

Photography

AWQ3MI

Unit #1

*Introduction : Photographic Composition
Theory of Photography*

*Understanding Composition in Photography
Photography Sketchbook/Notebook*

*Please get yourself a Notebook or
Sketchbook to record your ideas...*

Task

- Record in your notebook/sketchbook the guidelines for good composition
- Be creative sketch, doodle, create icons, take notes
- Be engaged in making this theory meaningful by creating a set of good study notes

Parameters

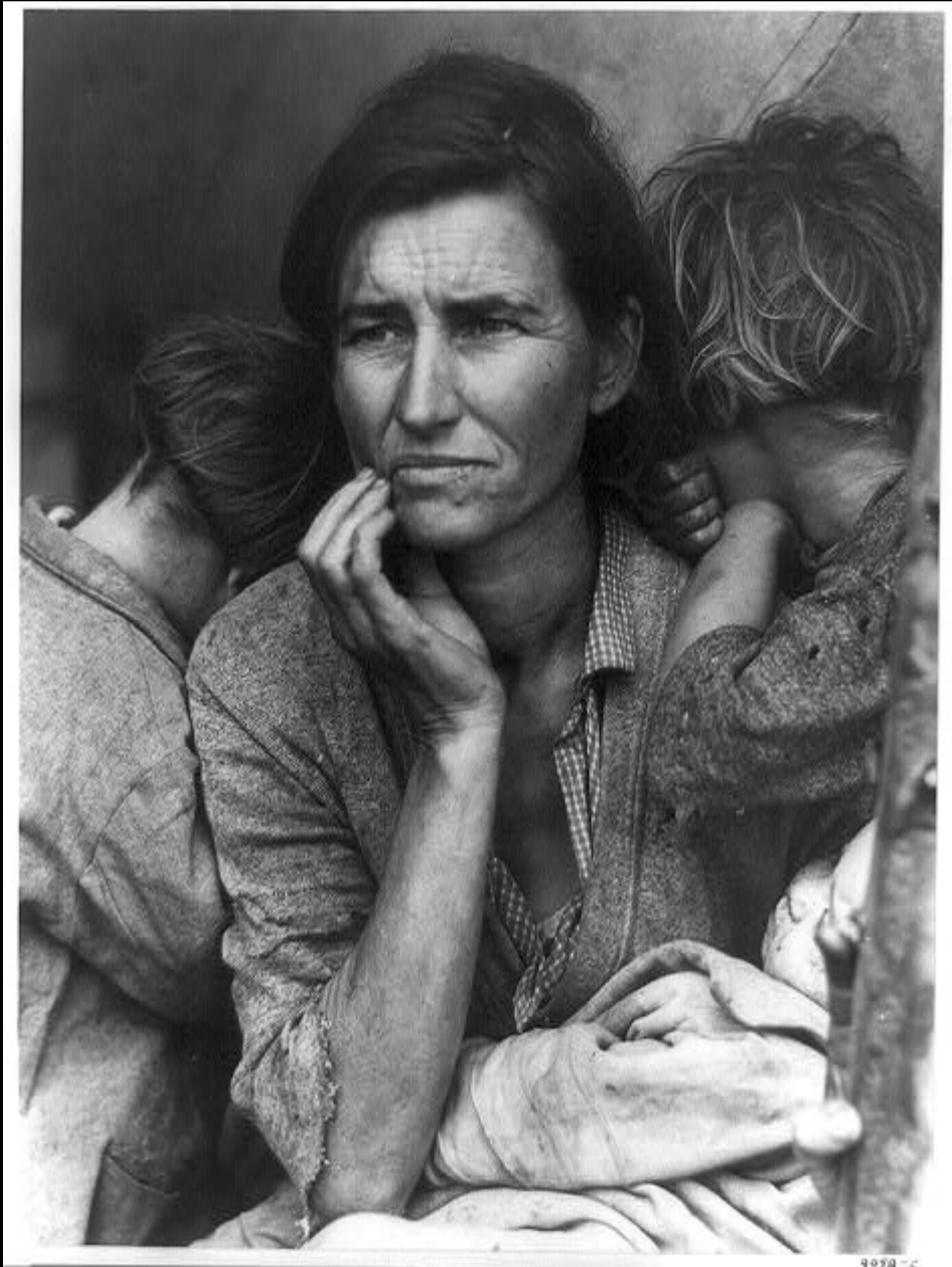
- Students are free to express themselves however they see fit
- Notebook\Sketchbook\index cards - your choice

