



Exploration projects

Included in the following section are six freestanding projects. Each of these projects involve some interaction with modern visual object preparation and presentation technology such as the insertion of images into documents, electronic slide presentations involving images and sound, or digital photography and digital image editing. Many of these projects are supported with materials provided on the CD-ROM associated with this workbook. Some projects involve field work in which you seek out, examine, and photograph objects or buildings in your locality that exhibit specified characteristics.

Unlike homework assignments which have been designed to require one or two weeks of effort, the projects included here generally involve more than two weeks worth of preparation and work. Your instructor may assign one or more of these projects as a regular required work item for your class, or may designate one or more of these for optional extra credit. All of these are designed to be interesting and fun as well as informative!

Check the workbook web site at www.ambriana.com for updates and additional materials that may be made available in connection with these projects.

Project overviews

The following short descriptions provide snapshots of the six projects included in this section.

- A. Comparison analysis Page 125**
 In this project you “mine” the comparisons E. H. Gombrich makes in his text *The Story of Art* and locate pairs of images used in the lecture slides sets to assemble a new slide set of 25 comparisons. The slide set you produce illustrates each comparison and documents the points of commonality or contrast. This project is an excellent review for the final exam. The CD/ROM associated with this workbook provides a starting point for this project.
- B. Creating electronic art Page 127**
 Combining digital photography, image manipulation using a photo editor, and Microsoft PowerPoint with slide transitions and tone files, this project involves you in creating an example of modern active art. The workbook CD/ROM gives you a full example electronic visual carillon as well as a library of tones you can use and a tone sequence creation demonstration.
- C. Photoediting Page 129**
 A photo editor allows you to manipulate images by “painting out” parts of the image or copying parts of the image to replicate them. In this project you or the instructor takes one or more digital pictures of your class. You then locate yourself on the image and learn how to isolate (crop) your own image from the others and insert it into a PowerPoint slide. You repeat this process for other parts of the image, distort or manipulate parts of the image in humorous ways, and learn how to create a unique title or text background slide from an image.
- D. Arches in modern construction Page 131**
 Roman or Gothic arch “shapes” are common in modern construction but may or may not play a structural role as they did in earlier buildings. In this project you go into the field and locate examples of arches in local construction, use a digital camera to photograph them, and prepare a short descriptive paper in which you insert carefully-resized images within the text to illustrate your discussion.
- E. Greek columns in modern construction Page 133**
 Greek columns are common in modern construction but may simply be cosmetic decoration. In this project you locate examples of columns in local construction, use a digital camera to photograph them, and prepare a short descriptive paper in which you insert carefully-resized images within the text.
- F. African masks as cultural art objects Page 135**
 Masks are a native African art form. This project explores various intents for the creation of masks and their construction methods, using web research and/or visits to museums or art galleries. You prepare a short descriptive paper in which you insert carefully-resized images within the text.