

Sample Level 3 Submission

Unit Title. Digital Photography and Printmaking Processes.

**Unit Code: KJ1/3/QQ013.**

Cameras used. Canon 450D and Canon 500D cameras.

Lenses used. Canon 18-55mm, and 70-200mm lenses

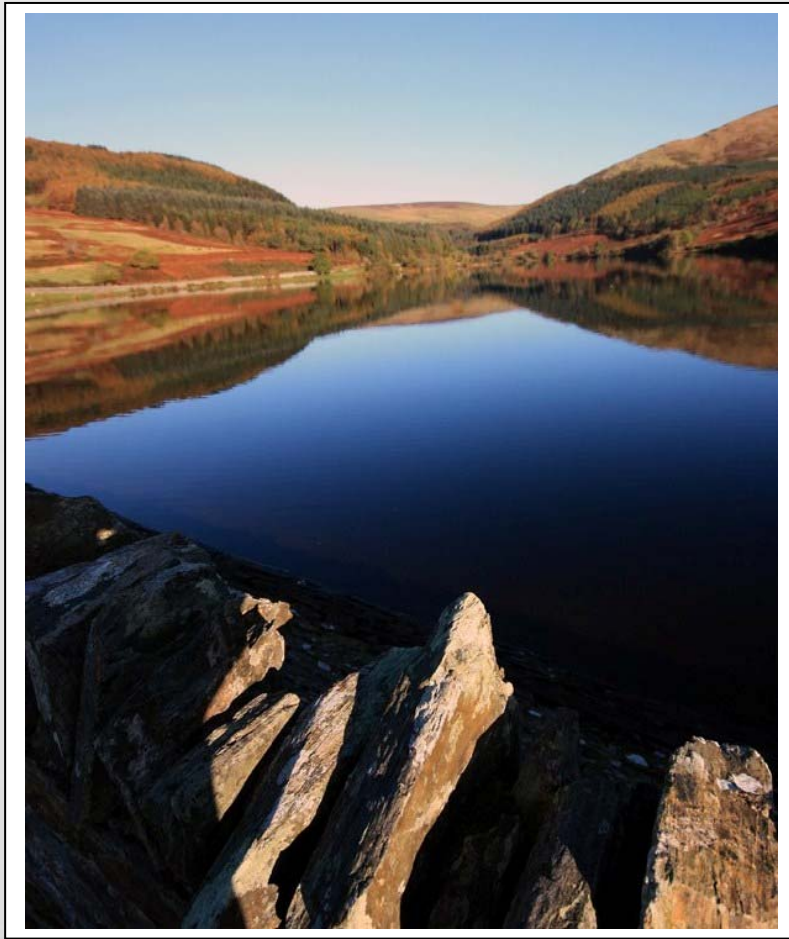
Sigma 10-20mm and Sigma 50-500mm lenses.

All images edited in Photoshop.

### **Part One.**

#### **Composition perspectives for Land and Cityscapes.**

The first image I have chosen was taken early on a still morning at a local reservoir, and I was alone, apart from two or three fishermen. The water was like a mill-pond and hardly produced a ripple, offering magnificent reflections of the surrounding hillsides with their autumnal colours. I have, however, chosen this image to demonstrate a different composition strategy as I wished to lead the viewer's eyes to show, not only the beauty of the area, but to show also the scale of the place. I eventually decided to go to the corner of the reservoir and dipped behind the wall in order to get the perspective I wanted for the correct composition when considering the 2/3rds rule. As the early morning sun was behind me, it lit parts of the wall, which hopefully offers the image an extra, depth, texture and dimension. Analysing this photograph I feel that the subject matter appears interesting to the viewer, and is thankfully not too busy, offers good and varied light, shade and, most importantly, colour, and a good depth of field. The main change to the original was a slight crop to the bottom of the wall, as I had not realised that there was a stone missing and was therefore slightly irritating and out of balance with the rest of the composition. Of the various photos I had taken, although, beautiful reflections in each, due to the still water in both landscape and portrait modes, I eventually decided that this composition worked best as I had previsualised the image I wanted as one which offers tranquility. The photograph was taken using my Canon 450D with a Sigma 10-20mm lens on F5.6 at 1/250sec on ISO100, as it offered the least noise and blended well with the aperture set towards the foreground, and at a focal length of 10 mm as I felt that these settings were appropriate to the overall composition based on the subject, concept and mood I required in this instance.



The second image is my interpretation of a full cityscape and shows my home-town, Douglas. I made a conscious decision to take this photo at night, and from this angle for two reasons, firstly, to show the ferry before it sailed, which is so important as it is not only our link to the UK, but also our “lifeline”, as apart from passengers and vehicles, it also carries all types of cargo including foodstuffs, and secondly, to reveal the beauty of the bay at night. There was also the challenge of finding a safe position to shoot from as this area has effectively become almost prohibitive as gates have been padlocked and covered in barbed wire, so not the best situation when carrying camera and tripod, however, I managed to take many photos, and eventually chose this as the image which captured the composition I wanted, The night I chose offered a calm sea, which offered perfect near and far reflections, and with the two small yachts in the foreground being almost silhouetted by the lights from the ferry, added to the composition and similarly, the lights across the promenade offered pleasing reflections. I have seen many daytime photos taken from in and around this area, but none captured the mood, however,

I believe, at night, it comes “alive”. Analysing it, I could have cropped it at the top of the image, but decided against doing so, as beyond the lights are hills and a mountain, which, whilst, not seen, or even known to all the viewers, was important to me. I realised this could have been a mistake, however on reviewing the over all composition I feel the void works within the 2/3rds rule, along with the colour, light and reflections. In the final analysis the image was taken with my Canon 500D using the 18-55mm lens on F5.6, at an exposure time of 5 seconds on ISO100 at a focal length of 55mm, and slightly sharpened using Photoshop, and it appears to have a good composition, sharpness, and has certainly captured the cityscape I set out to capture, and although I had initial doubts over the background I feel that it benefits the image’s composition, and by taking time to find the foreground position, with correct balance and lighting details, especially from the vessel, I feel that the colours, although the photograph was taken at night, “shine”, not only on and around the vessel, but also along the promenade.



## Part 2.

### Understand Land and Cityscape light and shadow and image depth.

The first image I have chosen may look a little strange, however, I have chosen it to convey the subject of light (or the lack of it in this case ). This photograph was taken inside a now deserted Victorian Prison cell on a very dull and cold day earlier this month with only the ex Deputy Governor with me. I was “lucky” enough to photograph the whole Prison, however, whilst in one of the cells, I decided to close the door to envisage the feeling of being locked up in this horrible place and as all the light fittings had been removed, the only light into the cell was from this window. I stood for a while just trying to imagine what conditions the inmates had to endure and decided that the only “light” they had would come from this tiny, dusty and dirty, window. As the prisoners were only moved to their new home a matter of months ago, observing the condition of the ceiling, one can only imagine the conditions they had to endure. I have edited this in Photoshop to lighten it a little as the original was a little under exposed, and have also slightly sharpened it as the double glass in the centre and left windows gave the impression of being out of focus, as the only open window was the one to the right of the image. The photograph was taken with my Canon 450D using a Sigma 10-20mm lens on F6 at 1/40sec at ISO200 at a focal length of 16mm.

