“I’m not a premeditative photographer. I see a picture and I make it. If I had a chance, I’d be out shooting all the time. You don’t have to go looking for pictures. The material is generous. You go out and the pictures are staring at you.”

- Lee Friedlander

“I am not interested in shooting new things. I am interested to see things new. In this way, I am a photographer with the problems of a painter, the desire is to find the limitations of a camera so I can overcome them.”

- Ernst Haas

“My theory of composition? Simple: do not release the shutter until everything in the viewfinder feels just right… There are two kinds of photographers: those who compose pictures and those who take them. The former work in studios. For the latter, the studio is the world... For them, the ordinary doesn’t exist: everything in life is a source of nourishment.”

- Ernst Haas

We often think that to create interesting pictures, we need to go to some exotic places. We feel frustrated as traveling for many is an elusive goal. Looking at some of the greatest photographers, they found the perfect subject matter in the ordinary. The key, as Ernst Haas says in the above quote, is to observe the familiar and see it in new ways. This is art, making the ordinary look extraordinary. Anything can be an interesting subject matter, but we “need eyes”!
Project Objectives and Learning Outcomes

As a class, we will shoot reflections in windows and storefronts in downtown Williamsport. The assignment is twofold: technical as well as visual.

**Technical:** Reflections usually have lots of highlights and areas of deep shadows. Correct exposure will be the main issue. Remember to expose for middle grey and/or the shadows.

**Visual:** The challenge will be to find an interesting composition while photographing something quite ordinary. There is a good chance that you will be part of the image. Trying to integrate all the different elements (window, yourself, reflection from across the street, etc.) and at the same time creating a visually compelling image will not be easy. It is almost like making a collage using different bits and pieces. Looking at the work of Lee Friedlander and Ernst Haas might help you navigate some of the problems you will encounter.

I want to see at least 10 different images. You will need to make a proof sheet. I suggest that you use the film that is part of your *Composition, Light and Shadow* assignment. You may use some of these photographs for that assignment as well.

Submit: 1 8x10” print and a proof sheet. Failure to make a proof sheet will reduce your grade by 10 points.