

## FRAMING and COMPOSITION

### Investigation

stop thinking and look carefully  
western society iconifies everything so it is easier to deal with  
as a result we stop looking and just identify  
the photo wants to show **you** looking at the subject,  
and not just be picture of the subject (objective documentation)  
*"facts are not interesting, opinions about facts..."*  
provide clues about the subject,  
not a clear definition [MYSTERY]  
getting a viewer to ask, "What is that?" is the first step into their brain

### Visualization

look carefully at you subject  
make sure you fill the frame with only meaningful content  
move closer to eliminate any undesired elements  
position the subject inside the viewfinder [CLOSENESS & FRAGMENTATION]  
get close enough to remove all unwanted background  
the camera is not capable of editing as your brain does  
establish a good shooting angle [BIRD'S EYE/ WORM'S EYE VIEW]  
never shoot from eye level  
this is where most people see the world from, i.e. the most boring viewpoint  
search for great light [LUMINANCE]  
*"if the light sucks, the photo will suck"*

### Framing

look at the corners, corners have power  
place important aspects of the picture near a corner  
*"if the corners are great the rest of the picture will take care of itself"*  
look at the edges, edges have power  
place important aspects of the picture close to an edge  
align horizons or prominent lines with the edge of the frame  
push horizons toward the very top or very bottom of the frame  
crooked pictures show a lack of attention  
make a painting out of your subject

### Shooting

take several shots of each subject  
you will not be allowed to crop your photos  
if you could you would not look carefully, thinking, "I can fix it later"  
sometimes the best picture is over and inch or down two  
sometimes the best picture is one second later  
refine your vision with each shot  
take a shot, move closer, change your angle of view, shoot again, repeat