



Overview

Mastering the Exposure Triangle is essential for photographers seeking to control light and achieve their desired artistic effects. This assignment will guide you through practical exercises that emphasize the relationship between aperture, shutter speed, and ISO, enabling you to create well-exposed images tailored to your vision.

Learning Objectives

- Understand the interrelationship between aperture, shutter speed, and ISO.
- Effectively use exposure compensation to achieve desired exposure.
- Develop the ability to analyze and adjust settings based on lighting conditions.

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

- Familiarize yourself with your camera's manual settings and modes.
- Check the battery level and ensure you have enough memory card space.
- Set your camera to manual mode for full control over exposure settings.
- Select a metering mode that suits your shooting environment (e.g., spot metering for precise exposure).
- Plan your shoot time considering the natural light conditions.

Assignment Tasks

1. Capture a well-exposed landscape at f/8, 1/125s, ISO 100 in manual mode to balance the sky and foreground.
2. Photograph a moving subject at f/5.6, 1/500s, ISO 400 in shutter priority mode to freeze the action.
3. Shoot a low-light scene at f/2.8, 1/60s, ISO 1600 in manual mode to maintain detail without excessive noise.
4. Create a high-contrast portrait at f/4, 1/200s, ISO 200 with +1 EV exposure compensation for dramatic effect.
5. Experiment with long exposure at f/11, 30s, ISO 100 in manual mode to capture light trails at night.
6. Take a series of images at different exposures (bracketing) at f/8, 1/125s, ISO 100 to create an HDR composite.

Stretch Tasks

- Create a time-lapse sequence by adjusting settings for varying light conditions, using f/8, 1/30s, ISO 100.
- Shoot a macro photograph with a shallow depth of field at f/2.8, 1/200s, ISO 200 to emphasize details.



DO / DON'T

DO

- ✓ Do experiment with different metering modes to see their effects on exposure.
- ✓ Do practice shooting in various lighting conditions to understand how they affect the exposure triangle.
- ✓ Do regularly review your histogram to ensure proper exposure.
- ✓ Do use a tripod for long exposure shots to prevent camera shake.
- ✓ Do take notes on the settings used for each shot to learn from your successes and failures.

DON'T

- ✗ Don't rely solely on automatic modes; practice manual settings for better control.
- ✗ Don't ignore the importance of white balance; adjust it according to the lighting conditions.
- ✗ Don't forget to check your settings after changing locations or lighting conditions.
- ✗ Don't hesitate to use exposure compensation when dealing with challenging lighting.
- ✗ Don't overlook the creative possibilities of the exposure triangle; experiment with settings.

Reflection Questions

- How did changing one element of the exposure triangle affect your images?
- What challenges did you face while trying to achieve the desired exposure?
- How can you apply the lessons learned from this assignment to future shoots?
- What creative techniques did you discover while mastering the exposure triangle?

Technical & Creative Focus

Technical:

- Use aperture settings to control depth of field; shoot at f/4, 1/125s, ISO 200 in manual mode for portraits.
- Experiment with shutter speed to freeze motion; try f/8, 1/1000s, ISO 400 in manual mode for sports photography.
- Adjust ISO to manage noise levels; shoot at f/5.6, 1/60s, ISO 1600 in low light conditions.
- Utilize exposure compensation to adjust brightness; set f/2.8, 1/250s, ISO 100 with +1 EV for backlit subjects.
- Employ histogram analysis to avoid clipping; shoot at f/11, 1/30s, ISO 100 in manual mode and check histogram after each shot.

Creative:

- Create a silhouette effect by underexposing; set f/16, 1/2000s, ISO 100 against a sunset.
- Capture motion blur for artistic effect; use f/5.6, 1/4s, ISO 400 in shutter priority mode.
- Experiment with bokeh by shooting wide open; use f/1.8, 1/500s, ISO 200 for a dreamy portrait.
- Use high dynamic range (HDR) techniques; shoot at f/8, 1/100s, ISO 100 with bracketing for landscapes.
- Incorporate leading lines and adjust exposure; shoot at f/11, 1/15s, ISO 100 in manual mode to highlight the path.