

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY

UNIT 3 ~ PART 2

Developed by Sonia Coile, Madison County HS ~ Jan 2016

WHY DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY?

- Now that you know how to use Photoshop, we need to brush up on your photography skills.
- At the end of this part of the unit, you will put together a photography portfolio using Prezi, PowerPoint, or another program of your choice.
- Standard Connection:
IT-DD-7: Create and edit images and graphics.
7.1 Demonstrate appropriate image capturing techniques and sources.
7.2 Apply photographic composition techniques (e.g., rule of thirds, point-of-view, and framing) to taking pictures for use in media project

WHAT WILL I BE EXPECTED TO DO?

- Each day, we will cover 1 or 2 photography techniques at the beginning of class
- After each lesson (you will be writing notes to keep with you), you will have 20 minutes to go out in the school and take 10-15 pictures that you think will demonstrate the concept(s) of the day
- What if you don't have a camera?
That's OK. I have some that you can check out and use for the day
- You may not use pictures that you have already taken. You must have pictures that you are taking during class here at school. This is because I want you to learn how to do it right....not rely on your friends to do it for you.
- Act appropriately while out in the halls taking pictures. If you are caught misbehaving, you will receive a zero on this assignment, and will sit out the remainder of the time while writing a 5 page essay on photography.

FIRST OFF.....HOW TO TAKE PICTURES WITH **ANY** TYPE OF CAMERA

I. Light your subject well

- The better lit your subject is, the clearer your image will be.
- Turn on the lights, add extra lights, shoot outside if possible
- If shooting outside, be careful of the halo effect (lighting behind your subject)

FIRST OFF.....HOW TO TAKE PICTURES WITH **ANY** TYPE OF CAMERA

2. Get close to your subject

- Common mistake with camera phone images -- subject ends up being a tiny, unrecognizable object in the distance
- Camera phone images tend to be small due to low resolution (although this is changing)
- Fill up your view finder with your subject to save having to zoom in on the subject in editing it later
- Let your feet be the zoom

FIRST OFF.....HOW TO TAKE PICTURES WITH **ANY** TYPE OF CAMERA

3. Keep still!

- The more steady your camera, the clearer your image will be
- Very important for low-light situations because it takes the shutter longer to click
- Try leaning your camera or holding it against a solid object when taking shots
- Remember camera phones have “shutter lag”hold the camera still after taking the shot so it doesn’t take the picture of the frame afterwards

FIRST OFF.....HOW TO TAKE PICTURES WITH **ANY** TYPE OF CAMERA

4. Edit images later

- Stay away from the filters
- Do your editing in Photoshop afterwards

FIRST OFF.....HOW TO TAKE PICTURES WITH **ANY** TYPE OF CAMERA

5. Don't throw away "mistakes"

- Pictures look different on the computer screen than they do on your small phone
- Even blurry portions of pictures can be cropped out

FIRST OFF.....HOW TO TAKE PICTURES WITH **ANY** TYPE OF CAMERA

6. Avoid Using the Digital Zoom

- If the zoom is a 'digital zoom' it will decrease the quality of your shot to use it
- You'll end up with a more pixelated shot

FIRST OFF.....HOW TO TAKE PICTURES WITH **ANY** TYPE OF CAMERA

7. Take lots of shots and experiment

- Take 2-3 of each shot (especially when using live subjects)
- Change your angle, lighting
- Make it interesting....not just plain still-life poses

FIRST OFF.....HOW TO TAKE PICTURES WITH **ANY** TYPE OF CAMERA

8. Keep your lens clean

- Lens will get dirty when you keep your phones in pockets, backpacks, and bags
- Finger prints are all over them
- Clean them off with a soft cloth

LESSON 1: **RULE OF THIRDS**

- Viewer's eyes naturally go to certain points of interest in a photo, not to the center
- This “rule” divides the photo into 9 equal parts using a grid
- Placing your main subject along those lines or the intersection points will help create a more balanced photo
- Asymmetry makes a photo more appealing to a viewer because it causes visual tension
- Do not place the horizon in the middle of the picture; Place it in the top or the bottom portion



LESSON 1: **RULE OF THIRDS**

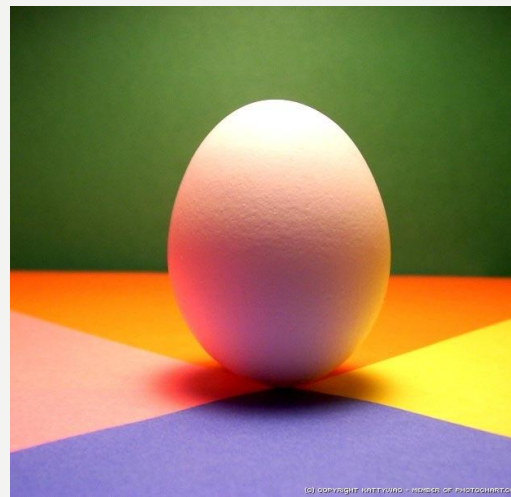


LESSON 2: **BALANCING ELEMENTS**

- Balance in photography contrasts images within a frame so that the objects are of equal visual weight
- When different parts of a photo command your attention equally, perfect balance is achieved
- Two different types of balance:
(1) Formal (2) Informal

