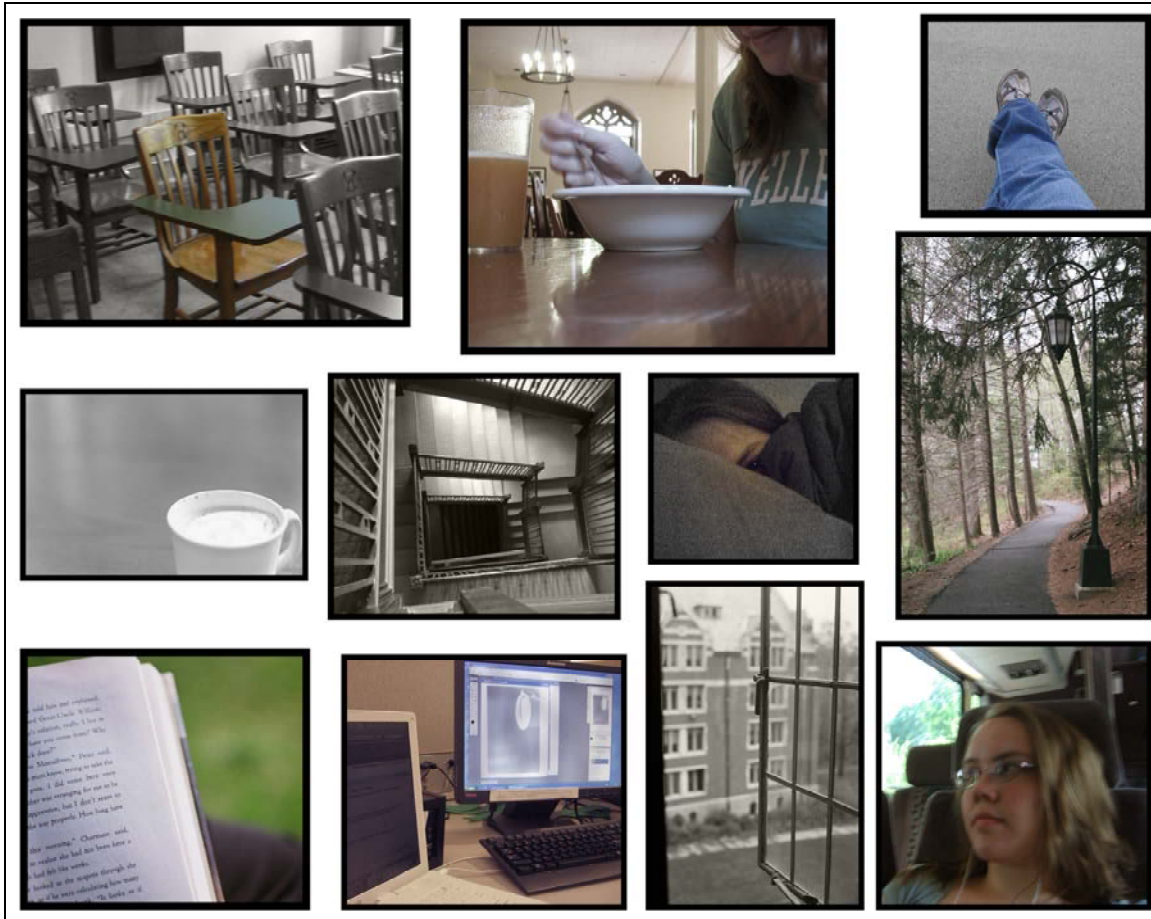


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Final Project Write-up
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A Day in the Life



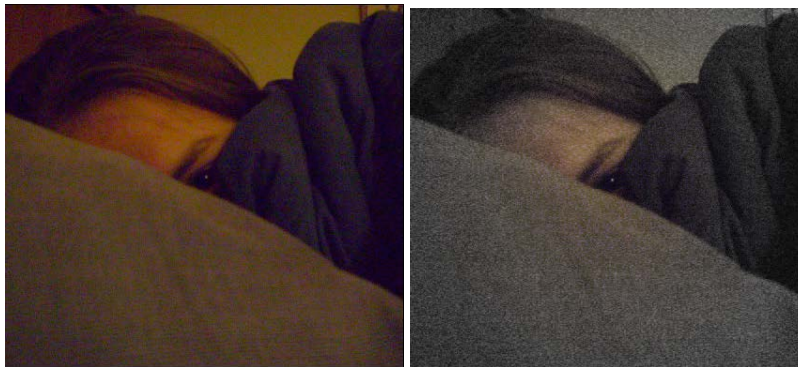
For my final project, I decided to try to capture the essence of an average day in my life. While it seems that a lot of the time I try to photograph things that are interesting or different, I thought it would also be worthwhile to document the little things in my day-to-day life. Since I'm graduating in June, I'm also now realizing how little time I have left on campus, which has made me want to record the time I have left all the more.

I shot this mainly in digital, although I added a few film images as well. I wanted to experiment with combining black and white and color, so I converted some of the images into black and white, left others in color, and made a few part black and white and part color using Photoshop. I wanted the project to have a soft, slightly vintage feel, so I tried to incorporate images with muted tones and soft lines, and often manipulated the photographs to decrease saturation levels.

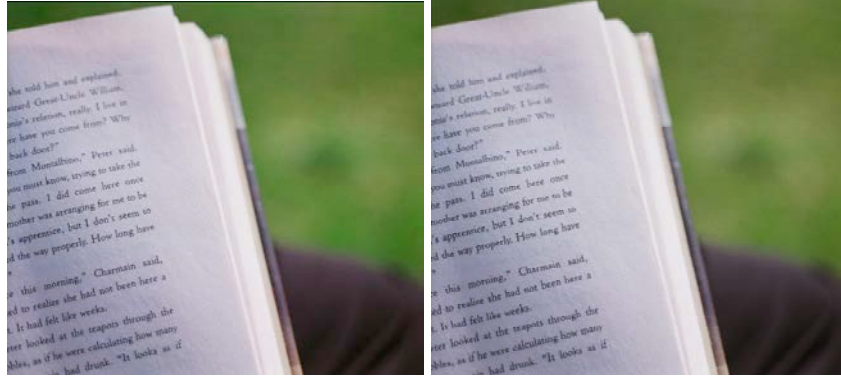
This is what I did to each of the images:



This image was shot in color film, then digitally manipulated. I adjusted the Hue/Saturation and Color Balance levels in Photoshop to get the softer, less saturated image.



This image was shot with my digital camera. Because of the poor indoor lighting, I had to manipulate it in Photoshop to get a working image. I increased both Brightness and Contrast significantly, then converted the image to black and white. To achieve some level of color, I then used the paintbrush tool to paint white over parts of the image while on the black and white layer mask, thus “erasing” parts and allowing the color to show through. This gave the image more focus on the single eye peeking out at the center of the picture, instead of being distracted by the colors and textures of the blankets.



This image, shot with color film, required no manipulation other than a sharpen mask to bring out the text.



This image was shot in digital. I decided to convert the background to black-and-white using the same technique as above (painting on the layer mask) to make the pavement more uniform.



This image was shot in digital, and I cropped and rotated it and then converted it to black and white with a slight sepia tint.



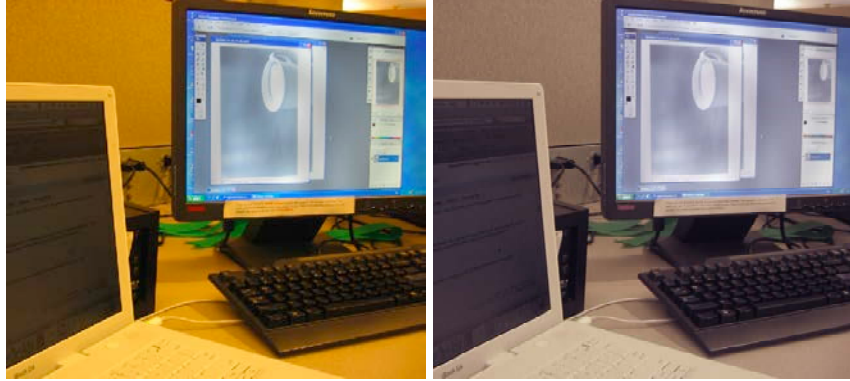
This self-portrait was also digital, and required only a Color Balance adjustment to reduce the green slightly.



