SD City College
Photo 143: Intro to Digital Photography
Instructor: David King

Grade:_____

Due:

Black and White from Color

For the serious photographer, color is used when the color of the subject is a primary aspect of its nature and needs to be conveyed in order to portray the 'personality' and character of the subject. But when that nature is primarily about tones and textures, dark and light, shade and highlight, then often the best way to present it to the viewer is as a black and white, or more properly 'grayscale' image. This project will explore ways of turning a color digital original into a black and white file for printing.

SUBJECT:

Your choice of subjects. But chose subjects where the tonalities, or texture or play of light and dark are the primary aspects and where the influence of its color is minimal or irrelevant.

PROCEDURE:

Makes sure the exposure and other settings are optimum for the subject. If necessary do the "digital two-step" by shooting multiple exposures and blending them together. But start with a good color image using all of the steps we've covered.

Do the steps below (except for labeling and saving as ""Yourname BW.jpg") with several different subjects. Pick you best to turn in as the final set. **Remember: Resolution=100ppi, size =1,000 pixels.**

1. Make three versions of a grayscale file as follows:

    a. If your camera has a B&W mode, shoot one copy of your subject with it then shoot one in coloe to convert in the computer.
    b. Simply use the **Image-Mode-Grayscale** setting to remove the color information.
    c. Use the **Image-Adjustments-Desaturate** option to remove color information.
    d. Use **Image-Adjustments-Channel Mixer** option as discussed in class. Click the "monochrome" check box then play with the color channel sliders to see what various effects you can achieve. If your initial image has a wide range of colors this can create the same effects as using color contrast filters on B&W film.

2. Choose the subject/shot you think is the best to turn in as your final image to be graded.
3. In the "Final" folder, turn in the original color image along with the finished Grayscale version. Fill in the line below with the approach you used to create the "best" grayscale version:
    _____

    If you have multiple versions label them with the technique. i.e. "yourname camera BW.jpg," "yourname channelmixer.jpg."