

Project #3: The Landscape

Conceptual Requirements:

land•scape |'lan(d),skāp|

noun

I all the visible features of an area of land, including physical elements such as landforms, living elements of flora and fauna, abstract elements like lighting and weather conditions, and human elements like human activity and the built environment.

For this assignment, shoot a series of pictures using the idea of Landscape as a starting point for your subject. Landscape photography has historically been associated with a pensive reckoning of the places we inhabit, and therefore as a kind of mirror of our own existence. While shooting natural landscapes in the traditional sense can be a great way to begin thinking of landscape and making pictures, also think of other ways that the more immediate urban landscape may surround you. What contemporary and/or personal concerns are you addressing with these pictures? Be prepared to explain your thoughts in making these pictures when you present them during critique.

Technical Requirements:

This project will require that you use a tripod and cable release. Doing so will allow you to use any aperture available regardless of the shutter-speed required. In this way, you'll be able to select very small apertures (large f-stop numbers), to render a large depth of field. This will render photographs where maximum detail is present from near to far.

Using the cable release will allow you to shoot without moving the camera during exposure. This will be especially useful since two of your six required rolls will need to be shot at night.

For the night pictures, you will use techniques for measuring available light and gauging exposures with external light meters and reciprocity failure tables. In addition the rolls shot at night will be developed with a "pull-processing" technique demonstrated in class. Along the way we will also cover "push-processing" for low light shooting.

For printing, split filtering printing techniques that you'll learn should be combined with your knowledge of dodging, burning to make excellent quality prints for the critique.

Deliverables:

You will shoot 6 rolls (minimum) for this project, & make contact sheets for all. At least two of your rolls must be shot at night. In addition you'll turn in Excellent Prints on the critique day. See the syllabus for pacing and due dates.