



Your Photographer's Eye – Photo Assignments

Unit 1 Assignments – Composition

Please choose one or more of the following photo assignments.

Choose up to **THREE** images from each assignment you choose to do. These will be prepared for projection and critique in class.

Your assignments are due no later than Friday, March 6 for class discussion on Monday, March 9.

A. Seeking the S-Curve [week 1 lecture]

The S-curve is a very graceful way to organize a composition.

This week, your assignment is to photograph an outdoor scene in which an S-curve is the dominant compositional element. It could be the water rushing up to the sand at the beach, a winding road, or flowers along a winding garden path. First, walk the perimeter of what you want to shoot, looking for the best angles and composition. Next, pick up your camera and shoot away. Photograph the scene in a number of different ways, both vertical and horizontal, symmetrical and asymmetrical. If you use an SLR camera with interchangeable lenses, try using different lenses when photographing your S-curve.

B. Seeking Texture [week 1 lecture]

For this assignment, seek out a scene that is very rich in texture. The lighting will probably be raking across the subjects to create this texture. Early morning or late afternoon light usually provides this cross-lighting effect when outdoors. You can use midday lighting as a source to create texture, but your subject needs to be top lit for the high sun to act as a cross-light. Old buildings with peeling paint and weathered wood work well.

C. Seeing 360–Degrees [week 2 and 3 lectures]

This assignment is a great exercise meant to help you work on your shooting and composition techniques! It will also help you slow down your shooting, and really see the possibilities when shooting one subject.

Choose an object at least as large as a car. You should be able to walk around the entire object. Now, shoot around 25 images of your subject. You can shoot down on the object, get down low, hold your camera up high, move in close, back up, change lenses, and play with investigating this object in as many different ways possible, including shooting it at different times of the day. Try different camera orientations – from vertical to horizontal, and in between!

Another reason this assignment is compelling is because it gets you moving in directions you would not normally seek out. Work on making each image different and unique. Push yourself to really look for different views.

Shoot as you've never shot before. Have fun, and you may just surprise yourself!

D. Seeing the Light [week 4 lecture]

For this assignment, capture a late afternoon or early morning image in which the direction and quality of the light is the principal compositional element. Rely on these aspects of the light to create the drama. See what you can do by waiting for just the right light. Don't be in a hurry, slow down, and allow yourself to not just look, but to "see!" Don't forget to use the composition principles and techniques you have learned in this unit.

IMPORTANT:

Please follow the guidelines for submitting your assignments electronically, by referring to the **two** articles: "Tutorial-Save For E-Mail.pdf" and "Submitting Your Photo Assignments.pdf" both available at www.ImageMedic.com ... go to the "Photo Eye" tab at the top.

A Great Photograph ...

- *Has a theme.*
- *Focuses Attention*
- *Simplifies*