Composition



Have you ever
wondered why
some pictures are
more appealing
than others





**. . why some
photographs seem
more compelling to
look at and
withstand the test of
time?**

Dorothea Lange's
famous photograph,
"Migrant Mother"

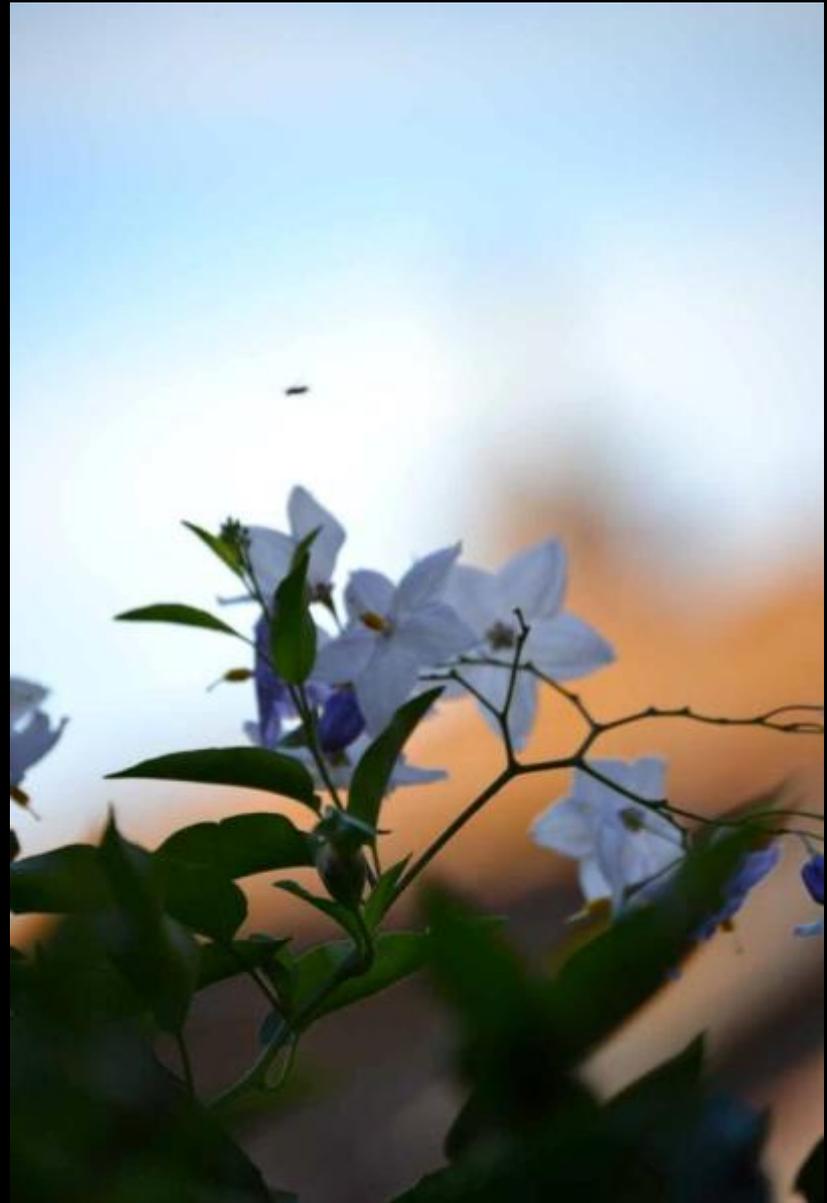
Have you ever wondered why some photographers consistently win the praises of judges and critics?



<http://www.michaelkahn.com/res/sites/grusvag/>

One of the main reasons why some pictures are more outstanding than others is because of their strong composition.

That's what this unit is all about. We're going to consider how composition can improve your photographs.



Good composition is a subject with a history of its own. The Greeks and Romans were practicing it 2,000 years before photography! It's obvious in their architecture.



And today, composition continues as an important part of contemporary architecture. One definition for photographic composition is simple: the pleasing selection and arrangement of subjects within the picture area.





Some arrangements are made by placing figures or objects in certain positions. Others are made by choosing a point of view. You can shift your camera very slightly and make quite a change in composition.



Some “snapshots” may turn out to have good composition, but most good pictures are created.



