



AP Photo (2-D Art)  
Summer Assignment  
School Year 2019-2020

**Summer Assignment Objective**

The objective is to serve as a springboard for future learning during the regular school year. You will come away with the beginning of your AP Photography Portfolio.

**Materials and Equipment**

-DSLR Camera (Provided for Summer)

\*Photoshop editing and printing will be completed at FHS when school begins. All equipment and materials will be provided.

**Estimated Time**

No longer than 6 hours. Assignment length will vary depending on where and what you photograph.

**Grading**

The AP summer assignment will make up 10% of your overall first quarter grade. Late work will receive a 10% deduction.

**Requirements/Due Dates**

1. Complete two quality DIGITAL photography shoots (Due Third Class Meeting)  
-Each digital shoot should have a minimum of 40 images  
\*I highly recommend you take the photographs prior to the start of school.
2. Type or handwrite *Developing Your Sustained Investigation How To and 2 Photo Shoot Plans* (Due Third Class Meeting)
3. Print out a minimum of your best ten Photoshop edited images at school  
(Due fifth Class Meeting)

**Evaluation**

1. Meeting the due dates
2. Completing two well thought out photography shoots using manual settings
3. Completed *Developing Your Sustained Investigation How To and 2 Photo Shoot Plans*
4. Craftsmanship, Creativity, and Connection to Concept for all shoots and final prints

\*Questions? Contact: Mrs. Abraham, [siabraham@fcps.edu](mailto:siabraham@fcps.edu)

## Idea Development and Photographer Research Instructions

Think back to photographs you have taken in the past and consider what concepts stand out. You may also choose a concept that you have never tried before. Contemplate all viewpoints, including the literal and figurative options. Take into consideration how your ideas connect to you personally through identity, experience, beliefs, or goals you have set for yourself. Ask yourself who is your audience and what you want the viewer to know or see in your work. You have learned many ways to edit digital images. Combine your concept with the photo editing to create a strong final portfolio.

Keep in mind, the final concept you choose will be explored throughout the school year. You may return from summer not liking any of your images or concepts, but you need to have a direction of where you are going next. Look over the AP sample link below for inspiration. Then complete the **Developing Your Sustained Investigation How To and 2 Photo Shoots Plans**.

[http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/members/exam/exam\\_information/213852.html](http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/members/exam/exam_information/213852.html)

### **Developing Your Sustained Investigation How To**

#### **Step 1: Brainstorming Ideas**

**Write a list of all subjects, themes, places, things, activities or issues that are personally relevant and that matter to you** (even random, unexpected things, such as the art room sink, or heirloom knives and forks in your kitchen drawer). The purpose of any artwork is to communicate a message: to comment or scream or sing about the world in which we find ourselves in. If there is no emotion behind the work, there is no driving force – nothing to direct and shape your decision making. Write down the things that you care about; that move you.

**Include topics that are unusual, challenging, controversial, gritty or inspiring: those that fill you with passion.** Students who select substantial, heartfelt issues that they really believe in are more likely to achieve great results than those who choose aesthetically pleasing but superficial subjects. A tried and true subject can still be approached in an individual and innovative way, but choosing a topic that is novel and fresh has certain advantages. Strong, contentious issues are those which the assessors themselves have a reaction to; they provoke an emotive response. Such topics make the markers and moderators sit up and take notice: it gives them ample opportunity to see the merit within your work.

#### **STEP 2: Evaluate YOUR Ideas**

Think carefully about the topics that you have written down. **Eliminate those which are ‘cheesy’** (i.e. involving pink hearts and Brad Pitt), **insincere** (i.e. a theme of ‘World Peace’, when really this is something you couldn’t care less about) and **overly “pretty” or lacking in substance.** **Eliminate those subjects which you are unable to explore first-hand.** In order to create artworks, you will need access to high quality imagery. No matter how awesome a theme appears, if you are unable to explore any aspect of it firsthand, it is very unlikely that you will be able to do the topic justice. Remember that you will need to return to your source imagery several times during your high school course, so a submission based upon a particular plant that only blooms for a couple of weeks out of the year or a view of your village during a rare winter snow storm is not recommended. The ideal subject is one that you can physically return to, whenever you need – to experience it first-hand. **Remove the topics for which the source**

**material is excessively simple**, i.e. containing only a few forms, textures and patterns. A small pile of cardboard boxes, for example, might inspire a great photograph, but if this is the starting point for an entire year's work. The straight lines, rectangular forms and flat box surfaces are unlikely to provide enough visual variety to explore for months on end. Overly busy source material, on the other hand, is not an issue – it is much easier to simplify form and detail than it is to add back in. **Eliminate those topics for which the source material lacks aesthetic appeal.** Do not mistake 'aesthetic appeal' for pretty. In fact, some of the 'ugliest' things can be stunningly photographed. Art teachers (and artists in general) often speak of finding the beauty in the ordinary or mundane: seeing the magic in that which others have discarded or forgotten. This does not mean, however, that anything is suitable. Some scenes are genuinely unattractive and unsuitable visually. Certain object combinations (due to their particular shapes, colors or textures) are extremely difficult to compose in a pleasing way. Eliminate topics which are common or over-done (unless you have an original way of approaching this topic). It does not matter if others have explored the same topic as you... With the millions of people in the world, it is highly unlikely that you will be the only one to explore a particular theme (in fact, this is beneficial, as you can learn from others...and no one will make art exactly like you), but, if EVERYONE is doing it – if it is a topic that the examiners have seen a hundred times before (like teenage angst), you should think carefully about whether you have something sufficiently new and original to say about it. Ensure that the topic you choose is something that you really care about and which can sustain your interest for a year. If you have more than one topic left on your list, pick the thing that you care about the most.

## **Photography Shoot Instructions**

Following the brainstorming exercise, complete **Two Quality Digital Photography Shoots** on your chosen concept. You can choose two different concepts if you would like.

By the fifth class meeting of next school year, edit in Photoshop and print to MOE (color laser printer) your best 10 images. **I highly recommend you complete both photo shoots prior to the start of school.**

## **Planning Your Photo Shoots**

Before taking photographs, write about each of your two photo shoots in detail including, equipment, supplies, and most importantly the concept. The description for each shoot should be three to five paragraphs in length. Also find a photographer or artist whose work inspires you. Then for each photo shoot write the person's name and specific titles of their images you are drawn to the most and why. Each of the 2 photo shoot should reference a different photographer or artist.

Every digital shoot must include at least 40 images, which totals a minimum of 80 images. If you need to borrow a digital camera (DSLR) pick-up one prior to summer break or contact me at [siabraham@fcps.edu](mailto:siabraham@fcps.edu). I will provide all needed materials. I highly recommend having your own camera for the duration of the course.



AP 2D: Photography Summer Assignment 2019

Teacher: Mrs. Abraham

Email: [siabraham@fcps.edu](mailto:siabraham@fcps.edu)

Please sign and return this page by **Friday June 7, 2019**, to Mrs. Abraham. Please contact the teacher if you have any questions prior to signing. A time exception will be made for students signing up for the class during summer break.

I have read the summer assignment guidelines and understand the assignments.

Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Student signature \_\_\_\_\_

Student Email \_\_\_\_\_