HDR Photography
So, what is this "HDR" photography that people are speaking about?
Well, it is short for High Dynamic Range Photography.
Loosely speaking, you will almost always have some sacrificial loss of detail in a certain part of your photo. It will either be somewhat underexposed, or overexposed. Think about a landscape shot of a sunset on the beach.
OK, with that in mind, if you expose your photo for the sky, you will lose detail in the beach. If you expose for the beach, the sky will be "burnt out".
What is a person to do? Well, you have a number of options:

- Don't worry about it. Expose for the area that you want the most detail in, and try and get more detail using the curves tool in Photoshop CSx
- Bracket your scene with 3 or 5 photos to get different exposures. I photo will have proper exposure, while 1 or 2 will be overexposed, and 1 or 2 will be underexposed. In Photoshop you can layer mask to expose the correct exposure for the correct part of the shot.
- Using the same technique, you can bracket your shots, and import them into Photomatix Pro. This software will automatically alter your photos and combine the areas with the greatest details, and fewest highlights.

What should I do for my shooting?
- You should take at least three photos of 5 similar scenes. Take a total of 3, 5, or 7 photos for each scene. One photo will be properly exposed, and the remainder will be on either side of proper exposure. Consult me, or your users manual for how to do this. You may do it manually, or within the camera.

- Alternately, you may choose to take these photos at different times throughout the day. You will change your shutter and aperture to attain correct exposure, but **do not** alter the location of the tripod you mounted your camera on! This is the preferable method!

What will you be handing in for your project?
I would like you to hand in 5 Jpeg photos. One of these must be done in Photoshop using the layers mask tutorial found here. The rest may be done in Photomatix Pro. This software is found on Mr. Clancy's laptop. Make sure that you follow the instructions given with the software!