shots, you will need to think outside the box and create images that cause the viewer to look at the scene in a new and different way. The recommended books are great resources which may help if you are stuck.

Please note: This is not just “summer busy work.” If you take this seriously and do a good job on these assignments, rather than doing marginal work in a hurry, you will be able to use them for your AP exam portfolio. I hope you enjoy these summer assignments and that they help you develop your creativity and vision as a photographer. You love photography, so engage and challenge yourself in these assignments, and have fun!