

Introduction to Visual Communication Skills: Photography

Photo Assignment # 6: Strangers - Photographing people that you don't know

Due Nov 9

What is due?

- 1) 4 jpeg digital images, approx. 2000 pixels on the long edge, placed in the Assignment_2 folder on our vico_1021_ws folder on our server at: smb://shared.ohio.edu/communication/viscom-classes.
- 2) The pictures should be of at least two people that you didn't know beforehand. You may shoot more than two people if you wish. All of them must be approached by you for permission first.
- 3) Prints of your two favorite pictures from this assignment, due at the beginning of class.
- 4) 300 pixel/inch digital "contact sheets" in jpg format showing 70 of your camera raw images. Place these also on our server space.
- 5) A signed parental model release if you photographed anyone under 18 years of age or anyone photographed in a private place. A hard photocopy or 200 pixel/inch JPG (@full size) on the server is OK.

This is an exercise about approaching strangers (people that you don't know) in your photography. In most photographic careers outside of fine-arts, this will be a necessity. Photojournalists shoot interesting pictures of people candidly - without directing their pose or actions. Commercial photographers shoot models that are hired because of their suitability for the job, or for their specific "look". More often than not, these models are not known to the photographer and he/she must put them at ease.

Use Camera-Raw format on your camera. You'll convert the files to jpegs in post-processing for submission to the server.

The Shoot:

Approach at least two people that you don't know and ask about taking their photos. Get their names. The photos may be posed/setup like a commercial photographer might do, or you could be with them in a situation where you become a "fly on the wall" as they go about their business.

Do not submit photos of people just walking by on the street, or just assembled at a sporting event, or a party, etc. Part of your grade reflects how well you direct the people, or how difficult the situation may be to gain access to. Their names must be recorded as keywords in your metadata.

The photos must go beyond mere "surface recording" of appearance. Points will be awarded based on how interesting the picture is, how creative devices were deployed, how a peak moment has been captured, etc. You will initially find this difficult to do with a stranger, and the tendency is to just shoot without thinking how to make a compelling picture.

Submitting the Files:

In the Assignment 6 folder, place the selected JPGs plus contact sheet(s) named as follows:

Re-name your selected files as: LastName_FirstInitial_strangers_xx.jpg

Examples: Jones_R_strangers_1.jpg, Jones_R_strangers_2.jpg, Jones_R_strangers_3.jpg, etc.

The jpg contact sheets, sized to hold 35 pictures max per page, would be named Jones_R_portrait_strangers.jpg, .and ..strangers2.jpg.

Grading:

This set of photos is worth 100 points out of the 1200 total points for the class. Scores will be assessed equally on technical and creative merits.