



Tutor report

Student name	Simon Chirgwin	Student number	512973
Course/Module	AoP	Assignment number	3

Overall Comments

Overall this has been another good assignment. There wasn't a lot for me to comment on because there aren't really any major problems with the work you have submitted. The assignment is quite technical in nature but you have done well to try and push beyond that and use the opportunity to make interesting pictures whilst out and about.

Feedback on assignment

Demonstration of technical and Visual Skills, Quality of Outcome, Demonstration of Creativity

- Firstly I should say that the colour relationships were mainly all clear and well spotted so well done –this assignment is particularly difficult to do when out of the studio so you have done well.
- The only colour relationship that I thought was a little tenuous was the first of the Colour Contrast through Contrasting Colours image –the one on the train. The blue wasn't really obvious. There were a few others that were a little tenuous but, factoring in that you found these views out on the street and not in the studio, I am prepared to give you the benefit of the doubt. Your diagrams show that you are seeing the different relationships well and composing the frame accordingly, which is the primary objective of the assignment.
- There was one image that stood out as not really up to the quality of the others -AoP-A3-06. The sign and shop front are all a little soft from camera shake. In this particular instance I wouldn't worry about it too much but if you get the opportunity, perhaps replace it with an alternative. You have still demonstrated the learning objectives hence my not worrying, but the weaker image could be the tipping point between two grades if you find yourself on the boundary of the marks.

- The only overall concern I had was that you seem to have had a slightly heavy hand with the saturation controls –presumably in an effort to really make the colour relationships stand out. I would advise against this, you are better off keeping the colours a little more natural. By having the colours over saturated you end up with photographs that do not appear to reflect the real world. Whilst this may be something you would like to explore later, at this stage it is advisable to try to make your colours and contrast as much a natural reflection of your subjects as possible. This really stood out in image 2 of the signs on the pavement where the oranges and greens stand out to the point of making the image look disturbingly artificial. Without seeing your precise workflow it is tricky to see where the issue comes from but if you are using lightroom I would make sure you aren't using the vibrance or clarity controls unnecessarily. The assignment is all about seeing the colour relationships when you are framing, not about creating or highlighting them in post-production.
- This was really all I had to say about the assignment itself in technical terms. What I would like to begin to see is some effort to link the images in later assignments together thematically or narratively. This won't be really be applicable to the next assignment but by beginning now to think about how images work together, you will be ahead of the curve when it comes to assignment 5.
- The prints were fine and suitable at this level. There were a couple of issues where I think the paper probably didn't have a wide enough gamut for the colours in your images, but this is mainly due to the over saturation issue I've already mentioned. Other than this they were a reasonable match to the screen. As you move onto later modules you will want to fine tune your printing but I wouldn't worry too much about this at the moment. One minor point –you don't need to send the prints in a large box as this just costs you more money to post. A stiffened envelope would be fine. Saying that, as long as your printing remains consistent, I don't see a need for you to submit any more to me for the following assignments. If the later prints are technically on a par with these prints they will be absolutely suitable for assessment.

Learning Logs or Blogs/Critical essays

Context

The log is coming along well. I'd like to see a little more content generally but there is plenty of time for this over the next two chapters. It is good to see you starting to become familiar with some contemporary practice. To add to the reading list from last time concerning the New Topographics, I have added a list of contemporary photographers looking at the landscape to this feedback. Whilst not really terribly useful for the next assignment, these would appear to reflect some the interests expressed in your recent blog posts.

Suggested reading/viewing

Context

Fay Godwin - <http://www.faygodwin.com/>

John Davies - <http://www.johndavies.uk.com/>

Pete Davis - <http://www.pete-davis-photography.com/>

John Darwell - <http://johndarwell.com/>

John Kippin - <http://johnkippin.com/>

Keith Arnatt - <http://www.tate.org.uk/art/artists/keith-arnatt-666> (scroll through until the A.O.N.B work and then go from there to the pictures from a rubbish tip series.)

Vanessa Winship - <http://www.vanessawinship.com/projects.php>

Jem Southam - <http://www.vam.ac.uk/content/articles/l/landscape-photography-jem-southam/>

Joel Sternfeld - <http://www.luhringaugustine.com/artists/joel-sternfeld>

Chrystal Lebas - <http://www.chrystellebas.com/>

Michael Lange - <http://www.michaellange.eu/en/>

Trent Parke - <http://www.stillsgallery.com.au/artists/parke/>

Ingrid Hesling - <http://ingridhesling.com/>

Sophie Gerrard - <http://www.sophiegerrard.com/>

Alicia Bruce - <http://www.aliciabruce.co.uk/>

James Ravilious - <http://www.jamesravilious.com/>

Justin Partyka - <http://www.justinpartyka.com/>

Pointers for the next assignment

The next assignment is the last of the primarily technical assignments –you will be called upon to photograph a single object in multiple ways through varying the lighting. I would suggest selecting an object that will give you enough variety to be able to make a full series of pictures without repeating yourself too much.

Tutor name:	David Wyatt
Date	18/12/14
Next assignment due	15/2/15