



Assignment Sheet 4: Photo Story

Weight: 20% of Final Grade

Objective

This assignment challenges you to create a **compelling, character-driven photo story**. Your goal is to tell a complete and engaging story about one person, using thoughtful coverage, capturing strong storytelling moments, and diverse compositions. You will combine all the technical and narrative skills you've learned—**exposure, focus, composition, depth of field, sequencing, and storytelling**—to create a polished and cohesive photo story.

Assessment Criteria

Category	Weight	Details
Storytelling Depth	25%	Strong concept, complete coverage, engaging visual narrative.
Technical Mastery	25%	Sharp focus, correct exposure, intentional use of depth of field.
Composition & Creativity	20%	Strong framing, use of Rule of Thirds, visual variety.
Editing & Sequencing	15%	Thoughtful image selection, logical story flow, effective pacing.
Professional Standards	15%	Captions included, files properly named, clean edits, portfolio-ready.

Learning Outcomes

By completing this project, you will:

- Practice **documentary photography techniques** and build storytelling depth.
- Use framing and composition to create a **visual narrative arc**.

- Learn the importance of **sequencing**: arranging images to guide the viewer's understanding and emotional engagement.
 - Strengthen your editing process by selecting only the strongest frames to tell your story.
 - Produce a polished, professional-level series for your **Adobe Portfolio**.
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Guidelines & Expectations

- Subjects **cannot be friends, family, or roommates**. Choose someone outside your comfort zone.
 - Avoid photographing subjects who resemble you to broaden your storytelling perspective.
 - Spend time **researching and building trust** with your subject.
 - Cover a range of moments and perspectives—shoot **wide, medium, and tight**.
 - Pay attention to **color, lighting, and depth of field** to create a cohesive look.
 - Edit carefully to obtain **clean color and accurate skin tones**.
 - **Sequencing is essential**: Think like a filmmaker—your arrangement of images should have a clear beginning, middle, and end, creating a strong emotional and narrative arc.
 - Creativity, risk-taking, and strong ideas are encouraged.
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Key Takeaway

This assignment prepares you to create **professional-level documentary work**. Thoughtful storytelling, sequencing, and technical mastery will help your images resonate with viewers.

Deliverables

- **Ten Unique Images for Critique:** Import into Lightroom, edit for exposure, focus, and color. Bring to class for peer and instructor critique.
- **Final Edit of Six Images:** Upload to SmugMug and Adobe Portfolio in a **carefully sequenced order** that tells a cohesive story.
- **Required Shots (Must be Included):**
 1. **Tight Portrait** – A close-up that reveals character.
 2. **Environmental Portrait** – Subject in their environment.
 3. **Detail Shot** – Reveals something meaningful about the person.
 4. **Scene-Setter** – Establishes location and context.
 5. **5–6 Additional Images** – Capture storytelling moments and actions.
- **Captions:** All final images must have accurate, informative captions.
- **Naming Convention:** 20251125_PhotoStory_Lastname_1.jpg.
- **It takes time to shoot a story. So, please take time to get to know your subject and to capture a strong visual narrative. And take the time needed to gather info to write proper captions and a 125-word blurb to describe your story and to engage your audience.**