

Initial Assignments
Flow Visualization: The Physics and Art of Fluid Flow
Fall 2016

Due Friday 8/26, start of class:

1. **Fluids Perception Survey:** You will receive an email invitation and link to the online survey. The software will know if you respond, but your responses will still be anonymous. This is part of a research project on the effectiveness of this course. Participation is voluntary, but is expected and much appreciated. You may opt out of the survey, but still get credit via a link in the email.
2. **Copyright Agreement Form** signed hardcopy due in class.
3. **Syllabus Agreement Form** signed hardcopy due in class.
4. **Flow Vis Background survey:** This survey will be used to place you on teams of mixed backgrounds, skills and equipment. Again, you will receive a link at your CU email address.
5. **FlowVis.org** login. You will receive an invitation to join as a contributor at your CU email address. Use this to set your password.

Due Monday 8/29, start of class

1. **Best of Web.** Due as a post in flowvis.org. Look over course materials, and previous years' images and reports. Explore the links page too, but remember we are looking for a balance of aesthetics and science. You need to know what has been done in order to push the boundaries of new work. For this assignment, choose an online image or video that you feel exemplifies the best art/science flow visualization, and write a few sentences about what you appreciate in both the science and art. Go ahead and check out Youtube, but **your submission must include attribution to the original authors of the image or video.** A link to something that has been reposted is NOT sufficient. If you can't find out who the original author is, you must choose a different work. You will be asked to vote on your classmates' choices (and they will vote on yours).

Due Friday September 2

2. **Vote** on 'Best of Web'. Read all the posts in the 2016 Best of Web category, and use the comment feature to state 'First Prize' 'Second Prize' and 'Third Prize'. Again, a short statement about why you have made this choice should be included.

Due Monday Sept 12 by 4 PM:

3. **Image Assignment 1: Get Wet.**

The purpose of this assignment is to "get your feet wet". Make a picture of fluids (air or water, gas and/or liquid, any fluid, any combination of fluids) that both (1) demonstrates the phenomenon being observed and (2) is a good picture. Use any imaging technique you are familiar with, analog or digital, still or video, black and white or color, positive or negative, flash or available light, etc. Make the clearest, sharpest, cleanest, most interesting picture possible.

This means you will probably need to set up a situation, control your variables, do it once, observe the results and do it again once you know what works and what doesn't. **Keep notes** on what you've done for your write-up. You should expect to spend 20 hours on this assignment, including the write-up.

You are welcome to work in teams to create the image you want, but you are individually responsible for your own final image. Formal teams and more elaborate projects will be set up for later assignments.

Everyone's images will be displayed and critiqued in class beginning Wednesday Sept 14. ***You will be expected to bring your laptop and enter comments on everyone's images.***

All images must be accompanied by a short REPORT, due one week after your image is critiqued. If your image is critiqued on a Wednesday, your report is due at 4 pm the next Wednesday. See the Report Guidelines document on the website for info.

GET WET POSTING INSTRUCTIONS:

A) Post Image or Video on FlowVis.org

- **Images:** First, upload your image to the Media Library in Flowvis.org, and set the Media Category to 2016GetWet. Next make a new post with the title a short sentence describing the flow. Put your name in the body of the post: "By yourname, for Get Wet 2016". Select your image as the 'featured image' in the menu bar on the right in the post editor. Also in the right menu, select the 2016 and 2016 Get Wet categories. **Do not select any other categories.** Don't forget to hit the 'publish' button.
- **Videos:**
 - Your video should include a title with author information. Do consider adding music; it can really make a video great, but **videos may only use music to which rights have been acquired.** A list of volunteer musicians will be provided if you'd like to collaborate with a musician on original music for your video. Acquiring rights to other music via stock libraries is easy and inexpensive. You will be expected to **provide documentation of your music rights in your report.**
 - Upload your video to Vimeo. Make yourself a login if you don't have one. CU campus wireless provides awesome upload speeds, so best to do the upload on campus. Choose a good thumbnail frame. Copy the simple link to your video: <https://vimeo.com/yournumber>.
 - Next make a new post at FlowVis.org with the title a short sentence describing the flow. Put the Vimeo link as the first text in the post. Then put your name in the body of the post: "By yourname, for Get Wet 2016". In the menu bar on the right side of the post editor, select Format > Video. Further down the right menu, select the 2016 and 2016 Get Wet categories. **Do not select any other categories.** Do not select a video thumbnail or featured image; these will be added automatically when you publish the post.

B) D2L assignment drop box

- Next, please provide the following, in the ***D2L assignment drop box***:
 - a) **Final image:** the best resolution file you have of your final image or clip, for future large format prints and presentations. TIFF, png or Photoshop formats preferred; jpg and raw formats are ok for unedited images. Use the best resolution setting that you can. If your camera only takes jpgs, use the largest file, finest jpg setting. **If you edit the file (and you should at least crop appropriately and set the contrast) DO NOT SAVE AS A JPG.**

Save as TIFF, PNG or some other lossless format instead. PNG seems to work better than TIFF, PSD or XCF, but all three are acceptable.

Final Video: Your video should include a title with your name as author. Submit a high-resolution copy of your video to D2L. This can be slow, so be sure to use a location with a fast upload speed, such as on campus.

- b) **Original:** Whatever your original (still) camera file is. Raw, CR2, NEF, jpg, whatever. If you are shooting video, unedited video clips are required only if your video processing includes color shifts or distortions.
- c) **Reports**, one week after your image is critiqued in class. See the Report Guidelines document at Flowvis.org>Course Info for details.
 - i) A Word document of your report, in the D2L dropbox designated for reports.
 - ii) Include your report in your Flowvis.org image/vid post. You can provide a link to a pdf in the media library, or put the text and images directly into the post (this is the preferred method).
- d) **SAF:** A completed image self-assessment form, only in the D2L report dropbox, on the same date that your report is turned in.

