Still Images Day 2
Adobe Photoshop

- Adjustment layers
  - Alter color, brightness, contrast, etc
  - Reorderable
  - Removable
  - Changeable
  - Maskable
  - Apply with Layer > New Adjustment Layer > (desired layer type) or black/white circle button in layers palette

- Levels Adjustment Layer
  - Correct tonal range and color balance of an image
  - Specify highlight, shadow and midtone values
  - Auto button makes an attempt at a reasonable correction, works sometimes
  - Preview box shows/hides adjustment effect on the image
  - Hold down option key for “reset” instead of “cancel”
  - Channel dropdown controls what colors are affected by the adjustment being made
    - Red
    - Green
    - Blue
    - RGB (all three at once)
  - Input side/histogram is range of values as in the original image
    - Black input triangle determines brightest value that maps to full black
    - White input triangle determines darkest value that maps to full white
    - Grey input triangle determines where midpoint falls for input values
  - Output side determines value range of final image
    - Black output triangle determines what the darkest value in the final image (full black) will be
    - White output triangle determines what the brightest value in the final image (full white) will be
    - Grey output triangle determines where the midpoint of output values will fall between full black & white

- Curves Adjustment Layer
  - Correct tonal range of an image
  - More adjustment points than Levels
    - Levels has Highlight, Shadow, Midtone
    - Curves allows up to 14 points
  - Auto button makes an attempt at a reasonable correction, works sometimes
  - Preview box shows/hides adjustment effect on the image
  - Hold down option key for “reset” instead of “cancel”
  - Channel dropdown controls what colors are affected by the adjustment being made
    - Red
    - Green
    - Blue
    - RGB (all three at once)
  - Tonal bars at left and bottom of curve diagram
    - Default for RGB is black in lower left, white in upper right
    - Input is horizontal
    - Output is vertical
    - All notes following about shapes of curve assume default orientation
  - Moving above the default line makes the final image brighter
  - Moving below the default line makes the final image darker
  - “S” shape provides increased contrast

- Color Balance Adjustment Layer
  - Changes the overall mixture of colors in the image for general color correction
  - Affects Highlights, Midtones, or Highlights
  - “Preserve Luminosity” helps keep luminosity values constant and maintains image tonal balance
  - Drag slider toward a color to increase it in the image
• Drag slider away from a color to decrease it in the image

• Selective Color Adjustment Layer
  ○ Modifies the amount of a process color (Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, Black) in the selected primary color without affecting the amount of that process color in other primary colors
  ○ For example, increase the amount of cyan in blues without altering the amount of cyan in greens
  ○ Choose the color to adjust from the menu
  ○ Method options
    ■ Absolute
      ● Adds or subtracts the specified percentage of the specified color from the pixel
      ● 50% cyan pixel with a 10% absolute increase in cyan produces a 60% cyan pixel
    ■ Relative
      ● Adds or subtracts a proportional percentage of the specified color from the pixel
      ● 50% cyan pixel with a 10% relative increase in cyan produces a 55% cyan pixel (50+10% of 50)
  ○ Drag sliders to adjust the color
  ○ If you don't see the adjustment happening, you may need to alter a different color – perhaps your blue is green to the computer

• Masking an Adjustment Layer
  ○ Masks control the area of the image affected by an adjustment layer by showing or hiding the adjustment
  ○ Layer masks appear in the Layers palette to the right of the layer thumbnail
    ■ Grayscale shape representing the layer mask
  ○ Layer mask is a grayscale image
    ■ Paint in white to show areas
    ■ Paint in black to hide areas
    ■ Paint in shades of gray to partially show areas
      ● Closer to white – shows more
      ● Closer to black – shows less
  ○ How to add a mask
    ■ Choose layer to be masked in the Layers palette
    ■ To create a mask that shows all to start
      ● Click the layer mask button in the Layers palette
        ○ Third button from the left
        ○ Looks like a gray square with a white circle in the middle
      ● Or Layer > Layer Mask > Reveal All
    ■ To create a mask that hides all to start
      ● Option-Click the layer mask button in the Layers palette
        ○ Third button from the left
        ○ Looks like a gray square with a white circle in the middle
      ● Or Layer > Layer Mask > Hide All
    ■ To create a mask that shows part of a layer
      ● Select the area in the image
      ● Click the layer mask button in the Layers palette
      ● Or Layer > Layer Mask > Reveal Selection
      ● Or Layer > Layer Mask > Hide Selection
  ○ Altering a mask
    ■ Click on the layer mask thumbnail in the Layers palette to make it active
    ■ Select an editing or painting tool
    ■ To reveal more of the layer, paint with white
    ■ To hide more of the layer, paint with black
    ■ To make the layer partly visible, paint with an appropriate shade of gray
  ○ To show or hide the mask
    ■ Shift-click the mask thumbnail in the Layers palette
    ■ Select the layer containing the mask
      ● Layer > Layer Mask > Disable hides
      ● Layer > Layer Mask > Enable shows
    ■ A red “X” will appear over the layer mask thumbnail when disabled/hidden