Most good pictures are created. How do you create a picture? First learn the guidelines for good composition. After you've learned the guidelines, you'll realize that well-composed pictures often take careful planning and sometimes patient waiting.

You'll find that the composition guidelines will become part of your thinking when you're looking for pictures, and soon they will become second nature to you.

- Simplicity
- The Rule of Thirds
- Balance
- Lines & Shape
- Color
- Pattern & Rhythm
- Framing
- Mergers

Think of these not as rules
but as simple guidelines.





Photographic composition is an expression of your natural sense of design. These guidelines will help you sharpen your natural sense of composition and take better pictures.

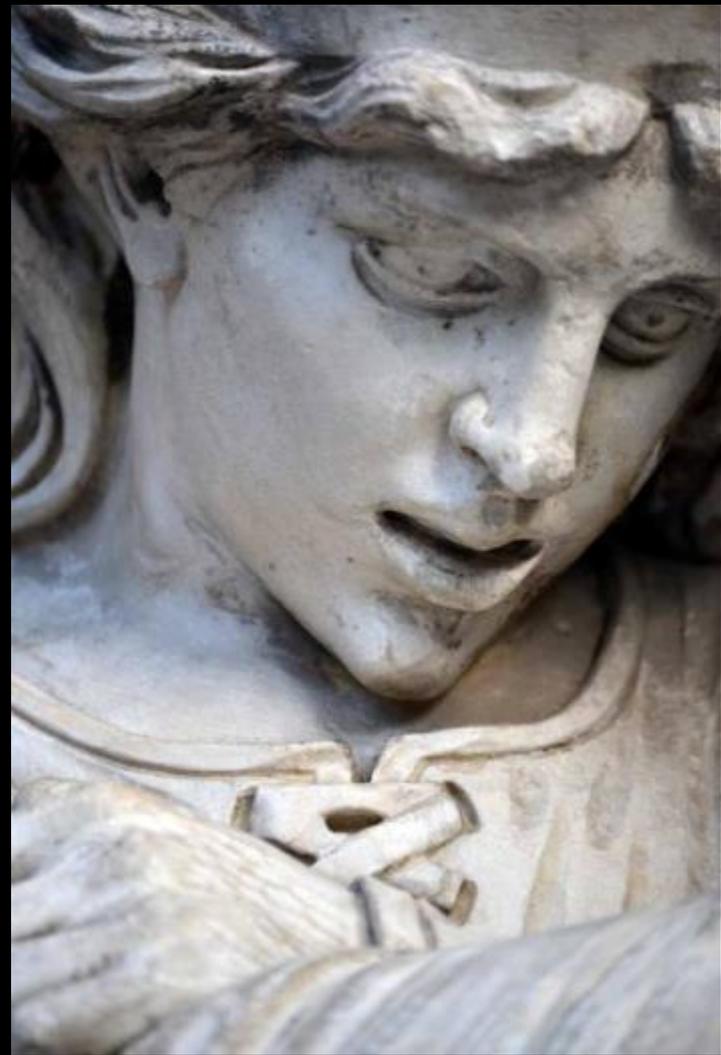
Simplicity



Composition



Let's see how we can improve this photo by looking for visual simplicity. First let's decide what we want to be our center of interest



Change your thinking to focus on the face of the sculpture as the main subject. By moving in closer and allowing no background, the photo as been simplified and improved .



We're certainly close enough to our subject in in this picture, but the busy background distracts from the expressive faces of the dogs.



By removing the distraction of the background we emphasis the main subject.

Compose your photograph so that your reason for taking the picture is clearly seen. Arrange other parts of the picture area in such a way as to complement what you choose to be the center of interest. Most of us would prefer the picture on the right because the center of interest is clear and the building to the supports the subject.







Remember: we're talking about compositional simplicity, and here's another decision you'll probably have to make. How many of your supporting elements should you include?



Or perhaps you'd prefer to frame your subject in the vertical format, as seen here with this set. The choice is yours. Try both horizontal and vertical if the subject permits.



So, you can simplify your pictures and strengthen your center of interest by selecting uncomplicated backgrounds, avoiding unrelated subjects, and moving in close. If you want to make your center of interest even more dynamic, place it slightly off center in your frame as with this subject and the next several slides.







