

URBAN LANDSCAPE PHOTOGRAPHY

Description of Assignment:

Students will photograph urban landscapes of the east side of St. Paul. Focusing in on what makes the east side the east side will be an important part of this lesson. Taking time to think about what specific landmarks make the east side unique will help you be able to define the project for yourself and for the people that view your images. This project may be displayed in an upcoming art festival.

Essential Questions

How might I know that my urban landscape photograph is successful, engaging, and interesting?

How might using the editing techniques help enhance the quality of my finished product?

Vocabulary:

1. Urban
2. Landscapes
3. Perspective
4. Focal point
5. Detail
6. Landmarks
7. Framing
8. Composition

Editing techniques

1. Crop
2. Levels
3. Lasso tools
4. Photo Filter
5. Rubber Stamp tool
6. Sharpen
7. Motion Blur

Photograph File Specifications

Photographs must be taken at a large file size on the camera being used. Images brought into Photoshop are better sized down rather than up. Save files at 300 dpi with the following file name “[your choice of name]_1” – you can choose a title but then add an underscore and number them 1,2,3...etc. Developing a naming convention for your work is helpful. File them together in a folder titled “Urban Landscape”.

Images will be compiled into a poster 22 x 36, 300 dpi.

IMPORTANT: Always **Save As** so that you maintain the original photograph. Students will be required to show their original photograph and edited photograph in critiques.

Homework

Homework	Description	Elements and Principles
#1	Choose one location/building on the east side that is of interest to you, something that catches your eye. Take ten to fifteen different pictures of it. Change the angle or the focal point. Look for imperfections, interesting parts. Look for the elements and principles of art within the location. The elements and principles that you should focus on are listed to the right. Bring these images with you to class tomorrow and be ready to work with the images for editing and peer review.	Line, Texture, Rhythm
#2	Choose a different location/building on the east side that is a landmark of the area. Take ten to fifteen different pictures of it. Think of different ways to frame the photos by moving in close or taking the image from far away. Position the camera in a way that may confuse the viewer. Be spontaneous in the perspective that you use. Look for the elements and principles of art within the location. The elements and principles that you should focus on are listed to the right. Bring these images with you to class tomorrow and be ready to work with the images for editing and peer review.	Space, Form, Balance
#3	Choose one object/thing that is found on the east side that is unique to the east side. Take ten to fifteen different pictures of it. The pictures that you take should be of the same object but taken from different locations. Change the angle or the focal point. Look for imperfections, interesting parts. Look for the elements and principles of art within the object. The elements and principles that you should focus on are listed to the right. Bring these images with you to class tomorrow and be ready to work with the images for editing and peer review.	Color, Shape, Unity

<p>#4</p>	<p>Choose either an object/thing or location/building at either the early morning or late evening – when the sun is coming up or going down. Dusk and dawn or even late evening when streetlights are on. Take ten to fifteen different pictures of it. Continue to vary the angles and focal points, looking for interesting features. Look for the elements and principles of art within the object. The elements and principles that you should focus on are listed to the right. Bring these images with you to class tomorrow and be ready to work with the images for editing and peer review.</p>	<p>Value, Contrast, Emphasis</p>
<p>#5</p>	<p>Take 35 to 40 images of the east side. These images are of the east side in general. No specific object or landmark needs to be the subject for this round of images. Try to take the images from different angles and of things that are not commonly found or seen. Focus on the elements and principles that are listed to the right when taking this round of images. Take about 10-15 using the art principles of pattern and movement and another 15-25 using any of the other art elements and principles that were covered over the past week. Be ready to work with these images for editing and peer review the Monday following Spring Break.</p>	<p>Pattern, Movement (10-15) Variety of art elements and principles (15-25)</p>

Peer Reviews and Self-Reflections

<p>#1</p>	<p>Display all the photographs that you took for homework #1 on your computer screen. Ask three other students to review your work by completing a section on the peer review 1 worksheet.</p>
<p>#2</p>	<p>Display your best three photographs from homework #2 on your computer screen. Ask three other students to review your work by completing a section on the peer review 2 worksheet.</p>
<p>#3</p>	<p>Review your photographs from homework #1, #2, and #3 and complete a self-reflection worksheet.</p>
<p>#4</p>	<p>Select one of your photographs to display both the original and edited versions on your computer screen. Present your process and editing techniques to a small group. Complete a group critique worksheet.</p>

Final Project/Critique Criteria

Final Project	<p>Students will create a 22 x 32 poster in Photoshop displaying 10-12 urban landscape photographs. These photographs will be sized differently on the page and show a variety of locations around the east side of St Paul. Students will put together a strong composition, paying attention to color, position, and content.</p> <p>Students will have two working days before and one working day after the large group critique to build their photographic composition in Photoshop of the urban landscape photographs.</p>
Artist Statement	Students will write an artist statement on the urban landscape project.
Final Critique	Before printing a final version of the poster, students will participate in a large group critique. Feedback from this critique can be used in revising artwork.