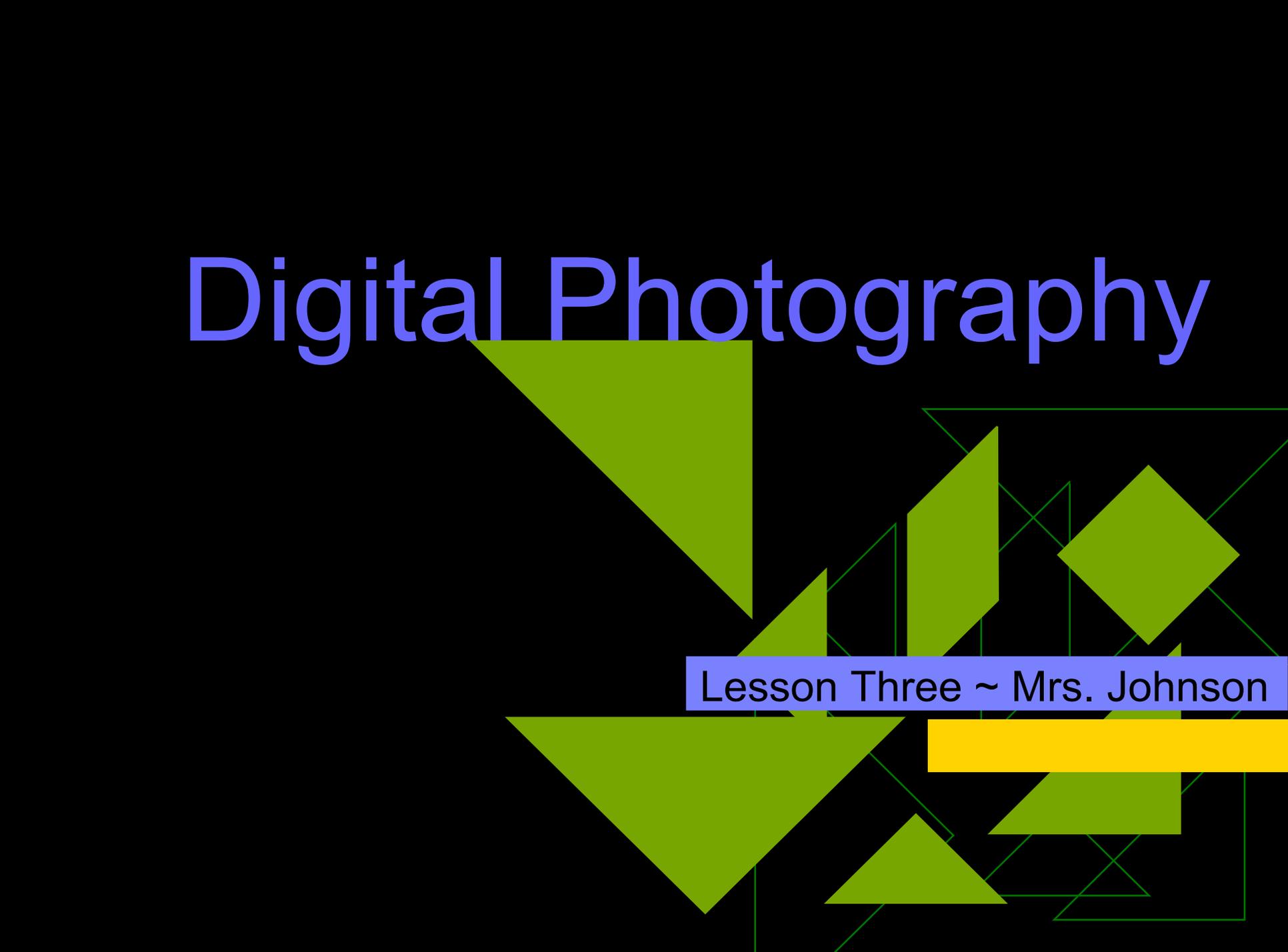


# Digital Photography

The background features a complex arrangement of overlapping geometric shapes. Large, solid green triangles and polygons are scattered across the frame. A prominent yellow horizontal bar is located in the lower right quadrant. A network of thin, light green lines forms a grid-like pattern, with some lines intersecting to form smaller geometric shapes. The overall aesthetic is modern and digital.

