Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Conceptual Photography Assignment**

***Narrative + Final Photo Assignment***

If you were asked, what characterizes society today, what would you say? Is now characterized by an economic depression that impacts that lives of people throughout the world? Is now characterized by war in Iraq and Afghanistan? Or, is now characterized by riots and rebellion in countries like Egypt, Libya, Tunisia and Yemen, by increasing inequality, by hunger, by hope and inspiration of a new tomorrow, a generation of youth committed to making change, by religion, by fear, by stress, by love, by natural disasters, by ambition, by immobility, or by innovations in technology, education, and design? Or is it something else entirely? In your eyes, what characterizes now?

Over the past few months we have been carefully analyzing historical photos, researching the time periods in which they were taken, and writing well-crafted narratives that provide context and help others to empathize with events, lives, and predicaments of the time. We now know that pictures, to their most minute of details, provide a wealth of information about a time period and those who lived within it. This is your opportunity to document your experience and to send a message to future generations about an issue you think is worth being conveyed. In 10, 50, or 100 years from now, what should people know about the world today?

As a developing photographer and writer, you are to select a “concept” that represents now to you. You will start by identifying the concept and writing a short proposal of how you will convey it through a photograph or short series of photographs. On **Thursday morning (4/28)**, you will present your proposal to Andrew, Liz, and Shawnee. You should have your proposal typed, have three printed copies (no more than ½ page), and be ready to present the proposal to us. It is highly recommended that you take some time to think deeply about your concept idea, talk your idea over with others prior to your pitch, be they students, parents, or other helpful individuals, in order to get feedback and creative suggestions, and that you practice your proposal presentation before Thursday. Once your proposal is approved, you have three tasks:

1. Complete your conceptual photo(s). Make all arrangements to take your photo(s), take your photo(s), and develop (either in chem. lab by 5/19) or submit to Liz for color print by 5/11.
2. Write 500-1000 word narrative, which can be fictional, that corresponds to the photograph and captures the concept that you are addressing. Benchmarks\* for your narrative include:
   1. Detailed outline & introduction **(two copies!)** Mon. **5/9**
   2. Draft #1 Thurs. **5/12**
   3. Draft #2 Mon. **5/16**
   4. Draft #3 + selection of excerpt\*\* + all former drafts and feedback Wed. **5/18**
   5. Some will have to complete an additional draft after revisions by Liz (due 5/25).
3. Select & audio record excerpt of narrative. Wed. **5/25**

*\*Dates are subject to modification. You are responsible for making note of any changes and meeting all deadlines.*

*\*\*The excerpt should be a short segment of your narrative. Spoken, the excerpt should be between 30-60 seconds. Think 1-2 paragraphs. The excerpt has to be pre-approved and practiced before being recorded!*