

# Digital Photography

## Wallingford Adult Education

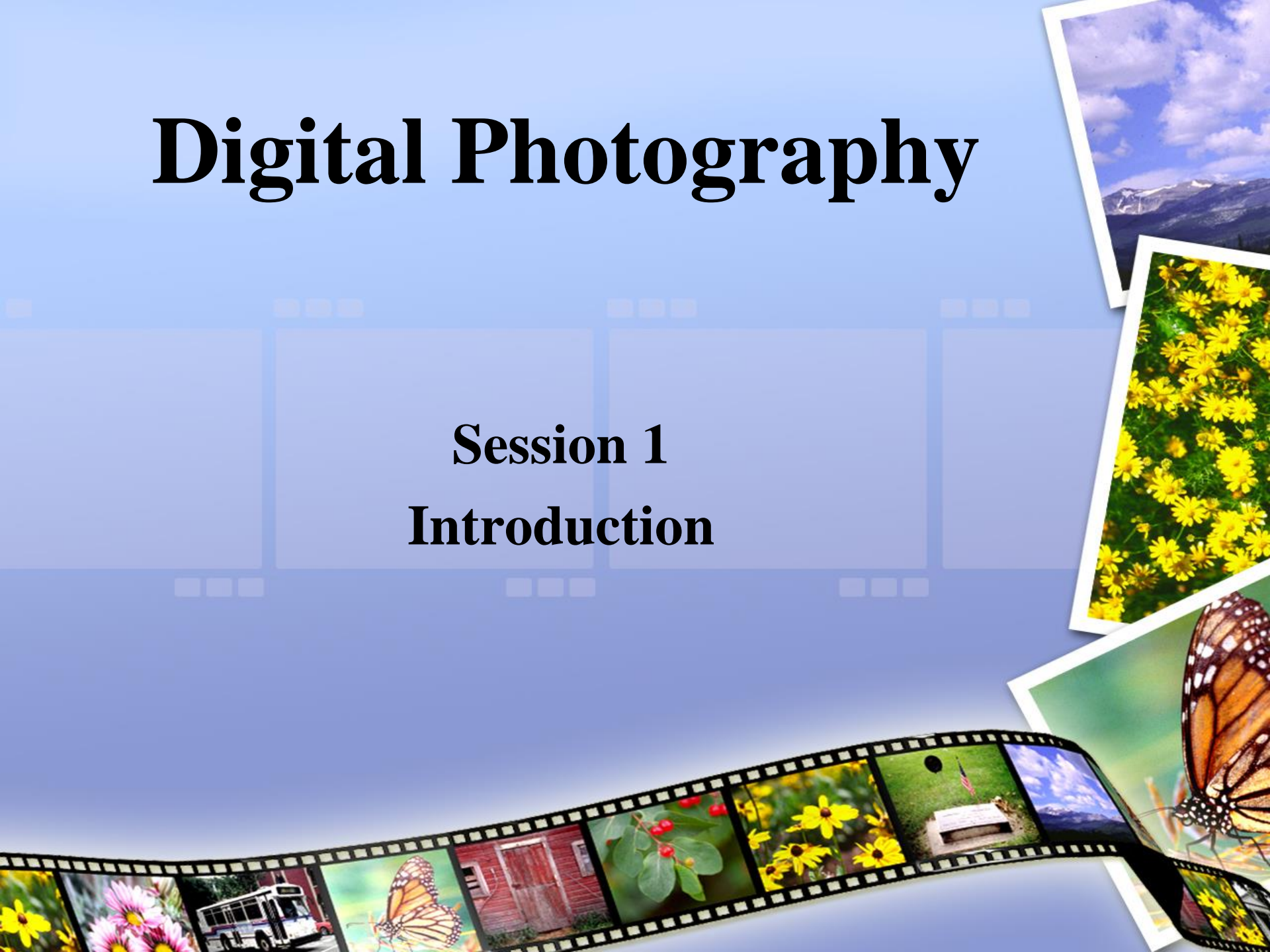
### Session 1

Ron Godbey



# Digital Photography

## Session 1 Introduction





# Introductions

- **Me**
  - Ron Godbey
- **You**
  - Name
  - Primary interest in photography –your favorite subjects
  - What do you want to get out of the class
  - Your focus: on photography –or digital medium?
  - Experience level: beginner, intermediate, etc



# Course Overview

- **Week 1: Intro**
- **Week 2: Science vs. Art**
- **Week 3: The Science of Art**
- **Week 4: The Equipment You Already  
Have is all You Need!**
- **Week 5: Photo Workshop**
- **Week 6: Presentation is Everything**



# What do we already know about...

## Camera

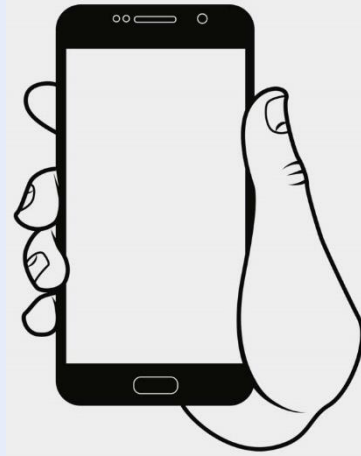
- Aperture
- What are aperture numbers
- Shutter speed
- ISO Speeds
- Depth of field
- Rule of Thirds
- Cropping
- High Key / Low Key Lighting

