



BASIC COLOUR PHOTOGRAPHY | LEVEL 2

Institution: Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture

Department: Communication Design | **4th** Semester

Focus: Photojournalism

After 30 years of wars, revolutions, misery and famine,

this is something that will never go away...

Go and photograph the peace. That's much more difficult.

~ Gilles Caron ~

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- a. Photojournalists use images to tell stories. This assignment will help you to develop your story telling skills with your camera.
- b. Develop a spirit of enquiry, keener observation skills and unhesitating intuition.
- c. Cultivate a higher level of compositional (design) skill, particularly whilst catching the moment.
- d. Achieve beyond-the-basics knowledge of the use and function of the camera, lenses, filters, light, film, exposure and its equivalencies.

PHOTOJOURNALISM ASSIGNMENT

- a. Pick a subject matter for story telling for your photography project. Some stories lend themselves to being told with pictures more easily than others. Before you begin, make a short outline of shots you want to get. For example, if you were to use Eid as a subject the outline might look something like: Shopping for Eid clothes, preparing the food, cleaning the house, going for Eid prayers, children getting Eidi, people visiting family and friends. These would be at least some of the shots you would try to get. Others will present themselves, but sometimes it is helpful to have at least a partial list of potential shots so you don't forget any important events.
- b. Take a lot of pictures at the event. Use the compositional techniques you have learned in class. Look at samples of photojournalism on line to get ideas for shots. These should not only tell the story, but be good photographs. **As a photojournalist you shouldn't be posing the shots in any way. Just record things as they unfold.**
- c. Take observation notes on the experience: what you see and feel, information and anecdotes; these will add depth to your legends.

1. Clichés Revisited

Two postcard views rethought: Monuments and characteristic elements of a city are often reduced to tired representations of form. Through mental limberness, introduce character and mood to any two postcard locations in Karachi.

“The free use of imagination depends on the photographer’s feeling for his subject. The photographer who is awed by a monument or indifferent to it is bound to produce no more than a respectful or an indifferent picture. Once the tourist is at ease with his subject, he may be able to use to advantage the accidental elements of a scene... (And) walking around a subject, getting close to it, stalking it like living prey, can reveal startling aspects.” (*Travel Photography*, Time-Life Books, 1982)

EVALUATION:

Your assignment will be graded using the following criteria:

Vision:

Is your image original, innovative and daring, or just another example of the same old thing? Does it fulfill the requirements for the assignment (see assignment sheet)?

Aesthetics:

Have you used the appropriate elements and principles of design that would enhance your photograph or did you just shoot what was in front of the camera? Have you used good composition or did you just place the center of interest in the center because it was easy?

Mechanics:

Camera Techniques: Is the image sharp/in focus? Is the exposure correct? Was the appropriate aperture/shutter speed used (if applicable for your camera), did you find the best angle?

PRESENTATION

- **Fifteen** images in all. **Twelve** from the above assignments and **three** favourites (not mandatory) which connect with the block.
- The photo-essay must have an introduction (minimum 30 words).
- A brief legend or caption must accompany each photograph (see note below; also, refer to National Geographic Magazine to get a feel for what to communicate and how).
- The photograph size must be 8"×10" on a normal window mount 2" on all side with a 3" distance on the lower part of the print. The caption/legend should be typed and pasted on the mount, and elements must be visually balanced.
- Last but not least for our records all submitted work should be scanned and put on a labelled CD. Prepare those files to turn in. Name them 1.jpg, 2.jpg, 3.jpg, etc. Put that CD in your printed photo folio.

Please Note:

The difference between a caption and a legend: "A caption is a title or headline, but unlike many newspaper headlines, the caption is never a grammatically complete sentence, even when extending, as it sometimes does, to more than one line... A legend is an explanation consisting of one or more sentences... Formerly placed above the illustration... (It) is now generally placed below."

(The Chicago Manual of Style, 14th edition)

Arif Mahmood Classes Schedule

10TH NOV MONDAY: 8:30 – 10:30 Computer Graphics
11:00 – 1:00 Photography Class

11TH NOV TUESDAY: 8:30 – 10:30 Development Studies
1:00 – 2:30 Photography Class

12TH NOV WEDNESDAY: 8:30 – 10:30 history of art
Attendance & Documentary Movie

13TH NOV THURSDAY: 8:30 – 10:30 production art
11:00 – 1:00 Photography Class

14TH NOV FRIDAY: **9:00 – 11:00 Photography Class**
2:30 – 4:30 History of design

17TH NOV MONDAY: 8:30 – 10:30 Computer Graphics
11:00 – 1:00 Photography Class

18TH NOV TUESDAY: 8:30 – 10:30 development studies
1:00 – 2:30 Photography Class

19TH NOV WEDNESDAY: 8:30 – 10:30 history of art
Attendance & Documentary Movie

20TH NOV THURSDAY: 8:30 – 10:30 production art
11:00 – 2:00 Photography Class

21ST NOV FRIDAY: **9:00 – 11:45 Photography Class**
2:30 – 4:30 History of design

Process Timeline:

- **Week One, Day One:** Conceive list of potential subjects and begin exploring them for suitability.
- **Week One, Days Three to Five:** Finalisation of subjects, photography begins.
- **Week Two, Day One:** Printing and processing of experimental images. Critique on the selections.
- **Week Two, Day Four:** Last presentation of final images.
- **Week Two, Day Five:** SUBMISSION; jury in the morning.

Late work will NOT be accepted.

Learning Resources:

<http://www.farahmahbub.com>

For further inspiration and ideas, visit <http://www.farahmahbub.com/ApprenticeAnthology/index.htm>

Also checkout suggested web links within

<http://www.farahmahbub.com/ApprenticeAnthology/Level2.htm>

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