

	Open College of the Arts		
	Tutor report		

Student name	Martin Tayler	Student number	511655
Course/Module	TAOP	Assignment number	4

Overall Comments

An above average response to the assignment but there are some issues.

I understand your aim is to go for the Photography/Creative Arts Degree and that you plan to submit your work for assessment at the end of this course. From the work you have shown in this assignment, providing you commit yourself to the course, I believe you have the potential to succeed at assessment. In order to meet all the assessment criteria, there are certain areas you will need to focus on, which I will outline in my feedback.*

...read the Learning Logs section for more information.

Feedback on assignment

The purpose of the assignment is to demonstrate that you understand how to control light to emphasise qualities in an object.

Although enjoyable and educative using a sophisticated lighting schemes has reduced the differences between the required properties rather than dramatising them.

The assignment could have been achieved using a single head and reflectors and diffusers for one set and daylight with reflectors and diffusers for another set.

Shape is best conveyed through silhouetting, either completely or semi.

Light a plain background either with a head or the sun/daylight and shade the object off from the light. Reflectors, white card, matt silver card, shiny silver card, or mirrors can be used for any fill-in required. Obviously no fill-in dramatises the shape the most.

Form needs to emphasise the three dimensionality of the object. This is achieved by creating highlight and shadow. A light source high and to the left

will achieve this. We tend to read images from left to right so very often it feels more comfortable to have the highlights on the left tailing off into shadow on the right. Again one can use reflectors to decide how much detail to put back into the shadows.

Texture is emphasised by an acute angled light grazing across a rough surface. The object you've chosen doesn't have such a texture so you can't demonstrate that.

Colour can be optimised with a soft frontal light so that it's emphasised over the form and texture.

Well done for trying more complex set ups but without being told I'd be hard pressed to say which was shot for which category for some of them and it should be obvious.

Having said that, although you can reshoot it if you wish with a different object, I don't see the necessity to reshoot it, as I've said it's an above average response.

Learning Logs or Blogs/Critical essays **Context**

It's good to see that you've done quite a lot of wider research engaging with photographic culture, that's something the assessors look for so well done on that.

The navigation still needs a bit of work. Because of the inadequate menuing on student blogs the assessors asked the OCA to commission a blog template that answered the problems that the default chronological menus on blogs were causing. There's information about it here...

<http://ocalearninglogsample.wordpress.com/>

Have a look and compare it to yours.

There are too many items in the Categories menu. The first 5 items need to be the assignments from 1 to 5, if your submission for assessment is blog based.

Clicking on Assignment 1 should lead to single scrollable page that begins with all the images sent to the tutor for the assignment plus any text that was sent with it, then, with the permission of your tutor his report (without permission you will have to supply hard copies of your assignment reports), your reflections on his report and any changes you've made as a result of the report giving your reasons why.

If you wish exercises associated with that assignment may go underneath the above but certainly should be mixed in with it.

All five assignments should follow the same scheme.

The assessment is focussed on the assignments, which the exercises have been enablers for, and your researches and reflections. So it's the actual assignments, less the exercises, and the research and reflections that need to be easily and obviously available to an assessor who's assessing you entirely on the content of your blog. The design should reduce the number of clicks required to access the important material to an absolute minimum.

Pointers for the next assignment

The next assignment is the narrative assignment. The narrative doesn't have to be chronologically linear or have a time element. You could be mapping out an area, be it physical, intellectual or emotional.

Recently students have produced books about the challenges of being a young mother to searching for their photographic 'I' through the streets of Arles.

You don't have to do a book or even a layout if you find it problematic, a series of captioned images indicating which is the front cover will suffice and will actually be more effective than a clumsy layout.

Focus on producing a resonant coherent set of images that engage the viewer.

Tutor name:	Clive White
Date	1/10/13
Next assignment due	1/12/13