



Open
College
of the Arts

positive

negative

Development/changes

Formative feedback

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|------------------|------------------------|-------------------|--------|
| Student name | Peter Walker | Student number | 514508 |
| Course/Unit | Expressing your vision | Assignment number | 5 |
| Type of tutorial | Written | | |

Overall Comments

Thanks for sending in your assignment. You continue with your development with this assignment - in this case you are pushing yourself and looking to illustrate a theme around the Star Ferry by getting away from the stereo typical approach. Good.

You still need to pay attention to the quality of the images - in some cases you could improve the balance between shadow and highlight in post production.

You approach the assignment based on your fondness for the ferry and have produced an intriguing set that tell a particular story. What you need to consider is how the images are going to be presented - a book, exhibition etc. In the lead up to the assignment the notes refer to context; in this particular, the information surrounding the image. One image will precede another so what order would you propose the images to be seen, would there be any captions?

Feedback on assignment

Demonstration of technical and Visual Skills, Quality of Outcome,
Demonstration of Creativity

Technical and Visual skills

As with your previous assignment your images are interesting and its good to see a uniformity of image size. But as mentioned there are some that you have neglected to make the best of. Use post production to make a better balance between the shadow and highlight detail. I've included a couple of examples as attachments to the email.

There are some instances where you might consider using different images - close up of detail. With your image 6 consider your audience - would it be better to show bi-lingual signage and one that speaks of the quirkiness and age of the ferry. Look again at the gangplank notice in Shelby Tai's photo essay.

Quality of outcome

I'm intrigued with the first two images - they are an unusual start they nicely get away from the stereotypical imagery of the ferry and speak much more of your impressionism of the service. But as mentioned earlier are you going to introduce the set and your approach the ferry; would you include captions.

I like the uniformness of the size/proportions of the images - they convey continuity.

I'm not convinced about image 5 - it's a perfectly good study of the texture of the rope but it could be of any ship - what uniqueness does it convey about the ferry? I would be inclined to substitute an image that picks out a more unique element - say the seats with their dual positioning backs?

The people in image 7 - I like the direct gaze of the man but again these are passengers that could be on many types of transport - could you use a different image that speaks more of the uniqueness of the ferry?

Creativity

You are really starting to think carefully about your projects. It's good to see you pick up on the feedback relating to this from the previous assignment. Build on this. I've indicated above instances where you could improve the set.

I like how you have concentrated on detail. Do you need the often repeated image of the ferry on the water at the end? You could make more of the penultimate image as a signifier of the ferry and the location. What would you put in place of the final image? Again is this time to rethink the order of the images?

You have done well in selecting from your initial contact sheet as there are signs where you revert to default and photograph what you are used to - the face of the girl wearing headphones for example. OK a portrait but fairly standard and one that doesn't really work with the idea behind the set. Good to see this hitting the cutting room floor.

I suggest that you try taking fewer initial images for a shoot. Think twice before pressing the shutter release. Imagine that each frame is going to cost you £20. Keep the aim of the project (The star ferry - a source of [personal] happiness) uppermost in your mind and use this as a touchstone to judge if a scene is worth snapping.

Coursework

Demonstration of technical and Visual Skills, Demonstration of Creativity

Exercise 5.1 - Your notes show how effective this has been - the unexpected find in your chosen image. But also it has made you reflect on the relationship between your parents and how this can be captured in an unexpected image - this should show you what sort of things to look out for to reflect an idea. Concentrate on this.

Exercise 5.2 Ok good to think about context but your notes miss out the third component of Barret's context - the information around the picture - really important when considering how you are going to display your images.

Exercise 5.3 - Good to identify your weak point but you should go on to consider and note what remedial steps you are going to take to improve the situation.

Research

Context, reflective thinking, critical thinking, analysis

As I have mentioned above and in comments on earlier assignments this is a weak point for you. You have made a start to improve this but you do need to demonstrate much more reflection both on your own work and on your research into other photographers. See point re 5.3 above.

Learning Log

Context, reflective thinking, critical thinking, analysis

Yes you reflect on the work but it is still a bit superficial. Rather than reflecting on each image you would do well to expand your thinking and reference the general theme you are concentrating on and how you have approached it, what you aimed to achieve and an analysis of the results.

A more prosaic point - watch your English your blog is riddled with typos and missed out words. I strongly advise you get someone else to proof read before submission.

Suggested reading/viewing

Context

You have plenty to be getting on with.

Pointers for the next assignment / assessment

Preparing for assessment I advise:

Presentation - make this as professional as possible

Prints - I would consider making 6 - 10 high quality prints from the course that best illustrate the quality of your work - they will act as an introduction/synopsis.

Blog - make this as easy to navigate as possible thereby making your material easy to find.

I wish you well with your future work.

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| Tutor name | Simon Barber |
| Date | 10 April 2016 |
| Next assignment due | |