

FYS 100: Nature, Environments, and Place in American Thought

Curated Group Photo Essay

Elements of a photo essay

- 1) Tell a story appropriate to your theme
 - a. Chronological narrative
 - b. Human dimensions of larger trends (promotes social action)
 - i. Close-ups emphasize difference (exotic) or sameness (empathy)
 - ii. People in large frame for perspective
 - c. Connect images as different facets or angles on a complex or contentious theme
- 2) Limited but suggestive wording
 - a. Larger theme explained in introduction, illustrated and examined through images
 - b. Identifying information and context to help viewer “read” the image (place, date)
 - c. Descriptive observation of setting or your experience taking the photograph
- 3) Carefully collected images—save to your desktop and upload to Omeka
 - a. Take photos with your own device
 - b. Find photos on the internet. Make sure the image is available in the public domain and always record the URL.
 - c. Search digital archives: digitalforsyth.org and museums’ digital collections
 - d. Architectural drawings, plans, Sanborn maps [Forsyth County Public Library]

Assessment

Content:

- Introduction should: 1) introduce and explain the common theme or idea; 2) specifically address an established intellectual tradition on the theme; 3) explain your image selection process in terms of your main interpretive goals and connections you want to emphasize.
- Image selection matches stated aims
- Captions convey the appropriate tone to achieve the goals as explained in the introduction
- Introduction, images, and captions build a coherent theme

Mechanics:

- Introduction essay 450–500 words; all captions less than 500 total
- Writing is carefully revised and devoid of grammatical and spelling errors
- 4–6 images, properly uploaded and captioned
- Images displayed clearly, framed, and cropped
- Consistency in image description fields: follow the same practice within that field for each item (e.g. Photographer’s first and last name, lifespan)
- Complete information on source of each photo (photographer and source URL)

Group collaboration: Peer assessment will make up 20% of grade on the assignment

PEER EVALUATION FORM (March 6)

Name _____

Please evaluate each performance from 0-3.

Basis for evaluation in each category:

- 1 → Unacceptable performance, damaging to group progress
- 2 → Unreliable and/or unhelpful performance
- 3 → Adequate but irregular performance with minor follow-up required
- 4 → Consistently Acceptable Performance

	Your Name	Name	Name	Name
	_____	_____	_____	_____
1. Attended meeting(s)	_____	_____	_____	_____
2. Contributed to meetings and helped make decisions	_____	_____	_____	_____
3. Accepted responsibilities	_____	_____	_____	_____
4. Completed tasks on time	_____	_____	_____	_____
5. Positive working attitude	_____	_____	_____	_____
TOTAL (sum):	_____	_____	_____	_____

Additional remarks on individual performances or the group as a whole: