Overview

Mastering the Exposure Triangle is essential for photographers who want to control the brightness, detail, and mood of their images. This assignment will guide you through practical tasks that enhance your understanding of how aperture, shutter speed, and ISO work together to achieve perfect exposure.

Learning Objectives

- Understand the relationship between aperture, shutter speed, and ISO.
- Apply exposure triangle concepts to different photography scenarios.
- Evaluate and adjust camera settings to achieve desired exposure outcomes.

Before You Shoot

- ■ Familiarize yourself with your camera's manual mode and settings.
- ■ Ensure your camera battery is charged and memory card is formatted.
- ■ Choose a location with varying light conditions for diverse practice.
- ■ Prepare a notebook or digital device to record your settings and results.
- ■ Set your camera to RAW format to capture maximum detail for post-processing.

Assignment Tasks

1. Capture a portrait using a wide aperture of f/2.8, shutter speed of 1/125s, ISO 200 in aperture priority mode to achieve a blurred background.

2. Photograph a moving subject, setting your camera to f/4, shutter speed of 1/500s, ISO 400 in shutter priority mode to freeze the action.

3. Take a landscape shot at f/11, shutter speed of 1/60s, ISO 100 in manual mode to ensure depth of field and sharpness throughout the scene.

4. Shoot a night scene using f/2.8, shutter speed of 1/30s, ISO 1600 in manual mode to capture details in low light without excessive noise.

5. Create a long exposure of flowing water at f/8, shutter speed of 2 seconds, ISO 100 in manual mode to achieve a silky effect.

6. Capture a street scene at dusk with f/5.6, shutter speed of 1/125s, ISO 800 in aperture priority mode to balance ambient light and motion.

Stretch Tasks

- Create a series of images that showcase the exposure triangle by varying one element while keeping the others constant.
- Experiment with bracketing your exposures (e.g., -1, 0, +1 EV) to create HDR images and analyze the differences.

DO	DON'T
✓ Do experiment with different metering modes to see how they affect exposure.	✗ Don't rely solely on automatic modes; they may not deliver the desired exposure.
✓ Do keep a log of your settings and results for future reference.	✗ Don't ignore the importance of white balance; it can drastically change the mood of your images.
✓ Do regularly review your histogram after each shot to ensure proper exposure.	✗ Don't be afraid to adjust ISO; higher values can be beneficial in low light.
✓ Do practice in various lighting conditions to broaden your understanding of the exposure triangle.	✗ Don't forget to check for clipping in your histogram after taking a shot.
✓ Do challenge yourself to shoot in manual mode to gain full control over your settings.	✗ Don't overlook the creative possibilities of varying your exposure settings for artistic effects.

Reflection Questions

- How did changing the aperture affect the depth of field in your images?
- What challenges did you face when adjusting shutter speed to capture motion?
- In what scenarios did you find ISO adjustments necessary, and how did they impact image quality?
- How did different metering modes influence your exposure results?
- What creative opportunities did you discover by manipulating the exposure triangle?

Technical & Creative Focus

Technical:

- Use the histogram to assess exposure; aim for a balanced histogram without clipping highlights or shadows.
- Experiment with different metering modes (e.g., spot, center-weighted, evaluative) to see their effect on exposure.
- Utilize exposure compensation to adjust brightness in challenging lighting conditions.
- Practice using manual focus to achieve sharp images, especially in low light.
- Explore white balance settings to influence the color temperature of your images.

Creative:

- Vary aperture settings to control depth of field and isolate subjects.
- Use slow shutter speeds to create motion blur in dynamic scenes.
- Incorporate high ISO settings to capture images in low-light environments while managing noise.
- Experiment with backlighting to create silhouettes and dramatic effects.
- Combine different exposure settings to achieve creative effects like high dynamic range (HDR).

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](#)

[What Is Depth Of Field](#)	[What Is Manual Exposure In Photography](#)	[What Is Dynamic Range In Photography](#)