

Assignment II, Part 2

**Facebook Project:
Empathy**

**Fall 2012, Art 081 231
Rutgers University
Mason Gross School of the
Arts**

**Lindsay Nordell
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**Section 1 WF 12:00–3:00pm
Section 2 WF 3:20–6:30pm**

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**Section 3 WF 3:20–6:30pm
Section 4 WF 12:00–3:00pm**

Office hours by appointment.

Take two of your four compositions from last class. Redesign them or tweak the design based on what we talked about in class -- what works? What didn't work? Do you want to group Conscious and Unconscious subtexts under a single heading? Do you want to use different colors or different placement? How can you make your composition easily and quickly understandable to a stranger? How can you make it look interesting and engaging?

Read the excerpts from Camera Lucida by Roland Barthes on the class website. Keep in mind the studium and the punctum. Do your photos have a studium? Do they have a punctum? What is it? What touches you about each photograph?

Write a fictional paragraph, 5-10 sentences, on the subject of each of the two photographs you have chosen. This will be entirely invented by you based only on the things you see in your subject's profile picture. Who is this person? How did she get to this place? What happened in his life before this picture was taken, years before or moments before? Why do they want you to know these things about them?

Empathize with but don't pity your subject. Tell your subject's story as though he or she were your close friend. Keep in the negative assessments you made of the photograph, but try to understand why they are there and where they came from.

Schedule

Friday, September 28: Assignment given. Spend the weekend working on your diagrams.

Wednesday, October 3: Bring in your four labeled diagrams. We'll have an in-class critique of these diagrams.

Friday October 5: Bring in your two re-designed compositions. Bring in your two paragraphs.

Wednesday October 10: Final due.