

Classroom Connection: Curriculum Example

<p>January 26 (Session One)</p> <p>10-10:15 Introduction Student Policy and Agreements Distribute schedule of classes</p> <p>10:15-10:40 Project Introduction Icebreaker questions-favorite memory in Chinatown Overview and Project Goals</p> <p>10:40-10:55 Guest: Chinese Historical Society of New England What does it mean to tell our lives and document our stories? What does it mean for storytelling?</p> <p>11-11:30 Group Discussion Visual Analysis of a CHSNE photo What do you see? What do you see that makes you say that? What more do you see? What story do you think it tells? / What's happening? What is the mood? Introduce technical terms for photography</p> <p>11:30-11:50 Group breakout discussion on their own photographs/CHSNE photographs</p> <p>11:50 Wrap-up Reflection and next classes</p> <p><u>January Homework</u> It is Lunar New Year! Take 12 photos from Lunar New Year and 12 of everyday life on a digital camera, cellphone, or iPad. Come back next month and explain why you took those photos. Think about some of the photography techniques we reviewed in class when you take your photos.</p>	<p>April 27 (Session Four)</p> <p>10:00-10:10 Introductions What has been your favorite thing/subject to take pictures of over the past 3 months?</p> <p>10:10-10:20 Big Group Discussion Think about what story/stories you want to uplift or highlight. Were there any key moments of your time in Chinatown that you believe are essential parts of who you are? Take at least 20 photos keeping in mind what you want to uplift and highlight about Chinatown. What are some common stories that have come up for you thus far? What specific locations in Chinatown have a story to tell?</p> <p>10:20-10:40 Small Group Breakouts Guiding Questions Do any of your photos you took this past month show your stories and/or experiences? How might you retake the photo to show YOU? What techniques would you change and/or keep to accomplish this?</p> <p>10:45-11:50 Walking Tour w/ Tunney Lee, local historian</p> <p>11:50- 1:55 Wrap-up</p> <p><u>May Homework</u> Storyboard work. Over the next month keep fine-tuning your stories and filling in the gaps. Consider picture analysis and what can a photo exhibit look like.</p>
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Courtesy Katie Salisbury

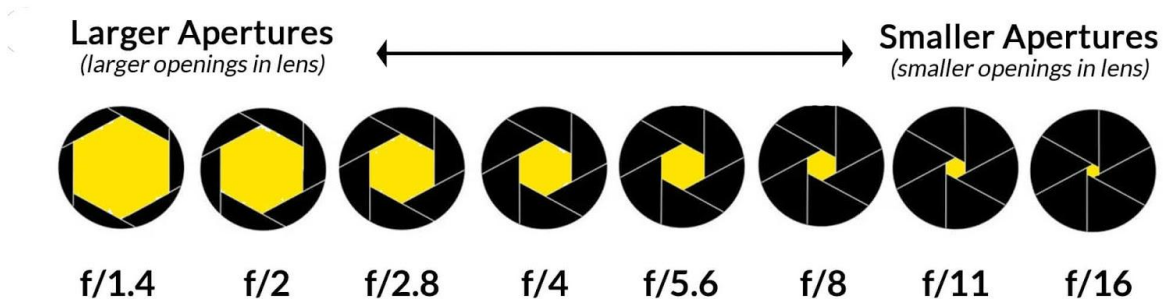
Understanding How Your Camera Works

Photography is all about capturing light. The goal of a photographer is to create the best possible exposure that will capture the information contained within a scene or frame. There are two things that control how much light enters your camera: the aperture (also known as the f-stop) and shutter speed.

All cameras have the following elements:

Lens: The optical device in front of the camera that focuses the light as it enters the camera. It also determines the angle of view.

Aperture: A variable diaphragm or opening inside the lens that determines the amount of light the lens allows through.



Shutter: The mechanism that controls how long the camera's shutter stays open to let light in.

Light sensitive material: The film or image sensor that records the light in the camera. The light sensitive material always has a given light sensitivity (ISO).

Aspects of Composition

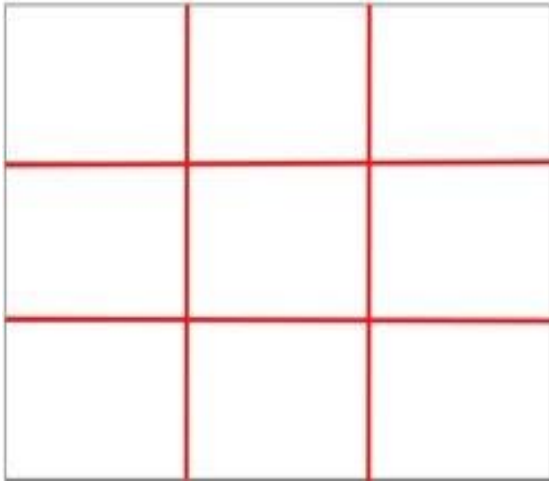
Exposure: Exposure is the total amount of light recorded by the image sensor.

A good exposure is created when just the right amount of light enters the camera enabling the viewer to see information clearly.

A bad exposure means that either too much light (washed out) or not enough light (too dark) is recorded.

The three factors that determine exposure are the aperture opening, the shutter speed, and the sensitivity of the ISO. When using the automatic setting on your camera, these factors are controlled and optimized for you.

Rule of Thirds



By applying the rule of thirds to an image, imagine the image can be broken down into nine equal parts, as in the example to the left.

The grid that these nine parts create give you a useful way of thinking about how you position the various elements in your picture.

By placing points of interest in the intersections or along the lines your photo becomes more balanced and positions subjects where viewers' eyes most naturally gravitate to.

Here are some questions to ask yourself when composing a photograph:

What are the points of interest in this shot?
Where am I intentionally placing them?

Depth of Field: Depth of field is a term used to describe how much of the photo is in focus.

Shallow depth of field means the foreground and background of the subject will appear soft and fuzzy, out of focus. This is achieved by using a wide aperture opening (more light).

Long depth of field means the foreground and background of the subject are more defined and in focus. This can be achieved by using a small aperture opening (less light).

Motion: The shutter speed is used to control how moving objects appear in your photographs.

To freeze action, use a faster shutter speed.
To blur action, use a slower shutter speed.

Editing and Enhancing Digital Images

Ways to Edit Your Photos

Crop images to adhere to the rule of thirds or center the subject of the image.

Straighten images that appear crooked or off kilter.

Enhance and sharpen details.

Correct color balance or exaggerate specific colors.

Adjust the contrast, shadows, or highlights.

Recommended Software

Adobe Lightroom (desktop and mobile)

Apple Photos (desktop)

Instagram (mobile)

VSCO (mobile)

Journal of Folklore and Education (2020: Vol. 7)

Untold Stories, Unsung Heroes: Using Visual Narratives to Resist Historical Exclusion, Exoticization, and Gentrification in Boston Chinatown

Classroom Connection: Visual Analysis Worksheet

Step 1: Examine the photograph. What do you notice first?

Step 2: Identify type of photo (check all that apply):

	Portrait
	Event
	Documentary
	Landscape
	Architectural
	Family
	Selfie
	Aerial/Satellite
	Panoramic
	Action
	Posed
	Candid

Step 3: Observe its parts. List the people, objects, and activities you see.

Step 4: Analyze what you see in Step 3.

Step 5: Provide evidence from the photograph to support your answers.

Step 6: Where is the photo taken?

Step 7: How does it make you feel?

Step 8. Write one sentence summarizing the photograph.

Step 9: Consider the photo as archival material. What could you find out from this photograph that you might not learn anywhere else?