**Photographic Essay Rubric**

The following criteria will be used in general terms to score photographic essays on a scale of 0-15. Beyond these criteria, failure to follow specific instructions on the course website for the assignment or submission instructions (or turning an assignment in late) may also reduce the base rubric score for the assignment.

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| **Points** | **Criteria** |  |
| **15** | * The photo essay clearly demonstrates a "thick depiction" (Taylor 1996) of some cultural phenomenon. * There is a clear ethnographic point; that is, the interplay between image and text seek to provide some anthropological insight into some interesting dimension of human experience, while capitalizing on the affordances of still imagery * The photo essay includes at least 6 original images, but not too many images; the images were chosen deliberately for the ethnographic insights that they provide * The essay portion is at least 800 words; the words should clearly provide context and supplementary analysis (i.e., the photos could not be replaced by the words), situating the images for the reader; writing should be clear and concise, grounded in good anthropological thinking * Each image has a caption identifying the image (e.g., "Figure 1"/"Landscape 1"). * The photo essay includes an Appendix which includes all of the following:   + The exposure settings for the image and why the student used them.   + The post-processing work for the image.   + A description of why the student made the editing decisions they did, including an ethnographic rationale |  |
| **12.5** | * The photo essay attempts to provide a "thick depiction" of some cultural phenomenon, but falls slightly short in some way * There is an ethnographic point, but it is not 100% clear; the interplay between image and text are good, but at times could have been more clearly integrated in order to provide anthropological insight. * The photo essay includes at least 6 original images. * The photo essay may be cluttered with images. * The essay portion is at least 800 words; the words largely provide content, not context (i.e., the photos could be replaced by the words); or the writing has some minor grammatical issues or analytical problems in terms of anthropological thinking. * Each image has a caption identifying the image (e.g., "Figure 1"/"Landscape 1"). * The photo essay includes an Appendix which provide most (but perhaps not all) of the following information:   + The exposure settings for the image and why the student used them.   + The post-processing work for the image.   + A description of why the student made the editing decisions they did. |  |
| **7.5** | * The photo essay attempts to provide a "thick depiction" of some cultural phenomenon, but falls significantly short in doing so. * The photo essay includes at least 4 original images. * The essay portion is at least 600 words; serious grammatical or analytical issues. * Some images have a caption identifying the image. * The photo essay includes an Appendix which is missing substantial bits of information regarding:   + The exposure settings for the image and why the student used them.   + The post-processing work for the image.   + A description of why the student made the editing decisions they did. * Any major shortcoming of the above criteria may result in this grade |  |
| **5** | * The photo essay is simply a series of images that appear related, but do not provide a "thick depiction." * The photo essay includes at least 2 original images. * The essay portion is at least 400 words. Lacks serious anthropological thinking. * None of the images have a caption identifying the image. * The photo essay does not include an Appendix or the Appendix is missing most of the critical information. * Any major shortcoming of the above criteria may result in this grade |  |
| **2.5** | * The photo essay is simply a series of images that are not clearly related in any way. * The photo essay includes at least 1 original image. * The essay portion is at least 200 words. * None of the images have a caption identifying the image. * The photo essay does not include an Appendix or the Appendix is missing most of the critical information. * Any major shortcoming of the above criteria may result in this grade |  |
| **0** | * The student did not turn anything in by the deadline. |  |