

Integrated Design Curriculum
Parsons The New School for Design

IDC Lab 1: Media

Warm-up assignment: *Recovering Reality*

Photoshop makes it easy to remove things from historical record. It is a medium exerting itself on human affairs through the capacities it offers. The documentary filmmaker Errol Morris has written extensively of the debate over edited or faked images in the media. Read excerpts from his New York Times editorials (linked from the course website).

For this project, find the photographic record of a political event (from history or present) of your choosing. Edit this image using Photoshop to impart a new or different meaning. You can do a revisionist history of something, or simply imply a new caption as Morris did in one image to change the image's meaning.

Example: What if the Tiananmen Square guy would have been a woman?

Research, and manipulate your image for presentation & critique next class. You should have your manipulated image printed and mounted (minimum size 8x10in.) as well as in its digital format for class next week. You should also bring to class a 3-sentence statement to read as you present.

Also, think expansively about what "political" means.