



Photo Essays

Estelle De Zan



HOW TO CREATE A PHOTO ESSAY

What is a photo essay?

- Series of photographs placed in a specific order that aim made to evoke emotions, present an idea, or tell a story
- Many photographs
- Organized in a way
- Arranged in such a way to convey the messages that can't be expressed through the picture

1 DETERMINE A TOPIC

What do you want your photo essay to be about?



- Choose something you're passionate about or interested in
 - Example
 - Tell a story in chronological sequence
- Thematic
 - Address a topic or issue
- Many types
 - Time sequence
 - Location
 - Genre
 - Genre
 - Water

2 FIND A PURPOSE

Why should someone pay attention to your photo essay or care about it?

- Tell an old or new story about an important event of time and space
- Emotional: shows some sort of emotion or response from the person
- Include your audience to care about a subject to the point where they actually take action based on what
- Educate: teach the viewer about something



3 MAKE PRE ARRANGMENTS



Research your topic



Work on collaboration



Make travel plans



Remember to stay open minded and flexible

4 CREATE A SHOT LIST

—OPENING SHOTS—
sets the stage and shows where you story takes place



—FOCUS—
shows your main subject and highlights the emotional expression/narrative from story



—CLOSE UP—
tightly cropped, allows you to focus on a specific element of your story



—ACTION SHOTS—
shows your subject doing things you're hoping to capture— something in motion

—DETAIL SHOTS—
focuses in on one element that you want to tell more about the subject

—MEDIUM SHOTS—
starts to bring in on the full or part of your subject— captured story's flow of time

5 TAKE PHOTOS



- Shoot with abundance
- Play with angles and focus
- Pay attention to photography
 - Lighting
 - Framing
 - Color
 - Focus



6 EDIT PHOTOGRAPHS



- Go through the images and make selections of the best ones that tell your story
- Images need to tell a story that's hard to be in chronological order

7 ORGANIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

- Create sequence
 - Introduction, body, conclusion
- Put them around to together as a whole
 - Theme, color, composition, light...
- Visual coherence is essential



SOURCES

<https://www.britannica.com/define/photo-essay>
<https://www.dailymotion.com/video/x3p8w39>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7t2u3b1u3z8>

HOW TO CREATE A PHOTO ESSAY

What is a photo essay?

- Series of photographs placed in a specific order that are made to evoke emotion, present an idea, or tell a story
- Purely photographic
 - series of photographs in a specific order
- Accompanied by text
 - words are used to convey the messages that can't be expressed through the photos



1 DETERMINE A TOPIC

What do you want your photo essay to be about?

- Choose something you're passionate about or interested in
- Narrative
 - Tells a story in chronological sequence
- Thematic
 - Addresses a topic or issue
- Major types
 - time sequence
 - location
 - idea
 - event

2 FIND A PURPOSE

Why should someone pay attention to your photo essay or care about it?

- Inform: tell a story about an important event of some sort
- Entertain: draws some sort of emotion or response from the person
- Inspire: get someone to care about a subject to the point where they actually take some sort of action
- Educate: teach the viewer about something



3 MAKE PRE ARRANGEMENTS



Research your topic



Work on collaboration



Make travel plans



Remember to stay open minded and flexible

4

CREATE A SHOT LIST

—SCENE SETTER—

sets the stage and shows where your story takes place



—ACTION SHOT—

shows your subject doing something -- ideally the thing you are reporting on

—PORTRAIT—

shows your main subject and captures an emotional expression humanizes your story



—DETAIL SHOT—

focuses in on one element that tells viewer a little bit more about the subject

—CLOSE-UP—

tightly cropped, simple shots that present a specific element of your story



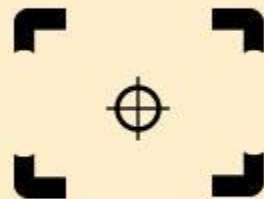
—MEDIUM SHOT—

starts to hone in on the spot of your action; narrows story's field of view



5 TAKE PHOTOS

- Shoot with abundance
- Play with angles and focus
- Keep in mind elements of photography
 - Lighting, framing, rule of thirds



6 EDIT PHOTOGRAPHS



- Go through the images and make selections of the best ones that suit your goals
- Images need to tell a story (don't need to be in chronological order)

7 ORGANIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

- Essay structure
 - Introduction, body, conclusion
- Pictures should tie together as a whole
 - Theme, color, composition, light....
- Visual coherence is essential



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