

Final Project: Conceptual Photography Series

Planning & Research Due: January 24th, 2022

Final Submission Due: January 28, 2022

You have spent a semester mastering the technical art of photography. Congratulations on your accomplishments! It's not time to develop your "voice" as a photographer and hone your creative skills. For your final project, you will be creating a **conceptual photo series**. A conceptual photo series is a number of images that go together as a series that each relate to and represent a common theme or concept.

What is conceptual photography?

Conceptual photography is a type of photography that represents a concept or theme. Conceptual photography is very broad - it can refer to a series of images about a social issue for example (ex: environmental issues, body image, poverty), or it can represent a story or fantasy theme. Below are some examples of conceptual photography projects which you may use as inspiration to come up with your own **original** ideas as you develop your own creative project.

Examples

["Isolation Photographs" by Alyssa Bistonath](#) - Concept: Covid-19/Social Isolation

[#ReachOut Photography Campaign](#) - Concept: Mens' Struggles with Depression

Before you begin your project, you must pick a theme for your project. Below is a list of themes you may pick from for your conceptual photo series. If you have another concept/theme you want to explore, have your theme approved before you begin your project.

Conceptual Photography Themes

- Representations of Human Emotions (happiness, sadness, anger, etc.) - Carmen
- Domestic Life (for example, documenting your family life, food you eat at home, or your cultural heritage)
- Social Documentary photography- documenting real life. For example, photographing a specific group of people, a place or objects. Photographing a series of events would also fit under this. - Iliya
- Topics relating to Nature/ the Environment
- Stories-Fairy Tales, Legends, Literature - Joy

- A Visual Poem
- Fantasy (historical roleplay, surrealism, other fantasy themes) - Sanadi, Samantha, Jacob
- Candid photography- taking pictures of people without their awareness or capturing a moment in time
- Creative Process (a drama production, music, art, food)
- Day in the Life of a High School Student/ Life at School/Student Life- Cadence
- Motivational Photos - Eesha
- Mental Health- Emma
- Social Justice concerns- Racism, Gender Inequality, LGBTQ+ Issues, Economic Inequality, Environmentalism (pick one- there are many more topic that fit within this as well)
- The impact of Covid-19/Pandemics - Sachin, Zalaa
- The impact of technology or social media in society
- Body Image/Body Positivity - Ana, Nyla
- Identity
- Other social issues
- Emptiness/Loneliness- Milan, Amitis
- Depression - Mahnoor
- Growth- Omar, Christo
- Ignorance - Julius

You may also pick your own original theme for your series. Ensure that the topic is school-appropriate.

This assignment has 3 parts: Part A, Part B, & the Course Reflection

Part A: Planning & Research

This is a required component of the project and it is due on January 24th.

Instructions: Fill out the conceptual photography research handout (posted on Google Classroom under “Final Project”. Read the article, watch the videos, answer the questions, plan your project, and fill out the research chart.

Part B: Final Submission of Conceptual Photo Series.

Instructions: For Part B, you will submit your final conceptual photo series. As this is a photo series (meaning multiple), you need to create several final photographs. All of your images in the series must work together to create a cohesive visual project. You

can use your photo series to tell a story or say something about the world. You must **communicate a concept in your series** using creativity & visual storytelling. Your photo series needs to consist of **at least 7 quality** photographs. You can do more if you like. At the end, turn in a Google Slide presentation of your final photo series, as well as the JPG files of your final images. If you used Photoshop, attach your photoshop files as well.

Follow these steps to successfully complete Part B:

Step 1: Shoot your Photo Series

- Shoot your series. You may use your phone camera or DSLR to shoot, and you may take your photographs anywhere. You can shoot at home, somewhere off-site (after school hours) like downtown Ottawa or a park, or here at school (if the school is open).

Step 2: Editing & Photoshop Work

- ALL PHOTOS in your photo series must be edited in some way
- You may choose to use Photoshop to do your editing, although you may work with other photo editing software as well. If you choose to use Photoshop, you can use advanced photo manipulation in your project.
- You can see some examples of conceptual photographers that use extreme photo editing to create their work in the list of conceptual photographers in Part A: Planning & Research. Photo manipulation can be especially effective for making a creative photo series.
- If you cannot use Photoshop at home, please look at this list of free photo editing software to use at home [here](#). You can use any of these programs to edit your photos.

Step 3: Google Slide

- When you are finished editing, create some Google Slides that show off your final series/ photos
- Make your Google Slides presentation match your theme/concept- it should be visually pleasing- use colour and text to showcase your photographs.
- You need to include the following for information each slide/photo: Title of your photograph, Write up of technical components (camera work and editing process), explanation of how this image represents your concept & how it relates to the other photos in your series

Course Reflection

Finally, complete the year-end reflection. It is posted on Google Classroom under “Final Project”. **This is a required component of the course** and it is due on January 28th.

Checklist

To summarize, here is a checklist of everything you need to turn in for the your final conceptual photography series project:

- Part A: Planning & Research Handout
- A google slide presentation of your final photo series
- JPG files of at least 7 photographs in your series
- Photoshop files, for those who created their project in Photoshop (this is optional- you can use any editing software you want)
- The Course Reflection

Project Timeline

January 12th, 13th,14th: Work on Planning & Research (Part A) for final project in class.

January 24th: Planning & Research is due.

January 24th-28th: Shoot & edit your series. Create your Google slides submission. (Part B)

January 28th: Turn in final conceptual photo series & complete the course reflection.