

# Personal Study Plan

Define the objective or focus of the essay:

I will explore the meaning of the decisive moment and how it is utilised to capture points in constantly moving sequences of life, especially when movement turns to chaos. Analysing pieces taken by war photographer Chris Hondros during the Liberian Civil War

The relationship between the practical work and the focus of the study:

I am planning to photograph a more watered down of these photos taken, capturing moments of an ever-moving world. I will explore all aspects of moment; (animals, people, vehicles etc), mainly things that would go otherwise unnoticed or forgotten by the eye. Taking time to focus on these moments can really instil the feeling of how much occurs every passing second. I will be taking these photos in colour, mainly focusing on the streets of Manchester, a place of constant movement and action. I plan on capturing potent photos that makes the viewer think about how many instances of actions you can focus on, and the fact so much occurs simultaneously.

Sources to be used:

Books (at least THREE):

Websites:

Other sources:

World Press Photo 2004 – Kari Lundelin

Testament – Chris Hondros

Photo-Journalism: Developing style in Creative Photography - RotoVision

[https://www.gettyimages.co.uk/search/2/image?family=editorial&page=2&phrase=chris%20hondros%20liberia&sort=mostpopular&phraseprocessing=exclude\\_naturallanguage](https://www.gettyimages.co.uk/search/2/image?family=editorial&page=2&phrase=chris%20hondros%20liberia&sort=mostpopular&phraseprocessing=exclude_naturallanguage)

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/a-soldiers-story-109690958/>

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2003/jul/23/westafrica.andrewmeldrum>

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2003-07-27/seven-killed-in-monrovia-mortar-attack/1454844>

[Chris Hondros - Wikipedia](#)

Hondros (Documentary)

Liberia: A Fragile Peace

List the pieces of work that you will analyse in the study. Identify reasons for choosing these particular pieces and points that may be highlighted in the analysis. Mark the primary source/s with \*

Name of piece:



Reasons for choice/Points to be raised:

The composition, leading lines from the pillars, walls and stairs. Crowd of people looking downward at the woman, an expression of despairingly familiar grief. Separation from the living and the dead.

Context: Shocked Liberians look on at the body of a woman who was killed by a shell while gathering water July 25, 2003 in Monrovia, Liberia. A fresh round of shelling terrorized Monrovia early in the morning, as government forces and rebel troops battled for control of the Liberian capital.



Eye is first drawn to the manic expression.

The man's legs are off the ground, jumping into the air, his arms waving. Leading lines from the walls. Dust creates stark contrast. Shells on the floor.

Context: Joseph Duo, a Liberian militia commander loyal to the government, exults after firing a rocket-propelled grenade at rebel forces at a key strategic bridge.



The shovels in the foreground, dirt is already on them. This isn't the first burial they have done. The shovels are facing towards a group of Medics and staff lifting the body of a man hit by a stray bullet into a body bag before burial.

Context: Medics and staff with Doctors Without Borders prepare to dig a grave for a man hit by a stray bullet hours before July 29, 2003 in Monrovia, Liberia. Gunfire and explosions continued in the Liberian capital, despite calls for a cease-fire by rebel forces.



The body is not fully shown but the effects it had on the surrounding people are shown. The despairing man leading directing us to the child, the look of horror from the woman behind, her hand placed on her chest out of pure shock. The others holding face of familiar stone cold bereavement. This contrasts with the subject in the middle who is yelling in pain.

Context: A man despairs while a wheelbarrow is brought up to gather a child who had been killed by mortar shells in the Greystone refugee camp near the U.S. embassy July 21, 2003 in Monrovia, Liberia. Fighting in the Liberian capital intensified on July 21 as some 60 people were killed when mortars, believed to be fired by rebel troops, pounded the city.

Visit/s made/to be made:

N/A

Possible conclusion/s to the study:

Chris Hondros perfectly utilises the decisive moment which reveals the finer details amid the fast moving blur of chaos, provoked by war. Precisely immortalising these mix of movement, emotions, and circumstance. But this very assumption raises questions within itself on how much a single instant can truly represent the scale of suffering outside of it. Within a split-second when humanity and its most raw emotions are exposed, they are captured. A stillness in chaos.