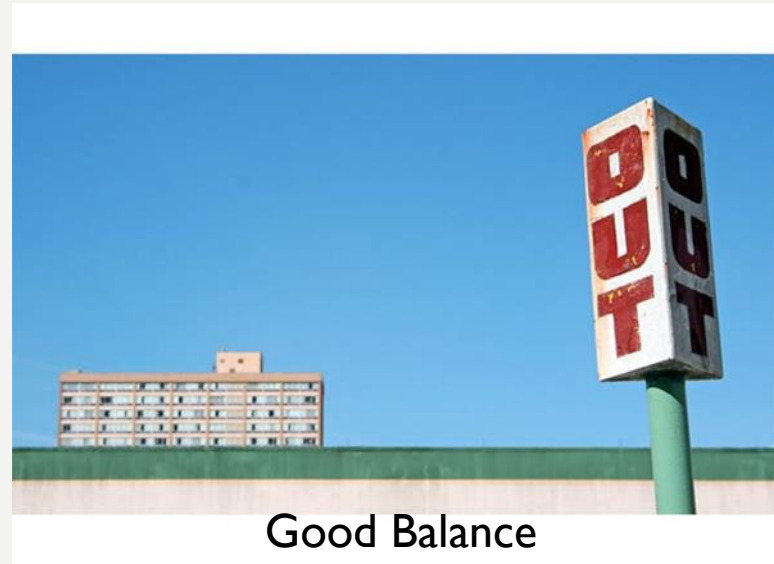
LESSON 2: **BALANCING ELEMENTS [1]**

- Formal balance: Symmetrical balance
- Parts of the photo are repeated on each side of a given point
- This concept is very useful for portraits
- Subject is framed in the middle
- Any visual distractions in the background are reduced



LESSON 2: **BALANCING ELEMENTS [2]**

- Informal Balance: occurs when dissimilar elements balance each other out on each side of the frame
- One element will be larger/closer in the foreground and a smaller/further away element in background
- Notice that both elements are in focus



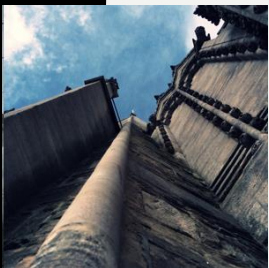
LESSON 3: **LEADING LINES**

- Lines can be a very powerful element that can add impact the mood of an image or lead a viewer's eyes
- 4 types of lines
horizontal, vertical, diagonal, converging



LESSON 4: **VIEW POINT**

- The most important thing that connects you to the person who is looking at your photograph
- They should feel like they are looking through your lens in front of the subject
- Bird's Eye View or Worm's Eye View
- Idea is to make it engaging and memorable



LESSON 4: **VIEW POINT**



LESSON 5: **BACKGROUND**

- What is the background for in an image?
- It should enhance the subject by setting the scene
- It should create an atmosphere or provide environmental information
- A poor background distracts from your subject
- If an object looks out of place in the background, eliminate it



LESSON 6: **TEXTURE AND PATTERNS**

- Patterns: made up of repeated objects, shapes, or colors
- Very pleasing to the eye
- Use a focal point as a break in the pattern



- Texture: conveys how the subject feels (hard, glossy, wet)
- Shoot subjects up close so viewers can “feel” the detail



LESSON 7: **DEPTH OF FIELD**

- DOF = Area of the image that is in acceptable focus



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LESSON 8: **FRAMING**

- A way to emphasize the subject you are photographing
- Can be a literal frame or prop, environmental, or structural frame



LESSON 9: CROPPING

- Removes certain portions of a photograph to create more interest
- Remember the Rule of Thirds
- Crop out the excess using Photoshop....not your phone app
- Make a panoramic print out of an ok standard photograph
- Be creative. Have fun. Experiment.
- You will need to show your before and after images



LESSON 10: **EXPERIMENTATION**

- Forced Perspective: used to make viewers believe certain objects are smaller or larger than they really are



LESSON 10: EXPERIMENTATION

- Panoramic:



LESSON 10: EXPERIMENTATION

- 3-Part Portraits:



MORE RESOURCES:

- <http://www.refrigeratorgood.com/p/digital-photography.html>
- <http://www.photographymad.com/pages/view/10-top-photography-composition-rules>