

# **Introduction to Black & White printing**

**Two areas we'll look at are**



**Standard Print**



**Multi-grade filter assignment**

# Introduction to Black & White printing

📌 When Printing remember the following:-

📌 Expose for the highlights.

📌 Change filters for the shadows.

📌 A good test strip goes from:-too dark to too light

# The Process

- Place the negative in the enlarger
- Place a filter in the enlarger, Use a 2, a 2.5 or a 3 filter
- Set the height of the enlarger
- Choose a starting aperture
- Choose a starting time my preference is for 3 seconds

# The Process

- Turn on the enlarger
- Adjust the height of the enlarger for a suitable degree of enlargement
- Focus the image
- Choose an area of the image that has both highlights and shadows
- Turn off the enlarger

# The Process

- Cover 7/8ths of the image with the opaque board
- Turn on the timer
- Expose the paper
- Move the board
- Expose the paper
- Move the board etc etc.

# The Process

- Process the paper to the first rinse
- Take the test strip out to the light to examine and discuss with the lecturer
- Choose the TIME that best suits the appearance of the highlights
- Go back in and retest the time to confirm
- Re-examine the test strip and evaluate the shadows.

# Where to now?

- Looking at the second test strip ask yourself the following questions:-

Do the highlights have enough detail?

Do the shadows have enough detail?

- If the details in the highlights need adjusting go back in and re-test exposure time.
- If the details in the shadows need adjusting go back and choose a different filter to improve them.
- The rule on filters is:- higher numbers increase contrast, and lower numbers lower contrast.
- Continue adjusting and testing until you are happy with the resulting "work print"
- Other issues worth considering from here on in are:-

- Does the print match your vision or idea?
- Do any areas need local adjustment either by darkening or lightening? Otherwise know as burning or dodging?
- Could the image be improved in any way by removing extraneous details through cropping?
- Show the print to other people, what do they think?
- Do other people “see” the print the way you do or are they drawn to other issues or ideas within the print?

# Multi-grade filter assignment

- In consultation with your teacher, choose a suitable negative from your proof sheet.
- Starting with a filter 2 make the best print possible from your chosen neg.
- After this is finished, make a series of prints with this filter sequence, 2.5, 3.5, 5, 00, 0, 1.5
- Record all the information from the process, i.e. enlarger no. filter/s, aperture, exposure time name,