Lesson Three ~ Mrs. Johnson

# love

- ◆ I assume that if you are taking this course, you love photography or at least want to improve your pictures
- ◆ Many things go into getting a “great” photo and I hope that you will be able to take several great photos this semester!

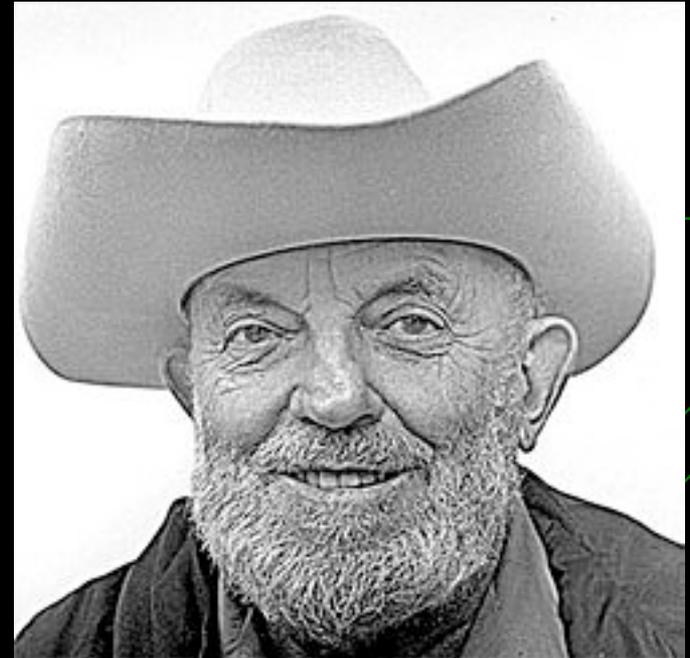
# composition

- ◆ Number one rule: get in closer, no closer, no still get in closer...there! You've got it! :)
- ◆ The more you simplify your photo, the more attention will be on your subject
- ◆ Think of photography as communicating something to the viewer....what is it you \*want\* your viewer to get from your photo?

# composition

◆ “There are always two people in every picture: the photographer and the viewer.”

~Ansel Adams



# composition

- ◆ It's simple - get in as close as you can to your subject to eliminate distracting backgrounds
- ◆ Think of a flower...it's beautiful. But before you take a picture of a dozen roses, really look at the roses. What makes them special? Look CLOSE

# Closer...closer...there



- ◆ Beautiful ---
- ◆ This picture is OK....yea it shows the flowers

# You've got it!!



- ◆ Stunning!
- ◆ Referred to as “filling the frame”
- ◆ Place the flower (or anything else you are going to shoot) in the entire viewfinder
- ◆ Worst thing to do when taking pictures is to use the LCD screen – unless you have no other choice, please don't do it!

# Photographic composition

- ◆ When you think of where to place your subject in the frame of the picture, you are essentially composing your image
- ◆ When a painter starts with a blank canvas, he/she has free reign to decide where to place their river, trees, etc.
- ◆ When creating a photograph you should go through the same process...obviously you can't "place" a river, but look for the backgrounds

# Photographic composition

- ◆ For some reason, our brains want to place objects in the center of the frame
- ◆ When taking photos, try NOT to place your subject in the middle of the frame. This will be hard to do at first



