Digital Photography
Wallingford Adult Education
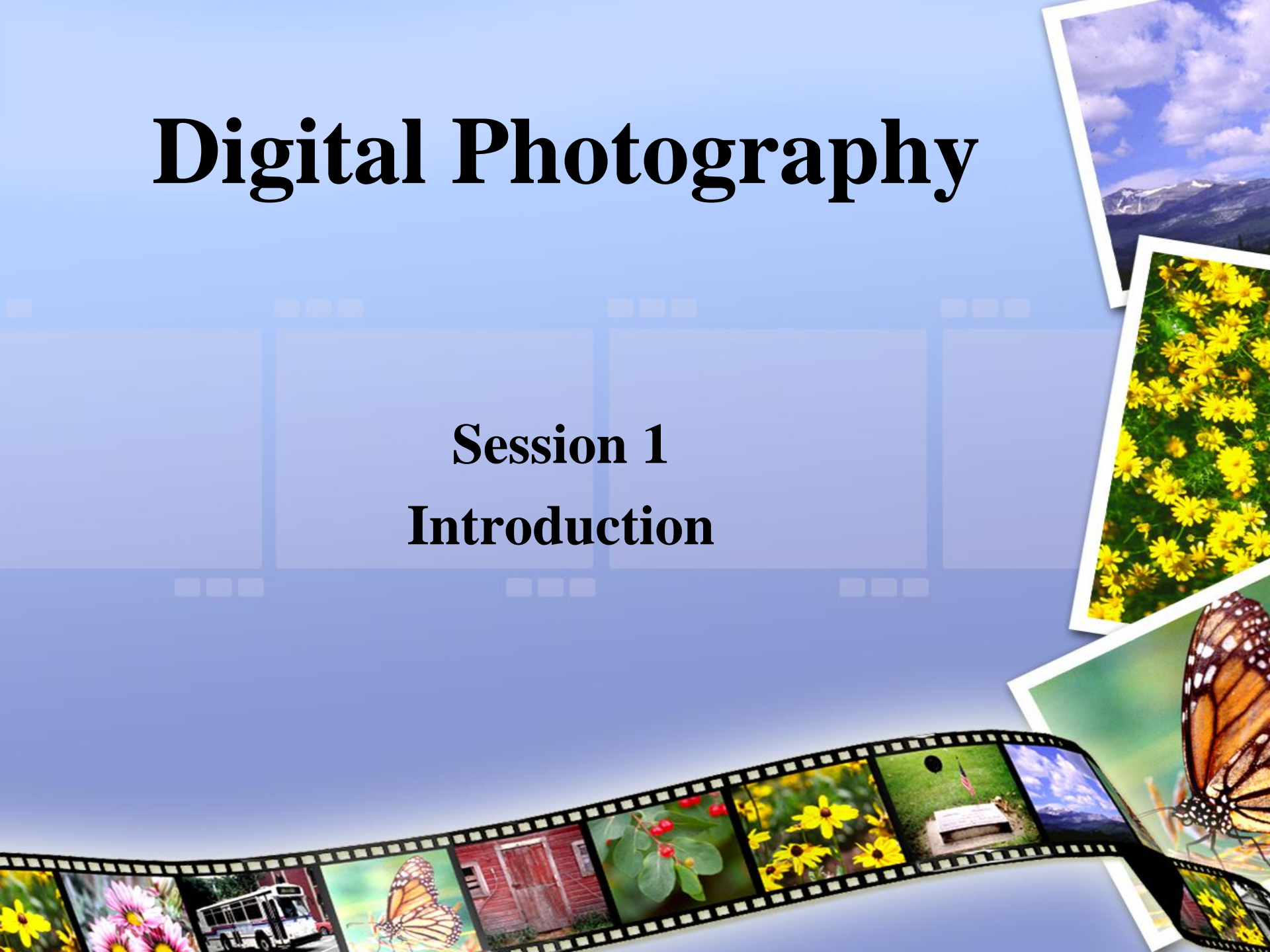### Session 1

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**
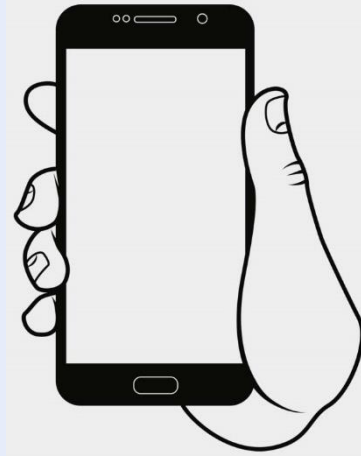
What do we already know about…

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**
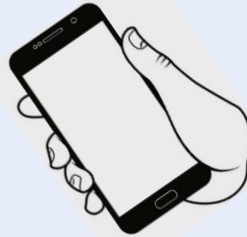
- **Most will do more than you might think!**

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!

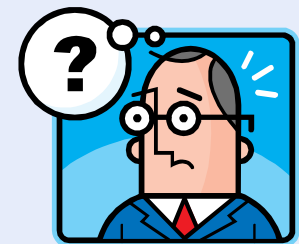# Elements of Good Photography

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 is should be?
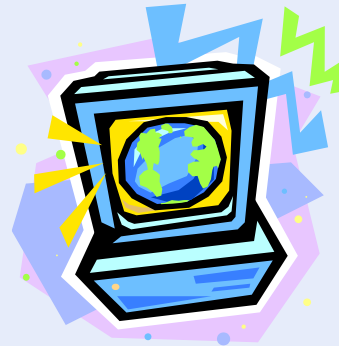
Learning!

- **Learn the Basics**
  - Exposure
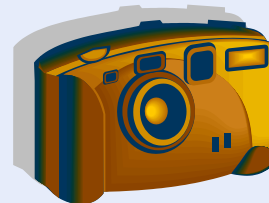 - Focus
  - Composition
- **Learn the Technology**
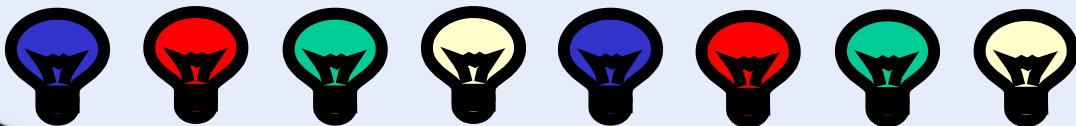 - Computer
  - Software
- **Learn your Camera**
  - What it CAN do
  - What it CAN'T do
  - How to make it work for you

**Take Pictures!
Lots of Pictures!**

TAKE PICTURES!

Analyze Your Pictures

Take More Pictures!

HAVE FUN!

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**