**PROJECT 1: CREATING A COMPOSITE IMAGE**

A **composite image** is an image composed of several different pictures or elements.

The fundamental key to creating a good composite image is in being able to make **clean selections** and then isolate different elements on to **separate layers** so that you can work with them. For this project you are going to make a composite image of the “not so obvious” variety. You are going to take a digital photograph of you. You will also take a “location” photo from online or a photo you already have access to. Using these two photos, you will use your new knowledge in Photoshop to create a fun composite image.

Follow these steps:

* Using any of the selection techniques covered in class or in the text (lasso, magic wand, marquee, color range, etc.) cut yourself out of the digital photo and place yourself (copy and paste) into the location photo, as a **new layer**.
* The final image needs to be as an 8.5” by 11”, either portrait or landscape.
* Your resolution should be at least 300 dpi.
* Because the digital photo may be much higher resolution than the location photo, you will need to scale your layer down to fit the final composite. Use Edit -> Transform to scale down the layer.
* Position and transform as needed. MAKE THE COMPOSITE AS CONVINCING AS POSSIBLE. That means a clean edge to the selection, with nice smooth lines. Pay particular attention to the amount of “feathering” that is applied to the selection line. NOT TOO FUZZY!
* Add a simple “levels adjustment layer” to balance the tonal range of your new layer so that it more closely matches the location.
* Save the file as a layered Photoshop document (**.PSD file**) for turn in.
* This will be due: Friday March 20th at the end of class.

Think about this:

1. Make it fun! Make a funny face, or strike a pose to match your location.

2. Locations include underwater, outer space, the tropics, the desert, etc.

3. You can experiment with paint tools and blending modes to more creatively blend yourself into the new location.

Assessment:

Good quality background photo 5 pts

Good cropping of personal photo 5 pts

Neatness and enhancements 5 pts

Before and after picture is printed out 5 pts

20 pts