

Project#2: The Decisive Moment - Description

For Deadlines & Critique Date - See Syllabus Schedule

“Photographers deal in things which are continually vanishing and when they have vanished there is no contrivance on earth which can make them come back again.”

- Henri Cartier-Bresson

Conceptual Requirements:

For this assignment, shoot a series of pictures using Henri Cartier-Bresson’s philosophy of the Decisive Moment. Have your camera with you and ready to shoot at all times. Your subjects can and should vary widely, so open yourself up to your intuition, your reflexes, and the possibility that an incredible moment can unfold anywhere and at any time!

Technical Requirements:

Since this project largely depends on your ability to react quickly, use your camera hand-held and with relatively fast shutter speeds. There will be little time to focus and adjust your exposure settings & focus, you can use the pre-set “range-focusing” technique shown in class.

Shoot in bright daylight perhaps on a busy street with lots of pedestrians or action of some kind. The more light and movement you have, the more options you’ll have. Study the following examples to see how range focusing can affect depth of field when using a prime lens.



f4, shallow D.O.F
focus range: **30'-infinity**

f22, long D.O.F
focus range: **6'-infinity**

f8, medium D.O.F
focus range: **8'-15'**

f8, medium D.O.F
focus range: **15'-infinity**

| Deliverables leading up to Critique #2 (See syllabus for pacing and due dates) | Possible |
|--|-----------|
| Adams & Vitale Reading Discussion | 2 |
| 6 Rolls Shot in the style of the “Decisive Moment” (8-10 recommended) | 6 |
| Contact sheets for minimum 6 rolls shot (8-10 recommended) | 6 |
| 8 Great Prints | 8 |
| Project Quality, Presentation, and Participation | 3 |
| Total Score for Deliverables | 25 |

Course Attendance Policy (as per syllabus):

| TARDIES, etc. | COUNT AS: |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| 1 Tardy | ½ of an Absence |
| 1 Early Class Departure | ½ of an Absence |
| Coming to Class Unprepared | ½ of an Absence |

| ABSENCES | COUNT AS: |
|--------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 Absence | Course Grade not affected |
| 2 Absences * | Course Grade is no greater than B+ |
| 3 Absences * | Automatic F (Course Failure) |