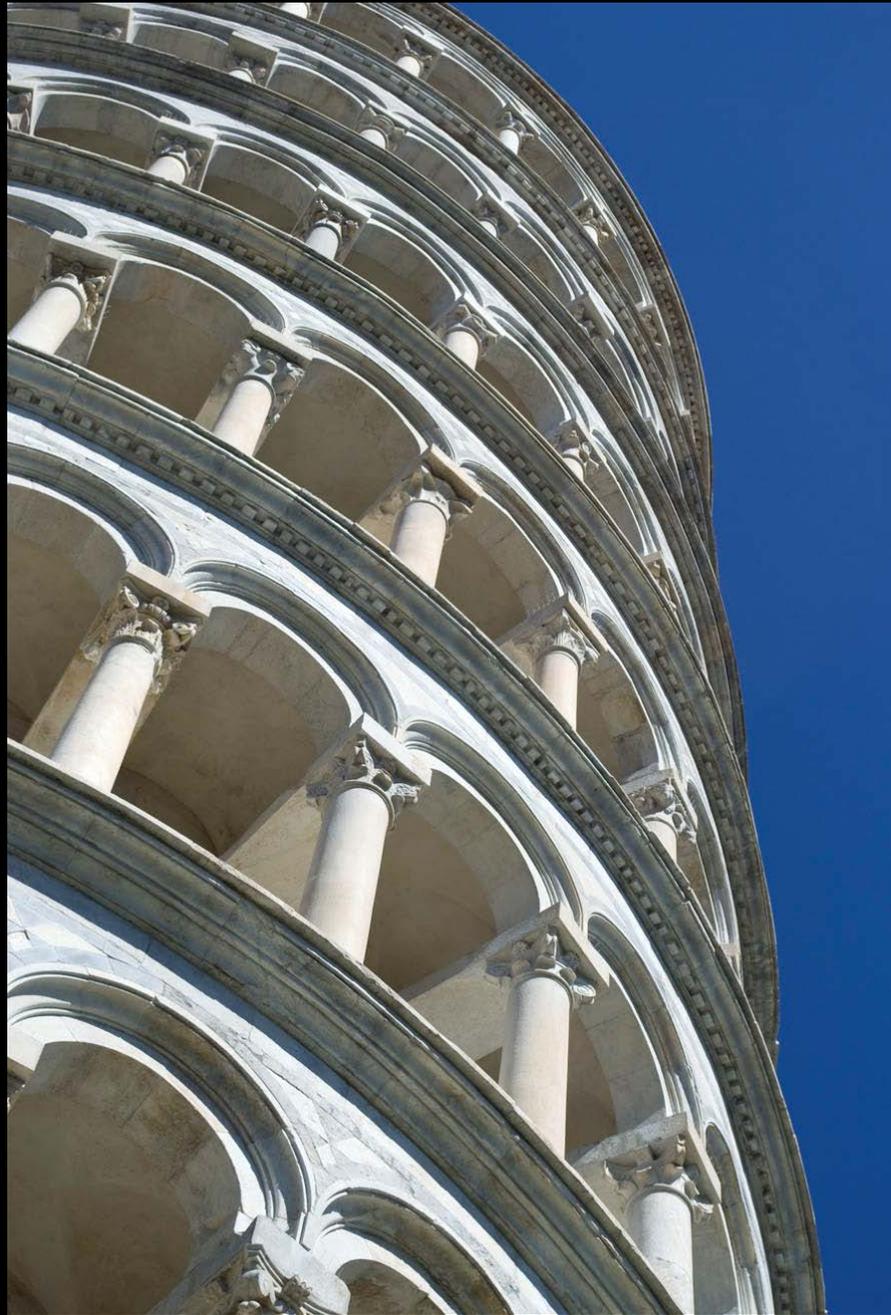
Fill The
Frame























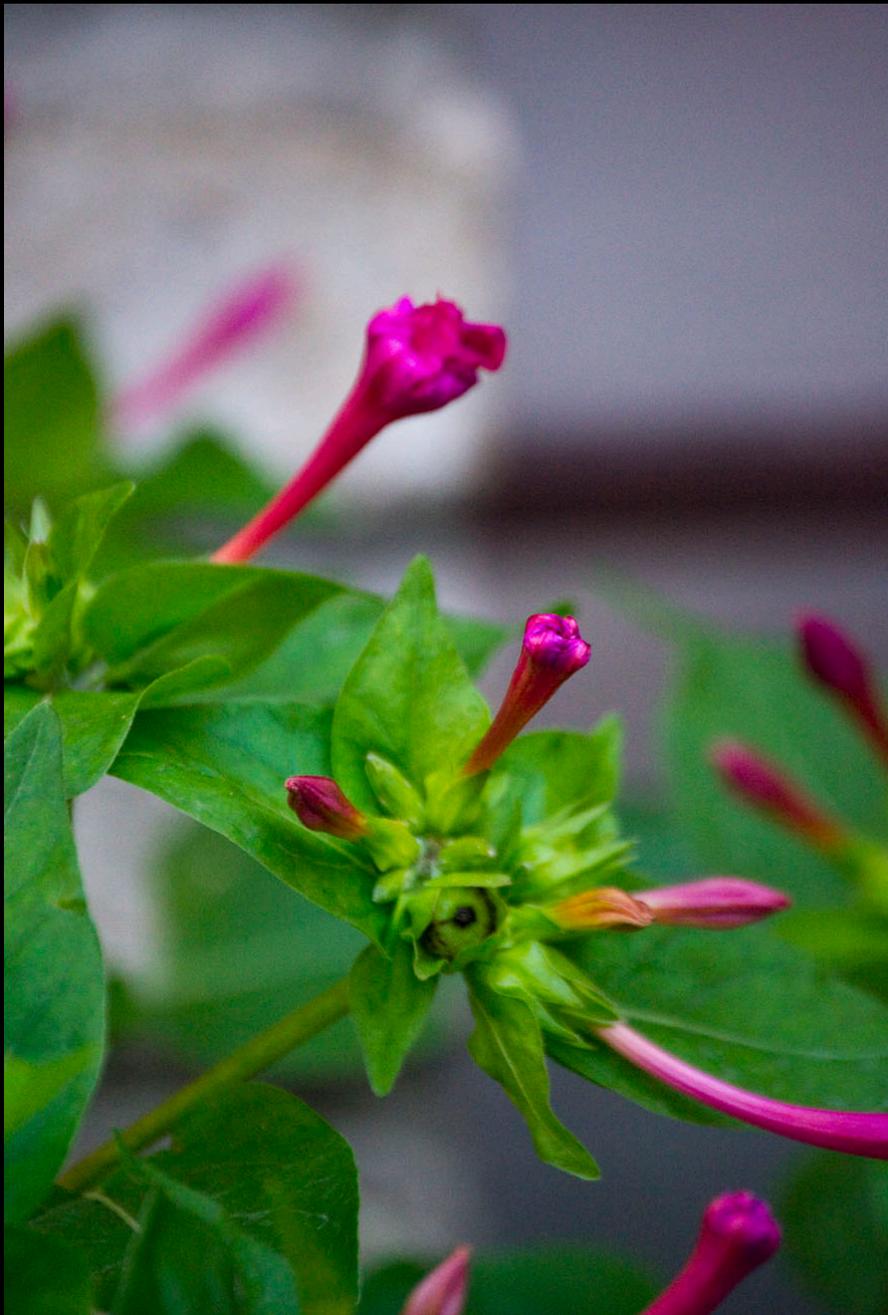




Get in

Close

















Unclutter the
Background



長洲
園

每條 5元











DRUM GLEICHES KREUZ UND GLEICHEN SCHMUCK WARD UNS AUF'S GRAB GEGEBEN

Try
A Different
Angle











Keys Concepts for Keeping it Simple

- Have a strong visual center of interest
 - (What is the picture about?)
- Avoiding unrelated subjects
 - (if it is not central to theme take it out)
- Select uncomplicated backgrounds
 - (nothing too busy in the background)

The How of Keeping it Simple

- Fill the Frame/Viewfinder
- Get in close! (probably the simplest way to make a snap-shot a photograph)
- Move! (photography is an art of movement)
- Move!
- Try a different angle , walk around

What to shoot

- Fill the Frame/Viewfinder
 - Head shot not the whole head
- Get in close! (probably the simplest way to make a snap-shot a photograph)
 - Natural object
 - Human made object
- Move! (photography is an art of movement)
 - Move around an subject and take 10 shots
- Try a different angle , walk around
 - Take a subject from several different angles

Simplicity



moving close up to objects you can get incredibly simple photos that are beautiful. The key to good composition is to move. Get uncomfortable and up close to the subject to get a good photo