Image assignments are due 4 pm two days before critique begins, so I have time to put the slideshow together before class.

Please include your last name, assignment name and year as part of each file name. If D2L is a problem, give me a USB memory stick in class (yes I'll give it back if labeled). **Submitting via D2L is much preferred.**

Hints for Get Wet:

- Using the built in flash on your camera usually results in ugly images. Use something like white cardboard, foil, or tissue to 1) bounce the light so it comes from a different direction and 2) diffuse the light to soften the shadows. A small light tent and a couple of lights are available for checkout in the Idea Forge.
- Avoid distracting backgrounds, such as woodgrain surfaces. Tabletop photo tents and seamless backdrops are available for checkout in the Idea Forge.
- If you image a drinking glass or bottle, make sure **no** distracting text or logos are visible on the glass.
- If you use a fish tank or other glass enclosure, be careful about where the flash reflects off the glass (to become a distracting white hole in your photo).
- Automatic focus systems often have trouble with fluid images, which have no sharp lines. If your camera has a 'focus lock' feature (try pressing the shutter button halfway), lock on a ruler or other sharp-edged object held in the desired focus plane before you make the image, or use manual focus.
- Almost any deficiency in color balance, contrast, etc., can be adjusted in Photoshop, but this requires a working familiarity and access to the program. The Quickstart Photoshop book is the easiest entry point if you don't know the program. Some instruction will be given in class.

Safety considerations: If you want to work with **flames**, you must follow the combustion guidelines posted on the website. When working with household materials, you are pretty safe if you stick to personal hygiene (i.e. soaps and shampoos) and food products. If you are working

with cleaning or medical products, or lab chemicals, you must discuss them with me first, and you may be required to submit a safety proposal.

Due Monday September 12, 4 pm.

4. **The Photography of Clouds.** There will be two Cloud assignments, with the first due **Monday Oct 3**, and the second image due November 14. This is to give plenty of opportunity to observe a variety of atmospheric conditions. ***Images made before August 22 2016 will not be acceptable for the Cloud First assignment, and images made before October 3 will not be acceptable for the Cloud Second assignment.*** Exceptional images made prior to this course cannot be submitted for credit in this course, but I encourage you to share them on the web, such as in the Flow Vis Facebook Group. ***Be sure the date set in your camera is correct; it will be used to place your image on the website in chronological order.***

Cloud image submission should include

- a) your edited image (video requirements are the same as for the GW assignment)
- b) your original (unedited) image
- c) the appropriate Skew-T diagram (will be covered in lecture)
- d) a short statement of cloud type and whether the atmosphere was stable or unstable. Not a document, just a short note, to be used as your post title. You will be expected to discuss this in class during your critique.
- e) One week after your image is critiqued in class you will submit a report, and an assessment form, same as for all the other images/vids. Your report should also include the appropriate Skew-T diagram. See the Report Guidelines document at Flowvis.org>Course Info for details.
 - i) A Word document of your report, in the D2L dropbox designated for reports.
 - ii) Include your report in your Flowvis.org image/vid post. You can provide a link to a pdf in the media library, or put the text and images directly into the post (this is the preferred method).

Photograph a cloud. In fact, photograph clouds as often as possible, and start as soon as possible. You will soon discover that it is not easy to do but that it is a very pleasant diversion from everything else that you do.

Do keep track of where, when, and how the image was made, including what direction you were facing, and what was going on elsewhere in the sky. ***Your report must include atmospheric sounding data*** (e.g. a Skew-T diagram; we'll cover how to download the data in class from <http://weather.uwyo.edu/upperair/sounding.html>) and discuss the physics revealed. There will be a series of lectures on cloud physics to help you interpret your images. The most common problem is selecting the wrong date/time for the sounding data. The morning data is taken with a 12Z time, with the correct date. Evening data will have a 00Z timestamp *for the next day*. The Report Guidelines document includes information for you cloud reports.

The most famous "cloud" photographs were made in black and white by the legendary early twentieth century New York art dealer, photographer, and husband of Georgia O'Keefe, Alfred Steiglitz. He called them "equivalents" and considered them to be music.

Sunrise and sunset are sometimes quite colorful or even extraordinary, but may be difficult to capture in a satisfying way. During the day, individual clouds can be extremely interesting. In the course of this assignment you will discover what the English writer and amateur photographer George Bernard Shaw once said about the photographer: "The photographer is like the cod (fish) who lays a million eggs so that one may hatch." So, keep looking up and keep pressing the button. And, if you have access to an extreme wide angle lens as well as a telephoto lens, use them as needed and as often as possible. Also consider making a short time lapse video instead of, or in addition to a single image. Some digital cameras have software to automate this process. Also try photographing clouds at night. Most cameras are sensitive enough to accomplish this now, depending on the phase of the moon, but a tripod will be needed (these are available for checkout).

Clouds require that you think outside the box.

Additional hints:

- No doubt you have seen the absolute black skies of Ansel Adams, with brilliant picturesque white clouds. This trick is accomplished using a red or orange filter with black and white settings. A circular polarizing filter can be used to heighten contrast in color images, but they are pricey and may cause color shifts. This can also be simulated in Photoshop afterwards, at least to some extent.
- Good cloud images can be acquired from airplanes. Be sure your window is clean, and sit in front of the wing if possible, on the side towards the sun.
- Again, many cameras have difficulty focusing on clouds. A manual setting for infinite focus distance is best. You might be able to do a focus lock on a distant hilltop.
- Avoid foreground objects like trees or buildings unless you specifically want them in the image. Parking lots and structures often have good sky views, but streetlight poles can be a problem.