

Composition **Abstract Thinking**

1. Composition helps to communicate visual ideas more economically, with more clarity, and more effectively.
2. Formal composition principles incorporate elements of design.
3. **Formal principles** are compositional principles and are a way of bringing the elements together so that the image is coherent and include: Balance/visual weight, unity, framing, gestalt, dynamic tension, hierarchy, rhythm, pattern, movement, contrast
4. **Elements of design** include: line, texture, color, value, light, shape, form, focal points, space (positive and negative space, perspective, depth, near/far)

Photographic Composition

Please review the following video before the next class, as some of the quiz questions will cover the same material that is covered in this lecture:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qxGwNVNrB64>

Some of the elements and principles of design that are most often referred to in photography are the following:

Rule of Thirds

The golden mean / golden ratio (proportional relationship of 1:1.618)

Fibonacci spiral (proportional relationships that are based off the Fibonacci sequence)

Triangular composition

Leading lines

Foreground/Middle Ground/Background

Contrast

Vanishing point

Focal point