

I worked all semester to improve my photography and vector graphic skills, which has proven to be rather challenging. It has been recommended to me that in order to improve I should work on personal projects. With a large family and being a poor college student, Christmas can often be a difficult and stressful time of the year. I decided to use the skills I have learned to create a unique Christmas card I could give them this year.

Because I have done very little night photography, my images didn't turn out as I had hoped. They required a lot of editing in order to make them usable.

When I went out and took pictures, I made the mistake of setting my ISO too high instead of lowering my shutter speed. This caused a lot of noise in the images, and even with using the noise reduction tool in Photoshop, there is still, more than desirable, noise in the images.

However, this was only my second time taking pictures at night, and it was my first attempt at making cards of any kind. Although I have a long way to go before perfecting the art of making cards, I am pleased with my results.

I plan to continue the practice of personal projects, and to increase my skills ability and creative thinking process.