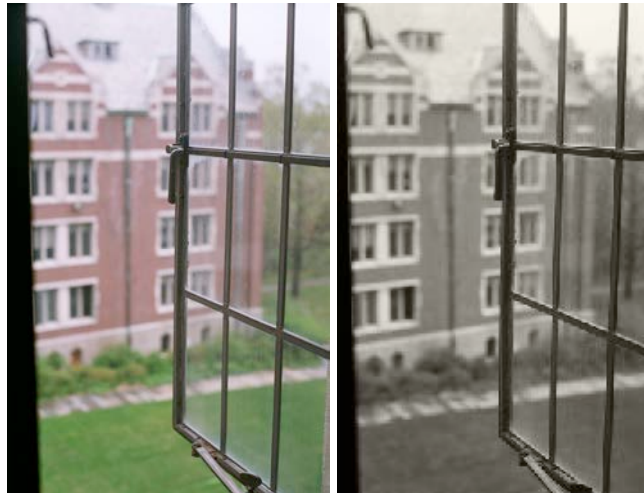
This image was shot in black and white film and then printed in the darkroom. I then scanned that print to add to my project. I used the Clone Stamp tool to remove a few scratches and spots from the film.



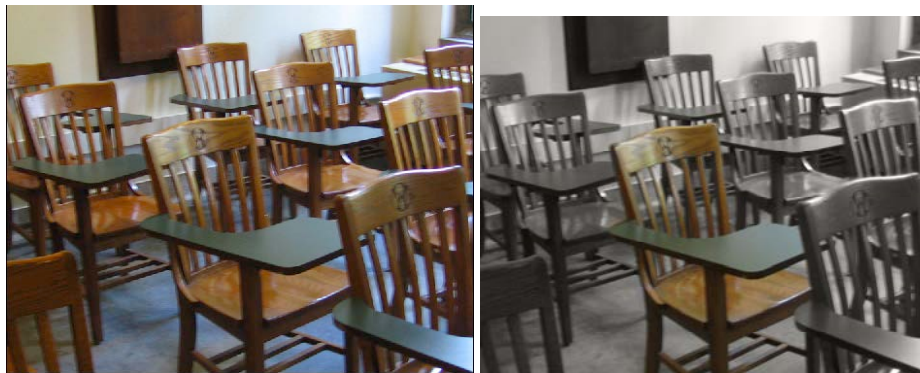
I really liked this digital shot, but decided the colors were a little too bright to fit into my overall softer scheme. I added a Color Balance layer to slightly increase the yellows and reds, and then a Hue/Saturation layer, in which I slightly decreased hue and greatly decreased saturation.



This image, taken in digital under the fluorescent lights in the library, needed a lot of work to be usable. I used a Color Balance layer to add a lot of blue, then a Hue/Saturation layer to significantly decrease the saturation. I also used a Brightness/Contrast layer to decrease contrast and add brightness to create the softer feel. I also used the Burn tool on the computer screen to make it less glaringly bright.

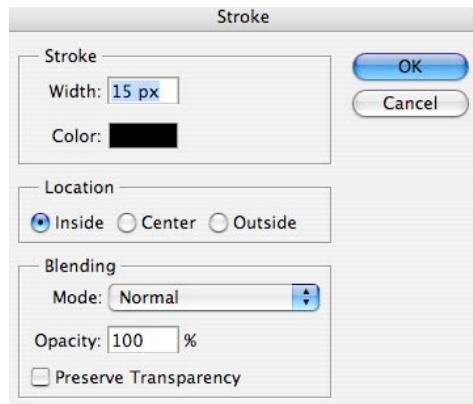


This photograph was shot in color film, then converted digitally to black and white with a slight sepia tone.



To bring the focus of this digital image onto just one desk, I used the same black and white technique described above (painting on a layer mask). Once I had the single chair

highlighted, I noticed the colors seemed off without the context of the whole room, so I used a Color Balance layer to increase yellows and reds.



I added a black border to all of the images using the Stroke tool (Edit -> Stroke) and setting it at 15 px. I then placed the images on a white background and resized and arranged them to fit. I think that this project reflects many aspects of my day, including classes, homework, bus rides, naps, meals and walks across campus and through my dorm. Taking my camera with me everywhere for a few days also made me look at my own life and actions differently and start to see the beauty in the everyday.