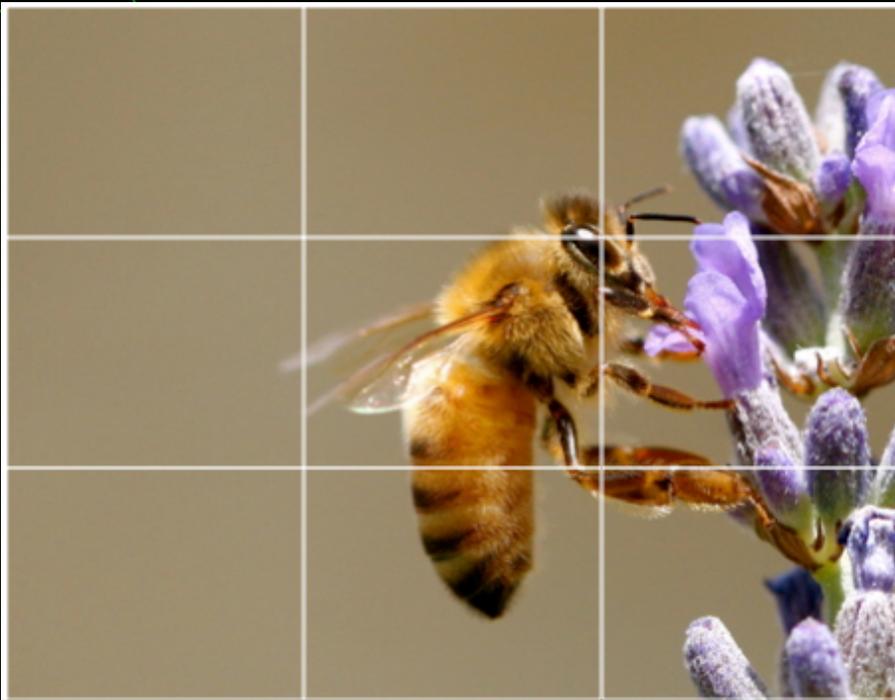
# Classic ways to compose a photograph

- ◆ Use of lines -- some are obvious - a horizon in a sunset picture. Some are not so obvious
- ◆ One way to see main shapes is by squinting your eyes until it's almost blurry.
  - Then you'll see any lines and shapes created by shadows and lights

# Rule of Thirds

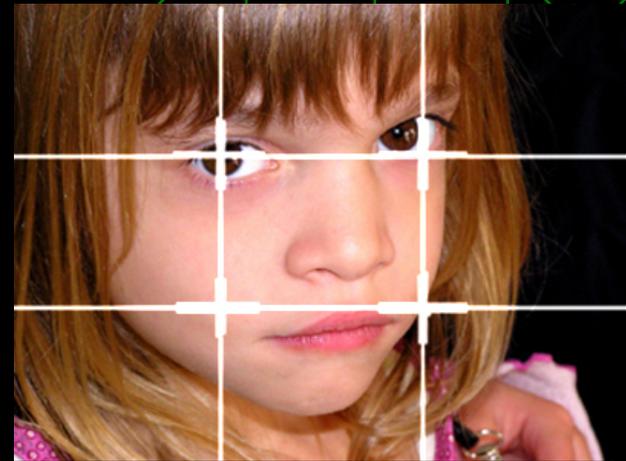
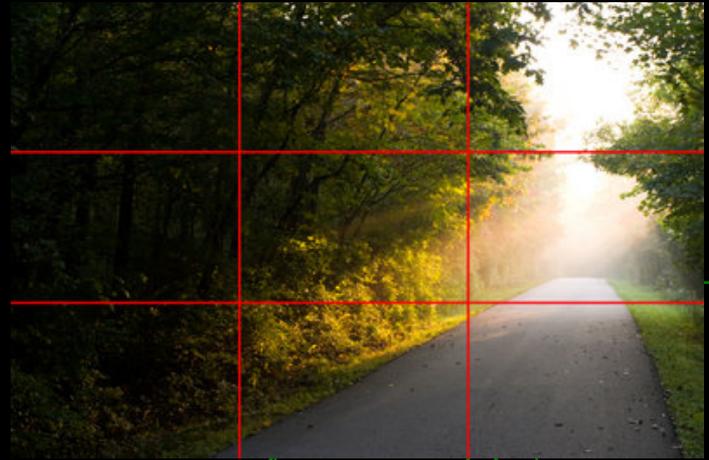
- ◆ Most commonly talked about rule is the Rule of Thirds
- ◆ Take your canvas, split it into a tic-tac-toe board and your canvas essentially will be split into thirds
- ◆ You'd place your subject in one of the thirds to create composition

