Overview

This assignment focuses on mastering the exposure triangle by utilizing either aperture or shutter priority modes. Students will learn to control brightness and depth of field or motion while maintaining a fixed ISO, enhancing their photographic skills in varied lighting conditions.

Learning Objectives

- Understand the relationship between aperture, shutter speed, and ISO in exposure.
- Learn to use aperture priority mode to control depth of field effectively.
- Gain experience using shutter priority mode to capture motion accurately.

Related Reading

Before you start, read these related blog posts to deepen your understanding:

What Is Exposure In Photography	What Is Iso In Photography	What Is Shutter Speed
What Is Depth Of Field	What Is Manual Exposure In Photography	What Is Dynamic Range In Photography

Before You Shoot

- ■ Select your camera and ensure it has aperture and shutter priority modes.
- ■ Set your ISO to a fixed value of 200.
- ■ Choose a location with varied lighting conditions for shooting.
- ■ Familiarize yourself with your camera's metering modes.
- ■ Check that your camera battery is fully charged and you have sufficient memory space.

Assignment Tasks

1. Shoot a portrait using aperture priority mode set to f/2.8 with ISO 200 fixed, allowing the camera to adjust shutter speed for depth of field control.

2. Capture a fast-moving subject, like a bird in flight, using shutter priority mode at 1/1000s with ISO 200 fixed, letting the camera set aperture to freeze motion.

3. Photograph a landscape scene with a focus on depth of field by using aperture priority mode set to f/8 with ISO 200 fixed, allowing the camera to adjust shutter speed.

4. Take a series of images of a busy street using shutter priority mode at 1/250s with ISO 200 fixed to capture the motion of passing cars.

5. Create a set of images showcasing a gradual change in aperture settings from f/2.8 to f/11 using aperture priority mode with ISO 200 fixed.

6. Document a still life scene using aperture priority mode set to f/4 with ISO 200 fixed, allowing the camera to determine the shutter speed to achieve proper exposure.

Stretch Tasks

- Challenge yourself by photographing a sunset scene using aperture priority mode while adjusting the aperture for optimal light balance and depth of field.
- Create a motion study by capturing the same subject in different shutter speeds using shutter priority mode, documenting the variations in motion capture.

DO / DON'T

DO	DON'T
✓ Do use aperture priority mode for portraits to achieve a blurred background effect.	✗ Don't manually set all three exposure variables; use priority modes instead.
✓ Do use shutter priority mode to effectively freeze action in sports photography.	✗ Don't ignore your camera's metering modes when shooting in challenging lighting.
✓ Do experiment with different apertures and shutter speeds to see their effects on your images.	✗ Don't rely solely on auto mode; practice using aperture and shutter priority modes.
✓ Do check your histogram after each shot to ensure proper exposure.	✗ Don't forget to check your composition and focus after adjusting your exposure settings.
✓ Do adjust your exposure compensation to manage tricky lighting situations.	✗ Don't shoot underexposed or overexposed images without adjusting your settings.

Reflection Questions

- How does changing the aperture affect the mood and clarity of your images?
- What challenges did you face when using priority modes, and how did you overcome them?
- In what ways did using a fixed ISO influence your shooting experience?
- How did your understanding of the exposure triangle evolve through this assignment?

Technical & Creative Focus

Technical:

- Use the histogram feature to check for clipped highlights or shadows in your images.
- Experiment with different metering modes (spot, center-weighted, evaluative) to see their effects on exposure.
- Understand how changing the aperture impacts the depth of field in your compositions.
- Practice adjusting the exposure compensation to fine-tune your images.
- Learn to read the exposure triangle's implications on your selected settings.

Creative:

- Explore how different apertures can create varying moods in your photos.
- Utilize shutter speeds to convey motion blur for dynamic or static subjects.
- Experiment with light and shadow to enhance the emotional impact of your images.
- Incorporate foreground and background elements creatively using depth of field.
- Capture images at different times of day to see how natural lighting affects exposure.