

# The Photo Essay

A set of pictures

A story, with a beginning, a middle, & an end.

The more meaningful it is to you, the more engaging it can become.

Of all the things in your life, what is nearest and dearest to you?

Why is it dear? How could you show it?

## Theme Option: An Event

A sequence of events from getting ready to cleanup;

- the essence of the sensual experience, how it smelled, how it felt to the touch, how it sounded;
- the emotions experienced by those in attendance;
- important details that you notice, not simply typical images of people smiling into the camera;

Example

A Thanksgiving feast. A day in the family life. Include preparations, cooks, people arriving, helping themselves to turkey, pets begging or waiting under the table, showing a child how to play a game, a formal portrait of the group, cleanup, watching television, napping guests, thank-yous and hugs, guests bundled for the trip home, sleepy kids in the car.

- Remember your knees bend. Get down to kids' and pets' level to show the event from their perspective.

## Theme Option: A Photo Walk

A walking tour of a place; a park, a town, a campus. Show the beauty or the grimness. Is it peaceful or raucous? Bright or dark? What do people do there?

## Theme Option: A Day in Your Life

How do you get started in the morning? What part of your day is hard work? What part do you look forward to? How do you interact with friends or family? How do you relax? What does it feel like to get home after a busy day?

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- *Create a textual guide* briefly explaining the communication intent of each image (one page). Be prepared to present your work in class and explain what you wanted to communicate.

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