# Thirds example



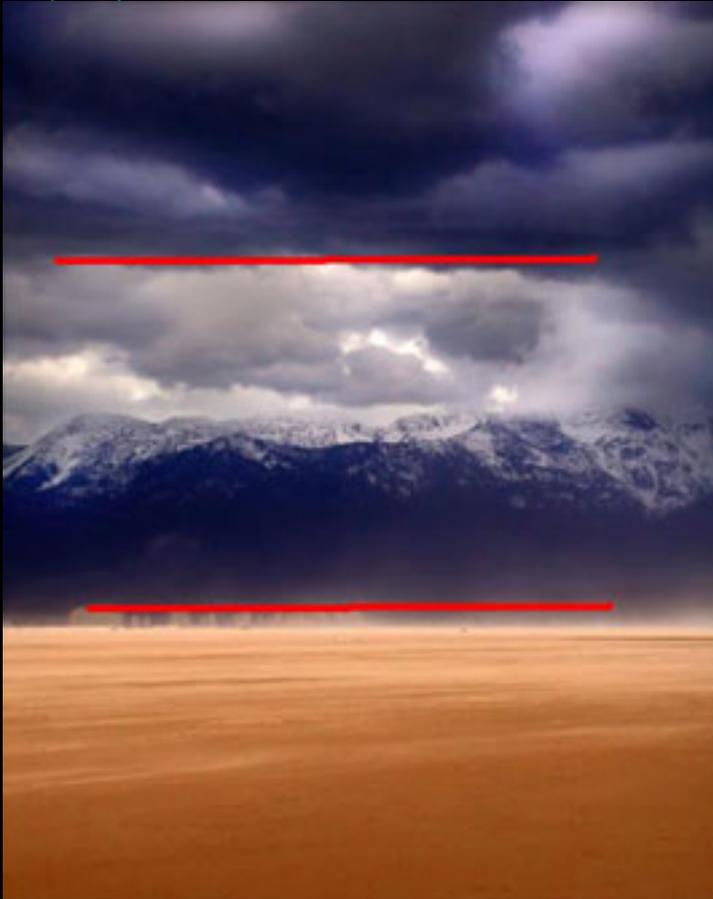
- ◆ You can see how the rule of thirds changes this picture

# Thirds example

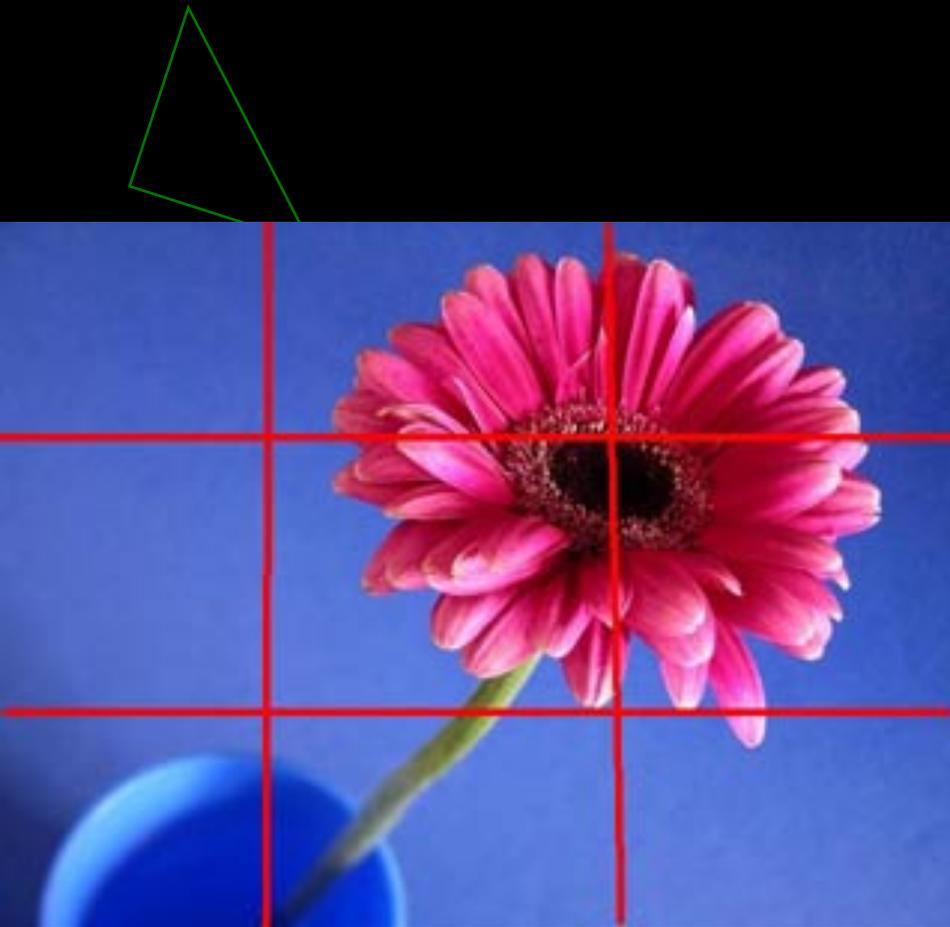


? :)

- ◆ If you've hung on this long, I commend you!
- ◆ If you are asking yourself, why is she teaching me this stuff...I just want to take pictures??
  - To make yourself a better photographer
  - Create your memories to last a lifetime & know how to set up your photos



- ◆ Photo is split into thirds
- ◆ Orange sand; blue & white mountains; and the white clouds with a stormy background create a beautiful photograph



- ◆ The flower is not up-close, however this is where your eye draws to
- ◆ Why??

