

Museum Writing Assignment**Requirements**

1. At San Diego Museum of Art, view the Gregory Crewdson exhibition, and read any materials provided.
2. Take notes, so that you can finish this assignment after your museum visit.
3. Type your essay and print it out. It is due in class on the day provided on your calendar. If you have printing issues, email the essay to yourself and print in class. Your essay should be 1-2 pages, single-spaced, with no larger than 12 point font.
4. Your essay must include information as requested below.
5. Your essay must be typed in complete sentences.
6. If you would like additional help with your essay, contact the Writing Center on campus, room 428, M-TH 9:00am-6:30pm, F 9:00am-3:00pm, Sat 8:00am-12:00pm. EXT. 5269

First Paragraph: Favorite Image (1st image)

Select one photograph from the show. Address the topics and questions below.

- List the title of the image.
- Describe the image. List the subject, visual emphasis, and any other important descriptive information.
- Identify and describe 3 things that make this image stand out. What makes it good? They could be subject, composition, color, tone, contrast, mood, concept, etc.
- Why is the image the “most interesting” of the group?
- What if you were the photographer? Think about what had to happen in order to create this image. Think about the logistics involved:
 - Any special considerations in getting to the location?
 - Any issues with access to area such as permits, authorities, danger?
 - Who would you need the support of (locals, assistants, travel, etc.)?
 - Any special equipment considerations?
 - Any special considerations with subject...people in the images?
 - Any special considerations to get the desired point of view (aerial, etc.)?
 - Any thing else that was involved in planning prior to taking the image?

Second Paragraph: (Formal Critique & Effect) (2nd image)

Select a different image than what you used for paragraph one. Address the topics below.

- List the title of the image.
- Formally critique this image. Describe the following
 - Use of composition (list at least one compositional element)
 - Examples: Rule of Thirds, use of line, shape, depth, simplicity, etc.
 - Use of tone and contrast
 - Examples: All dark tones, all mid-tones, low contrast, high contrast, etc
 - What is the visual emphasis in the image and how was it created?
 - Use of color in the image
 - Are there dominant colors? Where do these colors come from?
 - Do the colors help influence mood or interpretation?
 - Do the colors feel symbolic...if yes, in what way?
 - Use of light in the image
 - How is the scene lit?
 - Are there diffused light sources, direct light sources, both? What are they?
 - Does the lighting make the subject stand out in some way? How?
- How do all of these elements work with the subject to create a mood or feeling? What is that mood or feeling?

...continued on back

Third Paragraph: (Character & Narrative) (3rd image)

Select a third image, different from those used in paragraph 1 & 2. Think about the meaning, concept, idea, emotion, etc. from the image. Think about your interpretation from the image. Think about the character and the narrative in the image.

Answer these questions:

- What is the artist's Intention?
- What is the overall concept or idea?
- How is the subject, person(s), represented?
- Describe the visual representation of the character(s) in the image. What are they wearing? What is their appearance? What are their facial expressions and body language?
- What are the characters doing? What activity or lack of activity do you see?
- Describe the character(s) with a word, phrase, or sentence. Do they fit stereotypes? Do they fit a specific role or profession? Can you use adjectives such as (lonely, happy, depressed, energetic, etc) to describe this person?
- Describe the location and surrounds that are in the scene. What do you see? How does this context create a narrative that interacts with the character? How does this context help set the mood for the image?
- How does lighting affect the mood and narrative?
- How does color affect the mood and narrative?