



Module One: Design Basics	Posts & Tutorials	Assignments	Tests & Quizzes	Portfolio Assignment
<p>Week 1: Welcome Aboard</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment A1 <input type="checkbox"/> Video A1 <input type="checkbox"/> Quiz A1 		<p>Assignment A1: All of the Accounts!</p> <p>Video A1: Google Drive Essential Training</p>	<p>Quiz A1: Welcome to DMMD!</p>	<p>Folio A1: Basic Design Principles Presentation</p> <p>Using only the tools available in Google Slides, create a 10 slide presentation that explains the most basic design elements (color, typography, contrast, repetition, alignment and proximity).</p>
<p>Week 2: WordPress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Tutorial A2 <input type="checkbox"/> Video A2 <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment A2 <input type="checkbox"/> Quiz A2 	<p>Tutorial A2: How to Write Decent Blogs</p> <p>Write up a tutorial that explains what it takes to write blogs that are engaging, SEO friendly, and loaded with various types of media.</p>	<p>Video A2: WordPress.com Essential Training</p> <p>Assignment A2: WordPress Portfolio Setup</p>	<p>Quiz A2: WordPress Essentials for Noobs</p>	<p>Extra Credit</p>
<p>Week 3: The Non-Designer's Design Book</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Tutorial A3 <input type="checkbox"/> Video A3 <input type="checkbox"/> Quiz A3 <input type="checkbox"/> Folio A1 	<p>Tutorial A3: The Do's & Don'ts of Design</p> <p>What are the most basic design rules that new designers should know? Use specific examples for what to do and what not to do.</p>	<p>Video A3: Google Slides Essential Training</p>	<p>Quiz A3: The Basics of Design</p>	<p>Extra Credit A1: Portfolio Theme Swap</p> <p>The default theme we use is not the best looking one, but it does work the way we want. Can you update your theme to make it more personal?</p>

Module Two: Basic Photography	Posts & Tutorials	Assignments	Tests & Quizzes	Portfolio Assignment
Week 4: Camera Basics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Tutorial A4 <input type="checkbox"/> Video A4 <input type="checkbox"/> Quiz A4 	<p>Tutorial A4: Creating Bokeh Effects with Aperture <i>Create a tutorial that explains how to get a Bokeh (background blur) effect of lights using a DSLR camera. Be sure to explain the process step by step.</i></p>	<p>Video A4: Photography 101</p>	<p>Quiz A4: Photography 101</p>	<p>Folio A2: The Black & White Photography Collection <i>Create a 10 photo presentation completely in black and white that showcases The Rule of Thirds as a fundamental rule of photography.</i></p>
Week 5: Copyrights <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Tutorial A5 <input type="checkbox"/> Video A5 <input type="checkbox"/> LearnKey PS1 <input type="checkbox"/> Quiz A5 	<p>Tutorial A5: Making a Harris Shutter Photograph <i>Write a tutorial that explains how to create a photo that has a Harris Shutter effect using a DSLR camera and Photoshop. Break down how it works, then make a step by step guide.</i></p>	<p>Video A5: Copyright for Photographers LearnKey PS1: Working in the Design Industry</p>	<p>Quiz A5: Copyright for Photographers</p>	<p>Extra Credit</p>
Week 6: Manual Modes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Tutorial A6 <input type="checkbox"/> Video A6 <input type="checkbox"/> LearnKey PS2 <input type="checkbox"/> Quiz A6 <input type="checkbox"/> Gmetrix A1 <input type="checkbox"/> Folio A2 	<p>Tutorial A6: Using Manual Mode to Create HDR Photos <i>Build a tutorial that details how to make an HDR photo by using three images captured in Manual mode. Explain each step!</i></p>	<p>Video A6: Photography Fundamentals: Black & White LearnKey PS2: Project Setup & Interface</p>	<p>Quiz A6: The Exposure Triangle Gmetrix A1: Photoshop Practice Exam 1</p>	<p>Extra Credit A2: Photography Skills Challenge <i>Choose one of the Photography Skills Challenges, and present it before the end of the module.</i></p>

