

VISUAL TECHNOLOGY PRODUCTION (MPT1483)

COMPOSITION IN PHOTOGRAPHY

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Introduction

 Good Composition is a key element of good photographs yet is something that is hard to define.



Introduction

Good Compostion Guideline in Photography:

- Simplicity
- The Rule of Thirds
- Lines
- Balance
- Framing



Simplicity...

- Look for ways to give the center of interest in your pictures the most visual attention.
- One way is to select uncomplicated backgrounds that will not steal attention from your subjects.

Examples will be discussed in class...



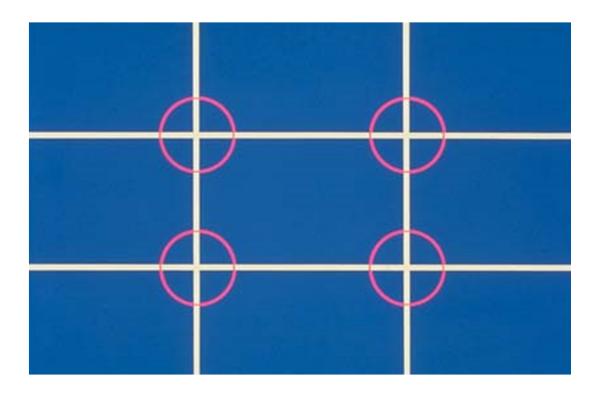
The Rule of Thirds...

 The rule states that an image should be imagined as divided into nine equal parts by two equallyspaced horizontal lines and two equally-spaced vertical lines, and that important compositional elements should be placed along these lines or their intersections.



The Rule of Thirds...

 The intersections of these imaginary lines suggest four options for placing the center of interest for good composition.





The Rule of Thirds...

 Proponents of the technique claim that aligning a subject with these points creates more tension, energy and interest in the composition than simply centering the subject would.

• Examples will be discussed in class...



Lines





Lines...

- You can use diagonals as leading lines to provide a way into the picture. It's a simple and easy path for the eye to follow to the main subject.
- You can also use repetitive lines to draw viewers' attention to your center of interest.
- One of the most common and graceful lines used in composition is called the S curve.
- Examples will be discussed in class...



Balance...

 Good balance is simply the arrangement of shapes, colors, or areas of light and dark that complement one another so that the photograph looks well-balanced.

• Examples will be discussed in class...



- Sometimes you've a object of huge dominace within a scene.
- While breathtaking on-location, the final picture looks often much less impressive due to uninteresting space around the object.
 Try to find a frame which can eliminate the unimportand surrounding and focus the view.



A frame serves numerous purposes:

• It gives the image depth and helps to give the perception to viewers of it that they're looking at something that is more than 2 dimensions.



- Use correctly, framing can draw the eye of the viewer of an interest to a particular part of the scene.
- Framing can bring a sense of organization or containment to an image. This won't work with every shot - but if you're after a more ordered or formal feel it can be useful.



- Framing can add context to a shot.
- Frames can also be in the foreground or background of images (although more often than not they're in the foreground).

• Examples will be discussed in class...

OPENCOURSEWARE

Thank You!

