

As part of your course work in A2 you are required to produce a personal study.

A personal study is simply an area of research that you undertake and present in any form you like (Booklet, Magazine article, a presentation-prezi, keynote, video, ibook, digital magazine...)

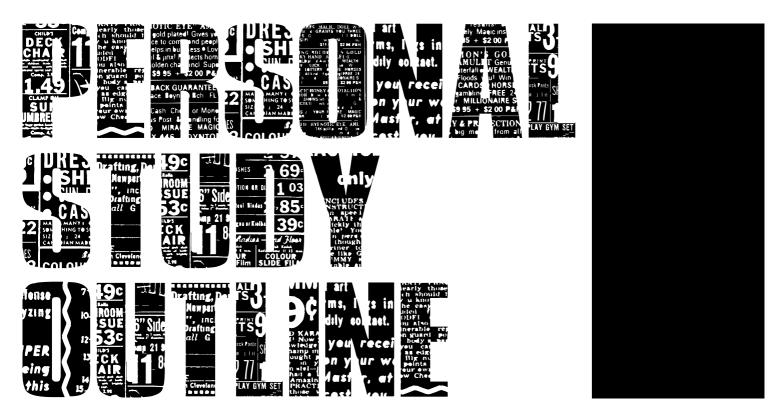
It is a good idea to start this at the end of year 12 so that you can use the Summer to collect research and practical work. This must be separate to your course work, however it must also relate to or support your A2 coursework.



If for your course work you are exploring Portrait photography it would be a good idea to make your personal study about a well known Portrait photographer and their influence on modern Portrait photography.

Plan your study by coming up with a question or an enquiry to help you focus the point to your study. The best way to do this is to pick a genre or particular subject matter that you find inspiring and develop this into a question or enquiry...

Enquiry	Genre	Subject matter
Ansel Adams and his influence on modern Landscape photography	Landscape Photography	Landscapes
The development of post war Fashion Photography	Portraits Photography	People, clothing
Through Women's eyes: A study of iconic female photojournalist	Photojournalism	Domestic life



Next pick your photographers and 2 of images from each that would be suitable for the purposes of the study (If you wish to study just one photographer then pick two early photographs, two from the middle of their career and two late ones).

Whatever the intended final format of your study follow the following basic format:

INTRO -introduce the topic, what is it you are hoping to learn/discover/prove
or disprove. How will this influence you as a photographer. (approx 200 words)

1st Photographer intro- introduce the photographer and summarise their style, the context of the time and culture in which they lived and the motives behind their work. (approx 200 words)

Image analysis 1- Analyse the image - see below guide to analysing
photographs. (approx 200 words)

Image recreation 1- Try to recreate the image and evaluate your sucesses using
the same process (approx 200 words)

Image analysis 2- repeat (approx 200 words)

Image recreation 2- repeat (approx 200 words)

Photographer 1 summary— summarise your findings (what you have learned from the last 4 steps) (approx 200 words)

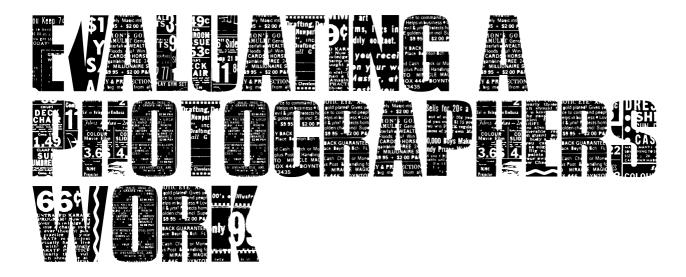
2nd Photographer intro- "
Image analysis 1- "
Image recreation 1- "
Image analysis 2- "
Image recreation 2- "

Photographer 2 summary- "

3rd Photographer intro- "
Image analysis 1- "
Image recreation 1- "
Image analysis 2- "
Image recreation 2-"

Photographer 3 summary- "

CONCLUSION-conclude what you have discovered, how you discovered it and what influence this will have on you as a photographer (approx 200 words).



It is very important to evaluate and analyse the work of your chosen photographer rigorously, not only to achieve good marks under AO1 but also to help you to build a greater insight into and understanding of their work and the motives behind it. Use the prompts below to guide you in this process. Your analysis must flow grammatically as one piece of written work and cannot be simply brief and direct responses to the questions.

A Guide to evaluating a Photograph: Content, Form, Process and Mood

Content - looking at the subject of the photograph

What is it? What is it about? What is happening?

Where and when was it taken?

What do you think that the relationship between the photographer and subject/s is?

What does the photograph represent?

What has the photographer called the photograph?

Does the title change the way we see the photograph?

Is it a realistic depiction?

Have any parts been exaggerated or distorted? If so, why?

What is the theme of the photograph?

What message does the photograph communicate?

Form - looking at the formal elements

Colour -Is the photograph colour or black and white? How does this affect the mood?

Tone -Is the photograph high or low contrast? How and why?

Line -What sorts of lines are there in the photograph? How have they been positioned in relation to the rest of the composition? What effect does this have?

Shape -What sorts of shapes are there in the image? Doe they remind you of anything? Do you think the photographer meant this? What kind of marks does the photographer use? **Pattern/Texture** -What kinds of patterns and/or textures are there in the photograph?

Process - how the photograph has been taken, developed/manipulated and printed

Was the photograph taken inside or outside?

What time of day?

How was it lit? How may light sources can you make out? What is the evidence for this? What materials and tools have been used?

Has the photograph been manipulated or distorted in any way? How and why?

Mood - looking at the communication of moods and feeling

How does the photograph make you feel?

Why do you think you feel like this?

Does the colour, texture, form or theme of the photograph affect your mood? How and why?