

PHOTO MONTAGE

PURPOSE

A montage is a composition using more than one picture to express an idea. It is made by superimposing many photographs into one design. Photographs came into existence in the early 1800's. As photography developed, artists and designers evolved with this technology into using montage as a means of expressing political dissent. Juxtaposing images not associated with one another allowed the designer to communicate a new idea.

In this assignment, you will choose your own topic from a list of broad ideas. Then you will narrow the focus of the idea to get people to "feel" something. For some, this may include a personal story, and for others, it may be a narrative that your audience (your peers) can relate to.

RESEARCH STEPS

You will create a Process Book (PB).

"Art is the product of process. Whether conceptual, experimental, emotional, or formal, the process you develop yields the image you produce. The materials you choose, the methods of production, and the sources of the images should all reflect the interests that command your attention. The process does not stop with each work completed. It is ongoing. The cumulative result of that process is a body of work."

--Kit White, Artist and Professor of Painting at Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, *101 Things to Learn in Art School*

1. **Choose a topic** from this list: [Project 1-Topic List.docx](#) [Download Project 1-Topic List.docx](#) as the basis for your montage.
 - List your topic on the front page of your PB.
2. **Narrow the focus** of your topic by engaging here, in our [Project 1 Discussion Board](#).
 - This IS a requirement to write something, look at your peers entries, and respond to at least 1 other person. Once you have completed this step, then proceed with Step #3.
3. **Begin Research:**
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 - Find a minimum of **5 examples of similar/inspirational designs for your project**. These can be scanned (if from printed sources) or digitally captured (screen grab) for inclusion in the PB document. **Include a URL or information where the example came from with each design.**
 - **Record your thoughts and words** related to the creative beginnings of your project. (For example, if you were asked to design an ad for Apples, you could make a word list: red, fruit, tree, etc. - OR - simply write your reflections about

Apples: How have they impacted your life? When you think of Apples what meaning comes to mind? Where do you see Apples in our culture?)

4. **Thumbnails:** These are 30-second drawings (**by hand**) that show your conversion of the research items into visual trials, moving toward a solution.

- - The finished size will be 8"x10". Work at a smaller size, but proportionally to create these thumbnails.
 - **Do at least 5 thumbnail sketches.** You will need to scan these pages from your sketchbook for placement in the electronic document (PDF).

5. Color Studies:

- - Explore different color combinations and record these in your Research document. (Example: You can make collections of Swatches in Photoshop, then take a screen grab and paste it into your document.)
 - Explore color for tone, mood, and focal point creation

6. **Collect Images** - *Note: no text may be used in this project, rely solely on the imagery to express the idea*

- - Take the photos yourself - OR - Use these links to [Photo Resources](#) or [Public Domain Photo Resources](#)
 - ***Photos you take yourself: Answer the following in your Process Book:***
 - What is the highest resolution your camera can take?
 - How many pixels are in a Mega Pixel?
 - Is a Mega Pixel the same size as the Pixels in your TV or computer?
 - Photos from Stock sources
 - Should be sufficient resolution to create the final art for this Project
 - Cannot contain watermarks
 - Must be *copyright free*
 - Find high res images you want to use to convey your idea. (You may not use images found through Google or Pinterest.)
 - Document where you acquired each image in your Process Book
 - Use a minimum of 4 and up to 10 images to create your montage.

7. Roughs:

- - Create a canvas in Photoshop that is 8"x10", at 300 dpi - CMYK or Grayscale w Duotones or combination of these

- Rework your Thumbnail sketches into Roughs on the computer.
 - This may include
 - placed images for all graphics
 - appropriate colors assigned to the design
 - It is up to the designer to make the images appear as one fluid image.
 - Principles of composition should be followed. Example, create a focal point using lines, contrast or color to direct the viewer's eye.
 - It is important that the images represent your idea and that they maintain their pictorial clarity, so that viewers can understand or interrupt the message being expressed.
 - **It is required that you have a minimum of 3 (and up to 5) computer roughs** in total. All roughs need to be included in this research we call a Process Book. You can place screen captures or PDFs into the Process Book document.
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Prepare for CRITIQUE

- Choose 3 of your most promising Roughs (FOR CRITIQUE discussion board)
- Have these 3 images ready to share Online with your peers on the Critique Discussion board for Project 1

SUBMISSION:

1. Name your Process Book Document: YourLastName-Proj1-PB
2. Save as a PDF (Ex. YourLastName-Proj1-PB.PDF)
3. Submit the PB PDF here in Canvas