Module Three: Photoshop	Posts & Tutorials	Assignments	Tests & Quizzes	Portfolio Assignment
<p>Week 7: Working in the Design Industry, Project Setup and Interface</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Tutorial A7 <input type="checkbox"/> Video A7 <input type="checkbox"/> learnKey PS3 <input type="checkbox"/> Quiz A7 <input type="checkbox"/> Gmetrix A2 	<p>Tutorial A7: Making a Double Exposure <i>Write a tutorial that explains how to make a Double Exposure effect using studio lights, a white backdrop, a subject, then how to use Photoshop to finish the effect.</i></p>	<p>Video A7: Introduction to Graphic Design (Photoshop) LearnKey PS3: Organizing Documents</p>	<p>Quiz A7: Getting to Know Photoshop Gmetrix A2: Photoshop Practice Exam 2</p>	<p>Folio A3: The Movie Poster Remake <i>Recreate a movie poster from scratch (or make up a new movie with a joke title) using your own photography and design skills to lay out the typography and composition in Photoshop.</i></p>
<p>Week 8: Creating and Modifying Visual Elements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Tutorial A8 <input type="checkbox"/> LearnKey PS4 <input type="checkbox"/> Quiz A8 <input type="checkbox"/> Gmetrix A3 	<p>Tutorial A8: Restoring & Recoloring Old Photographs <i>Write up a step by step guide for how to recolor old photos using photoshop. Find yourself an old photo from home, and bring it back to life.</i></p>	<p>LearnKey PS4: Creating & Modifying Visual Elements</p>	<p>Quiz A8: Photoshop Organization & Creation Gmetrix A3: Photoshop Practice Exam 3</p>	<p>Extra Credit</p>
<p>Week 9: Publishing Digital Media</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Tutorial A9 <input type="checkbox"/> LearnKey PS5 <input type="checkbox"/> Quiz A9 <input type="checkbox"/> Photoshop Cert <input type="checkbox"/> Folio A3 	<p>Tutorial A9: Make an Animated GIF from Video in Photoshop <i>Write a step by step guide on how to turn a short video clip into an animated GIF using Photoshop.</i></p>	<p>LearnKey PS5: Publishing Digital Media</p>	<p>Quiz A9: Are you ready for Photoshop Certification?!? Certification Test: Visual Design Using Photoshop</p>	<p>Extra Credit A3: Motion & Stillness: Cinemagraphs <i>In this project, you'll create magical moments where just one piece of a scene moves while the rest stays frozen.</i></p>

Tutorial A2: How to Write Decent Blogs

Writing a blog isn't just about having something to say—it's about saying it in a way that others want to read, share, and remember. In this tutorial, you'll create your own blog post from scratch, using smart structure, engaging language, and visual media to enhance the message. You'll learn how to organize your thoughts clearly, hook your audience with a strong opening, and build out useful content that's not just interesting but *searchable*—which is where SEO (Search Engine Optimization) comes in. Think about it like this: you're designing something that teaches or entertains, but also helps people *find* your voice online.

Use your own photos, graphics, charts, or embedded videos to support what you're writing about—don't just say it, *show it*. When people scroll through a blog post, they're scanning for visuals just as much as they are reading text. Try brainstorming blog topics based on things you're already good at or curious about. What keywords might people Google to find content like yours? Look up terms like "blog writing structure," "SEO for beginners," and "visual storytelling in blogs" to guide your process. Make it your goal to create a blog post you'd be proud to include in a portfolio or publish on your personal site.

04.03 – Create a digital portfolio to showcase multimedia projects (project must be embedded in WordPress site). ...because this blog post is a perfect candidate for your portfolio and will showcase your ability to combine writing, visuals, and digital publishing.

04.13 – Demonstrate knowledge of presentation vocabulary and terms. ...because you'll be using terms like "call to action," "headers," "embedded media," and "keyword optimization" correctly in your tutorial.

04.08 – Demonstrate knowledge of photo editing software. ...because you should create or enhance visuals that support your blog content—edited, branded, and optimized for the web.

05.01 – Demonstrate proficiency in advanced design. ...because writing a blog also means designing the layout: titles, pull quotes, typography, spacing, and how the content flows.

04.07 – Demonstrate knowledge of digital still photography. ...because original photography adds personality and credibility to blog content, especially in tutorials, reviews, or how-to posts.