## Computer

- Pixels
- Megapixels
- Resolution
- Aspect Ratio
- JPEG
- RAW
- Post Processing
- Digital Dark Room

# Cameras

- **Automatic**
- **Manual features?**
- **“Point and Shoot”**
- **DSLR (Digital Single Lens Reflex)**
- **Some Advanced features**
- **Most will do more than you might think!**



# Cameras

- **Point and Shoot**

## Advantages:

- Less expensive
- Good general purpose
- Snapshots
- Easy to carry around

## Disadvantages:

- Less control for creativity
- Maybe less quality camera
- Snapshots
- Maybe less quality pictures



# Cameras

- **Cell Phone Cameras**

## Advantages:

- You always have it with you
- Easy access to all your pics
- Snapshots
- Easy to post, email text your pics

## Disadvantages:

- Less control for creativity
- Creative control is obtained through S/W
- Snapshots
- Maybe less quality pictures





# Cameras

- **DSLR**



## Advantages:

- More creative control
- Interchangeable lenses
- Snapshots or Photographs
- Highest quality

## Disadvantages:

- More expensive
- Complex to learn and use
- More gear to carry
- Complexity may take away the “Fun Factor”



# Which Camera is Best for You?

- **Ask yourself:**
    - **What can I afford?**
    - **What kind of pictures do I take now?**
      - **Snapshots**
      - **Photographs**
    - **What kind of pictures do I want to take?**
      - **Snapshots**
      - **Photographs**
- 



# Why not Both?



- **Point and Shoot / Cell Phone**
  - When a snapshot will do
  - When you want to travel light
- **DSLR**
  - When you want to be creative
  - When you want to “get serious”





# **No Matter What...**

- **No matter what kind of camera you have...**
- **No matter what your level of experience...**
- **No matter what type of pictures you take...**

**This Class Will Help You!**



# Digital Photography Break!



**15 Minutes**



# Digital Photography

## Session 1

**Welcome Back!**





# Elements of Good Photography

**What it is for most people:**

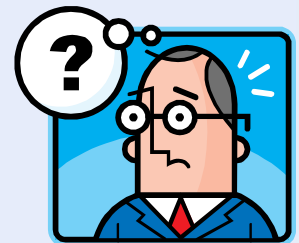
- **Science/Technology** - **5%**
- **Visual/Composition** - **5%**
- **LUCK!** - **90%**

# Elements of Good Photography

## What it should be:

- **Science/Technology**                      **-20%**
- **Visual/Composition**                      **-75%**
- **LUCK!**                                      **- 5%**

**How do we move from what it is (90% luck) to what it should be?**





# Learning!

- **Learn the Basics**

- Exposure
- Focus
- Composition



- **Learn the Technology**

- Computer
- Software



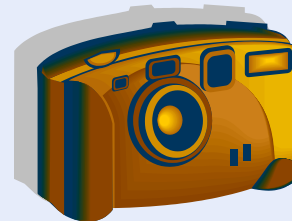
- **Learn your Camera**

- What it CAN do
- What it CAN'T do
- How to make it work for you

**Take Pictures!**



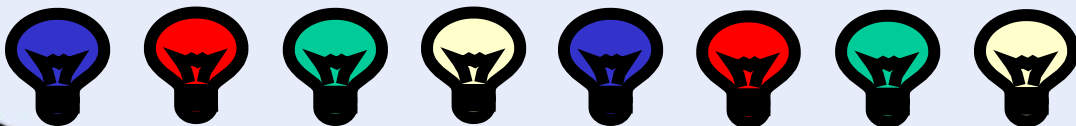
**Lots of Pictures!**



**TAKE PICTURES!**

**Analyze Your Pictures**

**Take More Pictures!**



# The Cycle of Learning

**Take Better Pictures**

**Take Pictures**

**Analyze Your Pictures**



# Rule of Thumb #1

- **You Learn more from your bad pictures than you do from your good pictures.**





# What Makes A Photograph Bad??

- **Focus**
- **Composition**
- **Exposure**



# Focus

- **Know what you are focusing on**
- **Know what will be in focus and out of focus**
- **Learn how to control focus**
- **Focus is the MOST important thing to get right!**

# Composition

- **Know what you are taking a picture of**
- **Know what you want to accomplish by your picture**
- **Visualize how you want the picture to look before pressing the shutter release**
- **Look at every element of the picture –not just the subject**

# Exposure

- **Know what is the correct exposure**
- **Know how to adjust the exposure**
- **Know that the camera is NOT always right!**
- **Learn how to compensate when the camera is wrong**





# Story Time

- **Just show me what button to push**



# Session 1 Recap

- **Learn the basics**
- **Learn the equipment**
- **Take pictures**
- **HAVE FUN!**

# Next week

- **Session 2: Science vs. Art**



# Assignment

- **Bring your camera to class**
  - **With the Instruction Guide**
- **Take some pictures**
- **E-mail me a good picture**
  - **Think about why it's good**
- **E-mail me a bad picture**
  - **Think about why it's bad**