Overview

This assignment focuses on mastering the exposure triangle by using either aperture priority or shutter priority modes. You'll learn how to control brightness, depth of field, and motion effectively while ensuring your photos are well-exposed.

Learning Objectives

- Understand how to use aperture priority and shutter priority modes to achieve desired effects in photography.
- Recognize the importance of using a fixed ISO to maintain consistent image quality.
- Develop skills to evaluate exposure through metering modes and histograms.

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 a fixed ISO value (ISO 200) in your camera settings.
- ■ Familiarize yourself with the aperture and shutter speed settings on your camera.
- ■ Choose a location with varied lighting conditions for diverse exposure challenges.
- ■ Plan to shoot both still subjects for depth of field and moving subjects for motion.
- ■ Ensure your camera battery is charged and you have sufficient memory card space.

Assignment Tasks

1. Use aperture priority mode at f/4 with ISO 200 fixed, letting the camera set shutter speed for a portrait to achieve a blurred background.

2. Use shutter priority mode at 1/250s with ISO 200 fixed, letting the camera set aperture to capture a cyclist in motion, freezing the action.

3. Use aperture priority mode at f/8 with ISO 200 fixed, letting the camera set shutter speed for a landscape shot to achieve both foreground and background sharpness.

4. Use shutter priority mode at 1/60s with ISO 200 fixed, letting the camera set aperture while photographing a water fountain to create a smooth blur effect.

5. Use aperture priority mode at f/2.8 with ISO 200 fixed, letting the camera set shutter speed for a low-light indoor setting to enhance subject isolation.

6. Use shutter priority mode at 1/1000s with ISO 200 fixed, letting the camera set aperture for capturing a bird in flight to ensure sharpness.

Stretch Tasks

- Conduct a series of bracketed shots using both aperture and shutter priority modes, then analyze which exposures worked best in post-processing.
- Create a short project where you capture the same subject using different aperture settings to showcase depth of field effects.

DO / DON'T

DO	DON'T
✓ Do experiment with different aperture settings to see their effect on your images.	✗ Don't shoot in manual mode while specifying all exposure variables.
✓ Do check your histogram after taking photos to ensure proper exposure.	✗ Don't ignore the histogram; it's crucial for checking exposure accuracy.
✓ Do utilize your camera's metering modes to help assess lighting conditions.	✗ Don't rely solely on auto mode; practice using priority modes.
✓ Do practice using exposure compensation to deal with tricky lighting situations.	✗ Don't forget to adjust your composition based on the changes in depth of field or motion blur.
✓ Do analyze your images for both detail preservation and mood after shooting.	✗ Don't skip preparing your camera settings before the shoot.

Reflection Questions

- How did using aperture priority or shutter priority mode change your approach to capturing images?
- What challenges did you encounter with exposure settings, and how did you overcome them?
- In what ways did your understanding of the exposure triangle deepen through this assignment?
- How did the fixed ISO influence your shooting experience in different lighting conditions?

Technical & Creative Focus

Technical:

- Use histogram to check for clipping in highlights or shadows after each shot.
- Experiment with different aperture settings to see how they affect depth of field.
- Utilize your camera's metering modes effectively to assess exposure.
- Practice using exposure compensation to correct for challenging lighting.
- Bracketing your shots can help you capture a range of exposures for selection later.

Creative:

- Explore how varying depth of field can enhance the focal point of your subject.
- Use motion blur creatively in your images to convey speed or action.
- Play with the backgrounds of your shots to see how exposure impacts mood.
- Experiment with different times of day to notice changes in natural light and exposure.
- Consider the emotional impact of light in your compositions.