Tutorial A3: The Do's & Don'ts of Design

Design is everywhere—on websites, posters, videos, logos, apps—and great design *feels* right even before you understand why. This tutorial challenges you to break down what makes a design work and what instantly makes it fall apart. You'll write a guide for new designers that's clear, visual, and easy to follow. Think in pairs: for every *do*, show a *don't*. Use real-world examples or screenshots to show poor font choices, clashing colors, bad spacing, and layout disasters—then fix them and show why your version works better. Make it visual, because this tutorial should *look* as good as it reads.

This is also a great time to practice using visual hierarchy, alignment, whitespace, and contrast. You'll want to explain things like why centering everything isn't always the best idea, why Comic Sans isn't considered professional, or how too many fonts in one design can create chaos. Help your reader see the difference, not just read about it. Use terms like “visual hierarchy,” “white space,” “typeface pairing,” and “color contrast” so you're also learning the design vocabulary that will help you research and improve. This tutorial is portfolio gold—make it personal and strong enough to use as a reference piece for your future clients.

05.01 – Demonstrate proficiency in advanced design. ...because this tutorial directly explores how to create intentional, effective, and visually sound designs that follow foundational best practices.

05.04 – Demonstrate proficiency in using fonts for advanced design. ...because many do's and don'ts in design involve font pairing, size hierarchy, and readability.

05.05 – Demonstrate proficiency in using illustration software. ...because students should create example designs (both bad and good) to visualize their rules using professional tools.

04.01 – Demonstrate knowledge of presentation production issues. ...because this tutorial explores how design decisions affect clarity, delivery, and audience engagement.

04.03 – Create a digital portfolio to showcase multimedia projects (project must be embedded in WordPress site). ...because this tutorial is highly visual and useful as a personal design guide that could strengthen your digital portfolio.

Tutorial A4: Creating Bokeh Effects with Aperture

Ever seen those dreamy photos where the background melts into a soft blur of glowing light? That's *bokeh*—and it's easier to create than you might think. In this tutorial, you'll teach others how to create bokeh using nothing but a DSLR camera, a lens with a wide aperture, and a little planning. This is your chance to get creative with light: fairy lights, street lamps, candles—anything that glows in the background will do. Your step-by-step guide should help new photographers understand how aperture, distance, and composition all come together to make that signature blur happen.

You'll want to explain terms like *aperture* (*f-stop*), *depth of field*, *manual focus*, and *prime lens*. Walk your reader through setting a wide aperture (like f/1.8 or f/2.8), getting close to the subject, and letting the background lights blur into shape. Show how different apertures change the effect, and include examples using your own original photography to prove the difference. Let your visuals teach—circle the blur in your photo, show settings on your camera screen, or compare shots side by side. This project makes a strong portfolio post, especially if you write with a friendly, helpful tone and let your photos shine.

04.06 – Demonstrate knowledge of digital still photography. ...because this tutorial requires an understanding of camera settings, lens types, and how aperture affects focus and lighting.

04.07 – Demonstrate knowledge of photo editing software. ...because you may want to adjust brightness or color in post-production to enhance the visual effect of your bokeh photos.

04.03 – Create a digital portfolio to showcase multimedia projects (project must be embedded in WordPress site). ...because your tutorial and final bokeh shots are strong examples of creative photography that deserve a place in your portfolio.

04.01 – Demonstrate knowledge of presentation production issues. ...because clearly organizing your steps and visuals is key to making this a helpful, teachable tutorial.

05.01 – Demonstrate proficiency in advanced design. ...because you'll need to lay out your blog post or tutorial in a way that is visually clear and educational.

Tutorial A5: Making a Harris Shutter Photograph

If you've ever wanted to give your photos a colorful, glitchy, time-bending look—this one's for you. The Harris Shutter effect captures motion by combining three slightly different frames of the same scene into red, green, and blue channels. When something in the shot moves between those frames, it leaves behind colorful "ghost trails" that look like a psychedelic time-lapse. In this tutorial, you'll take three photos of a moving subject using a DSLR and combine them into one vibrant final image using layers and channel blending in Photoshop (or your editing tool of choice). It's a great way to experiment with color, movement, and photo layering.

