



Open
College
of the Arts

Formative feedback

Student name	Joanne Coates	Student number	509752
Course/Unit	PH2 Landscape	Assignment number	3
Type of tutorial	Written		

Overall Comments

A coherent and targeted assignment Joanne, with effective images and pairings, well done. You have also added further planning posts, which helps chart your thought process and decisions, great progress. You are looking at pertinent sources and research, keep going with this and continue to expand on your analysis. It would have been great to offer advice and feedback on your plans or work in progress for your critical review and transitions assignments, but I couldn't find any initial posts or planning on your learning log. I would be happy to arrange a quick phone call to discuss how you could approach this if it would be helpful.

Feedback on assignment

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

The work was submitted on your online learning log, it was accessible and laid out clearly. I'm not sure that the repeat of the first two pairings at the top is necessary though as they are better viewed with the whole series below.

One of my first observations is that I would love to see some captions with this series, perhaps geographical rather than narrative, perhaps detailing the event in a concise listing sort of manner – I think it would really enhance the reading of the work.

You chose a really strong starting pair for this series, technically if you can't find the exact same spot to photograph from, I think doing this where the sculpture and the object of focus is sitting pretty much in the same place within the frame of the image, but smaller as in this case, really works, it is like you have 'zoomed out' slightly and creates a very playful well composed contrast. I really enjoy everything this says about tourism, entertainment, leisure time in contrast to the gravity and weight of heritage and time implied by the sculpture. It would be great if the captions could allude slightly to the nature of the site and what the sculpture might stand for.

I also think pairs three and six stand out as encapsulating your idea with effective contrasts. The density and curving of the crowd down the hill in the second image of pair six really works although it is a shame about that road sign (if you have another that more closely mirrors the minimal signage of the left image, I think it would be worth considering a swap.

I'm not 100% sure the scaffolding image lives up to your idea as strongly as these others, as for me, the scaffolding is an interesting element and suggests activity, conservation and repair and the evolution of something, the making of something... but as I can't see other options you selected from it is hard for me to advise if an image without scaffolding was available or could potentially work.

A more general pointer, and I'm not sure if it's the compression of the images for web, but they are quite soft and the point of focus is hard to trace on quite a few – it would be great to know what settings you are working with as I can only guess from this that you are working on lower, larger apertures, and for this work, to allow you more flexibility, I would advise use of a tripod and upping this to more like f11, f16 and so on so that you have a longer depth of field to play with.

Coursework

Demonstration of technical and Visual Skills, Demonstration of Creativity

Some very considered and personal responses here, showing an improved level of image analysis, keep going! I was particularly moved by your response and reflection for Ex 3.5 and very apt choice of location considering the theme of post-industrial landscapes.

Ex 3.4 part 2: I understand your hesitation with undertaking a digital manipulating exercise, when faced with advertising and other images that manipulate images so convincingly I often feel overwhelmed at any efforts I could have – however, as the brief states, I do think there are other means to manipulate images or create new messages that don't involve any drawing or digital distortions by hand... what about collage or photomontage? Using newspaper imagery or press imagery as you have shown you can source from your research. The act of cutting out elements of an existing photograph or crudely layering elements and type can have a remarkable effect. I think it is worth having a go and if you encounter a brief that makes you feel in a similar way, try to think laterally about how you personally could subvert the main objective and do something your way.

Research

Context, reflective thinking, critical thinking, analysis

No reworks of previous research was submitted for me to review.

It is great however, to see documentation of your recent visit to exhibitions featuring the work of photographers such as Don McCullin and Katie Wilson. There's a strong focus on the work and the way it is presented in these posts, and you summarise your feelings about the work articulately and thoughtfully. But, as encouraged at A2 feedback, can you go that next step further and pick out one or two individual images to deconstruct in detail? You took documentation photographs of the installations, could you enlarge one image of a work and reflect in an objective tone on how this image backs up your interpretation of the work or its key messages?

Learning Log

Context, reflective thinking, critical thinking, analysis

This work clearly took a lot of coordination and effort, I can see this from the work and the extra planning posts you have added for this assignment - though I do feel your process leading up to final selection could be evidenced in more detail, such as annotated contact sheets, editing and pairing options and how you made your choices. Could you take screengrabs of pairings that you trialled and why they worked or didn't work, do a contact sheet of a long list, then a short list that shows how you refined the edit. Did you make any notes or schedules, or run any test prints to help your selection, consider photographing these laid out and upload to your posts to help illustrate your process.

Suggested reading/viewing

Context

At this level of the course it is encouraged to take note of some of the sources in this section of your report. Spend some time exploring some of the links in previous reports and on the reading list (attached) and select one or two works, texts or images that you find particularly interesting to analyse in posts - these could be back dated to slot in between your tutor feedback and reworks or under your research heading of your log.

Summary

Strengths	Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Focused and coherent assignment with effective pairings• Action taken to improve documentation of assignment development on your learning log• Continued independent research with deeper critical reflection in places	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conduct more independent research guided by reports and reading list• Use documentation images and/or screenshots and contact sheets with annotations as a way to help expand on planning posts• Important to share progress on Assignment 4 and Assignment 6

Please inform me of how you would like your feedback for the next assignment: written or video/audio.

Tutor name	Helen Warburton
Date	12 August 2019
Next assignment due	4 October 2019