## Overview

This assignment focuses on mastering the exposure triangle by using aperture and shutter priority modes to control brightness, detail, and motion in photography. Students will learn to balance exposure settings effectively while capturing images that convey their intended mood and aesthetic.

## Learning Objectives

- Understand how aperture and shutter speed impact exposure and composition.
- Learn to use aperture priority and shutter priority modes effectively.
- Develop skills to evaluate and adjust exposure based on scene conditions.

## Related Reading

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

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|---|---|---|
| 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

- ■ Choose a well-lit outdoor location or a controlled indoor environment.
- ■ Set your camera to either Aperture Priority (A/Av) or Shutter Priority (S/Tv) mode.
- ■ Fix your ISO setting at 200 for consistent exposure results.
- ■ Familiarize yourself with the metering modes available on your camera.
- ■ Bring a tripod to stabilize your camera for longer exposures if needed.

## Assignment Tasks

1. Use aperture priority mode at f/4 with ISO 200 fixed, letting the camera set shutter speed, to photograph a landscape emphasizing depth of field.

2. Use shutter priority mode at 1/250s with ISO 200 fixed, letting the camera set aperture, to capture a moving subject such as a person walking or running.

3. In a low-light setting, use aperture priority mode at f/2.8 with ISO 200 fixed, letting the camera adjust shutter speed, to photograph city lights at night.

4. Use shutter priority mode at 1/60s with ISO 200 fixed, letting the camera set aperture, to capture a flowing waterfall while creating motion blur.

5. Select aperture priority mode at f/5.6 with ISO 200 fixed, letting the camera adjust shutter speed, to photograph a group of people with balanced focus on all subjects.

6. Use shutter priority mode at 1/1000s with ISO 200 fixed, letting the camera set aperture, to capture a bird in flight, ensuring the motion is frozen.

## Stretch Tasks

- Explore bracketing by taking three shots of the same scene using different exposure compensation values while in aperture priority mode.
- Create a series of images with varying shutter speeds to analyze the effect of motion blur versus freeze-frame in a single scene.

## DO / DON'T

| DO | DON'T |
|---|---|
| ✓ Do check your histogram after each shot to ensure proper exposure. | ✗ Don't shoot in manual mode for this assignment; focus on priority modes. |
| ✓ Do experiment with different metering modes to understand their impact on exposure. | ✗ Don't ignore the histogram; it is essential for evaluating exposure. |
| ✓ Do adjust your aperture or shutter speed to control depth of field or motion as needed. | ✗ Don't set your ISO to automatic; keep it fixed at 200. |
| ✓ Do take your time to compose each shot thoughtfully based on exposure settings. | ✗ Don't forget to adjust your exposure compensation if the scene is challenging. |
| ✓ Do review your images critically to learn from both well-exposed and poorly exposed shots. | ✗ Don't rush your shooting; take time to find the right settings and composition. |

## Reflection Questions

- How did using aperture priority or shutter priority impact your creative choices?
- What challenges did you face when trying to achieve the desired exposure?
- In what ways did the histogram help you improve your exposure decisions?
- How do you think mastering the exposure triangle will influence your future photography?

## Technical & Creative Focus

**Technical:**

- Use the histogram to check for highlight and shadow clipping after taking each shot.
- Adjust your exposure compensation if the image is too bright or too dark.
- Experiment with different aperture settings for varying depths of field.
- Use fast shutter speeds to freeze motion in dynamic scenes.
- Change metering modes (e.g., spot, matrix) to see how it influences exposure.

**Creative:**

- Explore how varying aperture settings can change the mood of your images.
- Use shallow depth of field to isolate subjects in portraits.
- Capture motion blur creatively by using slower shutter speeds.
- Frame your compositions considering how exposure will affect the overall aesthetic.
- Think about the story you want to tell with your exposure choices.