You'll need to set your DSLR on a tripod, take three shots in a row (ideally with only the subject moving), and then stack them into layers. Look up terms like "channel mixer," "layer masking," and "RGB color separation" to guide your Photoshop process. Try photographing a person walking, someone tossing an object, or cars moving through a street. Then use editing software to assign each frame to a different RGB channel—this is where the magic happens. Be sure to include your own example, explain what went wrong or right, and keep your voice helpful and clear. A tutorial like this stands out in a portfolio for its creativity, visual impact, and technical layering.

04.06 – Demonstrate knowledge of digital still photography. ...because capturing the three photos in a consistent sequence with motion requires camera setup, timing, and understanding your DSLR.

04.07 – Demonstrate knowledge of photo editing software. ...because creating the Harris Shutter effect requires importing, layering, editing, and blending images using advanced software tools.

05.01 – Demonstrate proficiency in advanced design. ...because you're creating a complex, layered composition that showcases movement, color control, and digital experimentation.

04.03 – Create a digital portfolio to showcase multimedia projects (project must be embedded in WordPress site). ...because the final image and your tutorial process are perfect for a blog post, tutorial section, or experimental photography portfolio.

04.13 – Demonstrate knowledge of presentation vocabulary and terms. ...because this tutorial helps you practice and explain terms like "RGB channels," "layer blend modes," and "color separation."

Tutorial A6: Using Manual Mode to Create HDR Photos

High Dynamic Range (HDR) photography is all about capturing the full range of light in a scene—from deep shadows to bright highlights—by combining multiple exposures into one perfectly balanced image. In this tutorial, you'll teach readers how to shoot and merge three photos using Manual mode on a DSLR camera. You'll take one underexposed, one correctly exposed, and one overexposed photo of the same subject, and then blend them in editing software to produce a photo with vibrant detail across the whole spectrum. This is a powerful technique for scenes with tricky lighting, like sunsets, cityscapes, or interiors with windows.

Start by explaining how to set your camera to Manual mode and lock in your aperture and ISO—only your shutter speed should change between shots. Use a tripod to keep your composition identical for each frame. Then guide readers to look up terms like “exposure bracketing,” “merge to HDR,” and “tone mapping” in photo editing software. Encourage them to take their own original HDR photos (avoid presets!) and talk through their editing process visually—show before-and-after comparisons, explain the balance of highlights and shadows, and describe what changed. The result is a dramatic, portfolio-worthy image that proves they understand both camera control and post-processing.

04.06 – Demonstrate knowledge of digital still photography. ...because capturing bracketed exposures in Manual mode requires precise control over ISO, shutter speed, and aperture.

04.07 – Demonstrate knowledge of photo editing software. ...because HDR processing involves layering, blending, and adjusting exposure settings across multiple images.

05.01 – Demonstrate proficiency in advanced design. ...because HDR editing is a creative balancing act of tone, light, and color—an advanced skill that shows design judgment.

04.03 – Create a digital portfolio to showcase multimedia projects (project must be embedded in WordPress site). ...because a cleanly merged HDR image with process visuals makes a strong addition to your personal photography showcase.

04.01 – Demonstrate knowledge of presentation production issues. ...because organizing a step-by-step HDR tutorial demands visual clarity, structure, and accessible design thinking.

Tutorial A7: Making a Double Exposure

Double exposure photography is where creativity really takes off—it's the art of blending two images into one surreal, eye-catching composite. In this tutorial, you'll guide your reader through capturing a clean portrait of a subject in a studio setup using a white backdrop and controlled lighting, then blending that photo with another image (like a forest, skyline, or abstract texture) in Photoshop to create the final effect. The result is a dreamy, layered piece of visual storytelling that looks complex, but becomes intuitive once you learn the steps.

Start by explaining how to shoot the base portrait: use strong, even studio lighting and a clean white background to make it easy to isolate the subject later. Then direct your reader to look up terms like “layer masks,” “blend modes,” “clipping masks,” and “overlay effects” to help them learn how to combine two images without harsh edges. They should experiment with where the second image shows through—face, silhouette, or hair—and explain how they chose their secondary image to match the story or mood. Encourage them to create and share something totally original—this is a signature project that belongs in their portfolio.

04.06 – Demonstrate knowledge of digital still photography. ...because setting up lighting, subject placement, and camera settings for a clean portrait is a foundational studio skill.

