

## Colorizing a Black and White Photograph

The purpose of this assignment is to help you use the selection tools in Adobe Photoshop as well as teach you some important composition concepts such as unity, variety and repetition. Detailed directions for colorization and using selection tools are on pages 31 through 36 of your Digital Photography Handbook.

For this assignment you will actually need to take a picture in black and white mode in the camera because you want to be thinking of your compositions first in terms and black and white.

1. Push the **f (function) button** on the back of your camera.
  2. Push the **left arrow key** until you see **roll of film icon**.
  3. Push the **up arrow key** to go from standard color to black and white.
  4. Click the **OK** button.
  5. You will now be able to take photos in black and white.
- Taking an assortment of black and white photos will give you a good selection from which to choose your best photograph. Try different styles of photos to get a good one.
  - The best types of photographs for this assignment are landscapes, florals, nature or still life arrangements.
  - Your composition is vitally important in this assignment, because you will need to use the colorization of your photo to carry your design. **For that reason avoid a photo that is too empty with only a few main objects and little detail.**

Here are the directions for colorization:

1. Open your black and white photo in the **Adobe Photoshop Program**.
2. Go to the **image menu** then **mode** then **RGB**.
3. Select a color that you would like to use on a specific object or area **either** by choosing one from the **colors palette** or **double clicking** on the **background color square** in the **toolbox** and choosing a color from the **dialogue box** that will then come up.
4. Using one of the **selection tools (lassos, magic wand, marquee)** select the object in the photo that you would like to colorize with your first selected color.
5. Go to the **image menu** then **adjust** then **hue and saturation**.
6. In the **hue and saturation dialogue box**, click on **colorize**.
7. Your selected object will turn the **selected color**, you can then push **arrows** back and forth to **adjust the lightness and intensity (saturation)** of the color.
8. **Important Note:** Once you have an object colored the way you want it to be, be sure to **record the numbers** for the various settings, so you can repeat them with the next object.
9. Once your object is colorized to your satisfaction, click **OK**.
10. **Repeat steps three through 9** on all other parts of the photograph to be colorized.
11. **Remember to save both your black and white photo as one file and your colorized photo as another file name.**

Printing your photograph:

- a. Create a two photograph ( 5x7" or 7x 5") **picture package** showing both your original black and white photograph and the colorized photograph.
2. Print your picture package on the 4650C printer.
3. Turn in your picture package with the grading sheet attached to it.

Tips for success:

- Plan to use a limited palette of colors—at least two but no more than five.
- Use a complex composition with variety in emphasized shapes so that at least one or two colors are repeated throughout design.
- Plan to balance the color with the black and white, usually about a 50/50 balance.
- Avoid simple compositions with only one or two large objects, they are not suitable for this assignment.