[Video Link](#)

# Formal or Symmetrical

- ◆ Formal balance is equal or symmetrical balance.
- ◆ Each side of the vertical center of the photograph has equal weight and similar or exactly the same shape, texture, and value contrast.

# formal example



# Frame within a frame

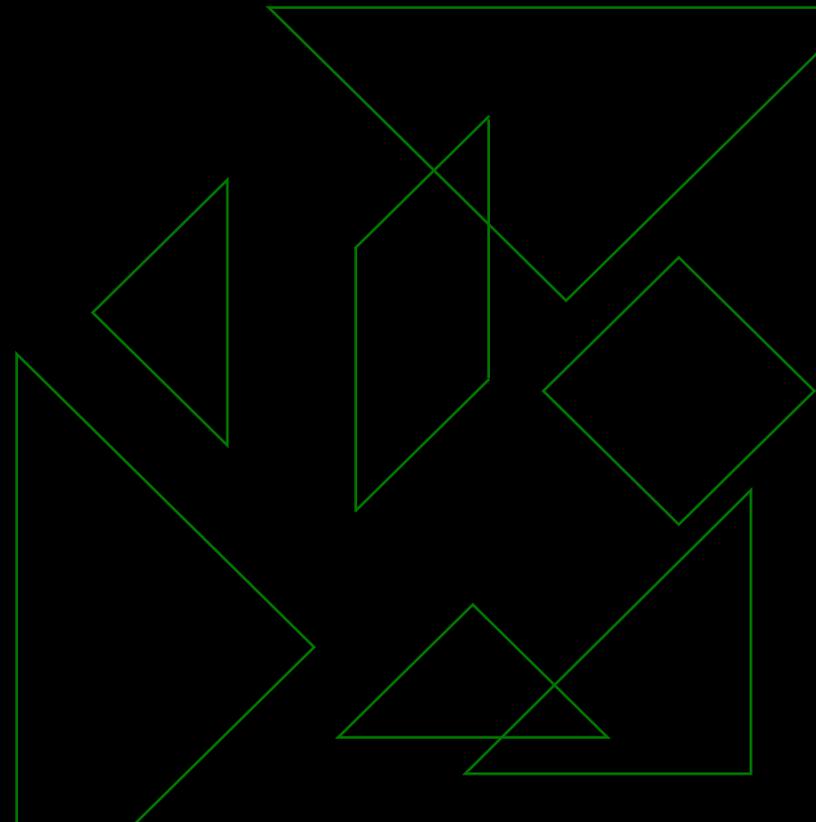
- ◆ Another way to strengthen a composition, especially landscapes, is to use materials near you in your foreground and include them in your photograph around two or more of the edges to create a sort of "frame".
- ◆ This is most often done with trees or branches on two or three sides of the image; you can be very creative with this.

- ◆ Oftentimes rock formations will have holes through them - you can use this sort of natural "frame" by including it in an image and taking a landscape view through the hole.





- ◆ The frame within a frame concept



# Assignment time!

- ◆ Use the internet and find
  - 10 “rule of thirds” pictures
  - 5 “symmetry/formal balance” pictures
  - 5 “frame within a frame” pictures
  - 5 “lines” pictures
- ◆ Place the pictures into Microsoft Word and beside each picture add a description of the picture and what drew you to it. Copy and paste the URL where the photo came from as well (Hint: use a table to help align photos and descriptions)
- ◆ Save as --> your name photo rules

But wait! There's more!

- ◆ Take TONS of photos, but you'll turn in your best
- ◆ Photos of nature -- 10 rule of thirds (only of nature!)
- ◆ 5 formal or symmetrical (really look and think on this one)
- ◆ 5 frame within a frame...open your eyes and look for the shot or set one one up instead of just "taking pictures"
- ◆ 5 lines photos (look for the lines around you)