

Depth of Field Skills Assignment

This Skills Assignment is designed to:

- Demonstrate your use of the digital cameras.
- Demonstrate that you can manipulate the digital camera to create the desired effect.
- Show your knowledge of the Elements of Composition.
- Use PhotoShop to manipulate the images you have taken.
- Produce a CONTACT SHEET that summarizes your photos.

Using the digital cameras, you are to take nine photographs that demonstrate different variations of depth of field listed below. EACH member of the group must take a photograph that meets the requirements. Each student must also keep a log of what they did to create that photo - this log will be turned in with your assignment.

You will renumber the photos to put them in order in your folder, and then create a contact sheet to turn in.

Remember to use the Elements of Composition effectively when taking your photographs.

Part 1. Depth of field - setting up your demonstration

For this first part, you need a LARGE aperture opening (f3.5-5.6 or so) to minimize the Depth of Field. Get close to your subjects.

Using 5-6 objects arranged on a table or the ground, demonstrate the following:

Photo A: foreground in focus (background out of focus)

Photo B: background in focus (foreground out of focus)

Photo C: middle in focus (foreground and background out of focus)

Part 2. Depth of field - using people, objects and backgrounds

Using the people in your group, objects around the school and different backgrounds, demonstrate the following:

Photo D: subject in focus, distant background out of focus

- ** Large aperture opening to minimize the Depth of Field. Get close to your subject.
- ** Distant background should be more than 15-20 feet behind subject. More if room.

Photo E: subject in focus, close background out of focus

- ** Large aperture opening to minimize the Depth of Field. Get close to your subject.
- ** Close background within 10 feet behind subject.

Photo F: subject in focus, close foreground out of focus

- ** Large aperture opening to minimize the Depth of Field.
- ** foreground object could be a tree branch, door, computer, etc.

Photo G: Flower or tree branch: the flower or branch that you are focusing on are in focus, but the background is out of focus.

- ** Large aperture opening to minimize the Depth of Field.

Photo H: With a minimum distance of 10 feet between the subject and background, everything is in focus

- ** Small aperture opening to minimize the Depth of Field. Back off from your subject.

Photo I: With a minimum distance of 100 feet between the subject and background, everything is in focus

- ** Small aperture opening to minimize the Depth of Field. Back off from your subject.
- ** more of a landscape type shot.

Place all of your photos in a folder (probably titled Depth of Field), and label them according to each category. For example, all of the **Photo D** images will be labeled d1.jpg, d2.jpg, d3.jpg – and so on. This will create an order for your contact sheet and will make it clear to your instructor which photos you took for each category.

To complete this assignment, create, print and turn-in a contact sheet of all photos taken (multiple attempts per photo). Then print TWO 8 x 10 images, mount them and turn-in.