04.07 – Demonstrate knowledge of photo editing software. ...because blending images with layer masks, overlays, and careful selection is essential to the double exposure process.

05.01 – Demonstrate proficiency in advanced design. ...because this effect relies on strong compositional judgment, tone matching, and artistic storytelling through visual layering.

04.03 – Create a digital portfolio to showcase multimedia projects (project must be embedded in WordPress site). ...because a polished double exposure project is visually striking and portfolio-worthy for any design or photography section.

04.08 – Demonstrate understanding of filters, effects and plug-ins. ...because subtle enhancements like gradient maps or blurs can dramatically improve the final image.

Tutorial A8: Restoring & Recoloring Old Photographs

Old photographs have a magic all their own—but faded colors, scratches, and age stains can hide their original beauty. In this tutorial, you'll learn how to breathe new life into an old family photo by digitally restoring and recoloring it using Photoshop. The goal is to bring back clarity, balance, and tone—then add a new color that feels believable and respectful to the original image. It's a rewarding process that blends history, design, and storytelling. Choose a photo that matters to you—something from home that you can scan or photograph in high resolution—and give it a second life.

Your step-by-step tutorial should walk through key terms like *spot healing brush*, *clone stamp*, *colorize adjustment layers*, and *non-destructive editing*. You'll likely need to fix damage first (like dust, creases, and fading), then shift to recoloring different parts of the image using careful selection and layering techniques. Show your progress with side-by-side before/after shots. Teach your readers how to look up things like “selective coloring in Photoshop,” “how to colorize grayscale images,” and “restoration workflow for beginners.” This is an emotional and skillful project—perfect to feature in your portfolio with a personal story attached.

04.07 – Demonstrate knowledge of photo editing software. ...because this tutorial centers on using tools like healing brushes, layer masks, color adjustments, and selections in Photoshop.

04.08 – Demonstrate understanding of filters, effects and plug-ins. ...because refining details like grain, blur, and tone may involve specialized plug-ins or non-default filters.

05.01 – Demonstrate proficiency in advanced design. ...because thoughtful recoloring demands an artistic eye, attention to light, and the ability to recreate historical color tones.

04.03 – Create a digital portfolio to showcase multimedia projects (project must be embedded in WordPress site). ...because this project tells a story through design and could make a beautiful, personal addition to your portfolio.

04.01 – Demonstrate knowledge of presentation production issues. ...because organizing your steps clearly—especially for a process like this—helps others follow and learn from your restoration.

Tutorial A9: Make an Animated GIF from Video in Photoshop

Animated GIFs are everywhere—memes, tutorials, social media posts—and creating your own is a powerful skill for any digital designer. In this tutorial, you'll take a short video clip and transform it into a looped, optimized animated GIF using Photoshop. Whether you're pulling a moment from a personal video, capturing a screen recording, or turning part of a cinematic scene into a looping graphic, the process teaches you how to control timing, file size, and motion. It's hands-on, fun, and opens up tons of possibilities for visual storytelling and communication.

Start by importing your video into Photoshop using the “Import Video Frames to Layers” feature (search that phrase!). You’ll then trim the clip, adjust the frame rate, set a looping option, and optimize the file for web. Key terms to guide your tutorial include: *timeline panel*, *frame delay*, *onion skinning*, *Save for Web (Legacy)*, and *GIF optimization*. Make sure to test playback speed and looping—those details make a big difference. Include your own example GIF and explain what you adjusted to make it smooth. The final product is ideal for sharing, and a creative, motion-based piece to enhance your digital portfolio.

04.07 – Demonstrate knowledge of photo editing software. ...because you're using Photoshop to convert video into layered frames, edit them, and export as a looping animated file.

04.13 – Demonstrate knowledge of presentation vocabulary and terms. ...because you'll be applying and teaching terms like “frame delay,” “timeline scrub,” and “loop playback.”

05.01 – Demonstrate proficiency in advanced design. ...because you're making decisions about timing, visuals, and optimization that affect how your animation looks and performs.

04.03 – Create a digital portfolio to showcase multimedia projects (project must be embedded in WordPress site). ...because a custom animated GIF adds motion and originality to your online design presence.

05.07 – Demonstrate proficiency in using presentation software and equipment to produce a complex presentation. ...because GIFs often support visual communication in digital presentations, social content, and web layouts.