Overview

This assignment focuses on mastering the Exposure Triangle by utilizing Aperture and Shutter Priority modes to control brightness, depth of field, and motion in photography. Students will learn to balance these elements to create visually compelling images.

Learning Objectives

- Understand the role of aperture and shutter speed in controlling exposure and artistic expression.
- Learn to use Aperture Priority and Shutter Priority modes effectively while maintaining a fixed ISO setting.
- Develop skills to interpret and utilize histograms and metering modes to avoid exposure issues.

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

- ■ Choose a well-lit outdoor location or controlled indoor environment.
- ■ Set your camera to either Aperture Priority (A/Av) or Shutter Priority (S/Tv) mode.
- ■ Fix your ISO setting to 200 for consistent exposure results.
- ■ Familiarize yourself with your camera's histogram and metering options.
- ■ Prepare a notebook or digital device to track your settings and observations.

Assignment Tasks

1. Use Aperture Priority mode at f/2.8 with ISO 200 fixed, letting the camera set shutter speed to create a shallow depth of field portrait.

2. Capture a moving subject using Shutter Priority mode at 1/500s with ISO 200 fixed, allowing the camera to adjust aperture for proper exposure.

3. Photograph a landscape scene at f/8 in Aperture Priority mode with ISO 200 fixed, observing how depth of field affects the overall image.

4. Shoot a series of images of falling leaves using Shutter Priority mode at 1/250s with ISO 200 fixed to freeze the motion.

5. Explore night photography by using Aperture Priority mode at f/4 with ISO 200 fixed, allowing the camera to adjust shutter speed for proper exposure.

6. Take a series of street shots using Shutter Priority mode at 1/125s with ISO 200 fixed, capturing the hustle and bustle of urban life.

Stretch Tasks

- Combine multiple exposure techniques in a single shot, using bracketing in both Aperture and Shutter Priority modes.
- Create a time-lapse sequence using Aperture Priority mode at fixed settings to explore changes in light over time.

DO / DON'T

DO	DON'T
✓ Do check your histogram after each shot to understand your exposure.	✗ Don't shoot in manual mode; stick to Aperture or Shutter Priority for this assignment.
✓ Do practice with different lighting conditions to see how exposure settings impact your images.	✗ Don't change all three exposure settings manually; focus on one variable at a time.
✓ Do vary your subject distance to observe how depth of field changes with aperture.	✗ Don't ignore the histogram; it's a crucial tool for assessing exposure accuracy.
✓ Do experiment with both Aperture and Shutter Priority modes to find your preferred shooting style.	✗ Don't shoot without a specific subject in mind; plan your compositions beforehand.
✓ Do take notes on your settings and outcomes to refine your technique over time.	✗ Don't forget to check your camera's metering mode and adjust as necessary.

Reflection Questions

- How did your choice of aperture influence the mood and feel of your images?
- What challenges did you face when using Shutter or Aperture Priority modes?
- In what ways did the fixed ISO setting affect your exposure results?
- How did your understanding of the exposure triangle evolve during this assignment?

Technical & Creative Focus

Technical:

- Use the histogram to check for clipping in highlights or shadows after taking a shot.
- Experiment with different aperture values (like f/2.8, f/5.6) to see the effects on depth of field.
- Select an appropriate shutter speed (like 1/250s, 1/500s) to capture motion effectively.
- Utilize your camera's metering mode to assess light levels accurately.
- Practice adjusting exposure compensation to refine your shooting results.

Creative:

- Aim to capture images that tell a story by manipulating depth of field for subject isolation.
- Experiment with shutter speed to create dynamic images that convey motion.
- Use contrasting light sources in your composition to enhance mood and drama.
- Explore different angles and perspectives to maximize the impact of your exposure settings.
- Incorporate foreground elements to add depth to your compositions.