Overview

This assignment is designed to help you master the exposure triangle by focusing on using aperture and shutter priority modes. You'll learn how to control brightness, depth of field, and motion in your images while maintaining a consistent ISO setting.

Learning Objectives

- Understand how to use aperture priority mode for depth of field control.
- Learn to utilize shutter priority mode to capture motion effectively.
- Gain practical experience in managing exposure through the exposure triangle.

Before You Shoot

- ■ Choose a well-lit outdoor location or a controlled indoor environment.
- ■ Set your camera to either aperture or shutter priority mode.
- ■ Fix your ISO to 200 to maintain consistent sensitivity.
- ■ Prepare a notebook or digital device to log your settings and observations.
- ■ Review the histogram function on your camera to monitor exposure.

Assignment Tasks

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

2. Select shutter priority mode at 1/1000s with ISO 200 fixed, allowing the camera to adjust aperture, and capture a moving subject like a cyclist in a park.

3. Shoot a landscape using aperture priority mode at f/11 with ISO 200 fixed, letting the camera determine the shutter speed for a sharp foreground and background.

4. In a dimly lit room, use shutter priority mode at 1/60s with ISO 200 fixed, allowing the camera to set the aperture and capture a scene with minimal motion blur.

5. Capture a street scene using aperture priority mode at f/2.8 with ISO 200 fixed to isolate a subject from the bustling background.

6. Use shutter priority mode at 1/250s with ISO 200 fixed to photograph a child running, letting the camera adjust aperture for optimal exposure.

Stretch Tasks

- Experiment with bracketing your exposures while using aperture priority mode to capture a high dynamic range scene.
- Create a series of images using different apertures in aperture priority mode to document the effect on depth of field in various settings.

DO	DON'T
✓ Do check your histogram after each shot to ensure proper exposure.	✗ Don't set all three exposure variables manually; use priority mode instead.
✓ Do vary your subjects to understand how aperture and shutter speed impact different types of images.	✗ Don't ignore the histogram when evaluating your exposure.
✓ Do take notes about your settings and the outcomes for future reference.	✗ Don't rush your shots; take time to compose and adjust settings.
✓ Do practice in different lighting conditions to see how exposure settings change.	✗ Don't rely solely on automatic mode; practice using aperture or shutter priority.
✓ Do experiment with both modes to discover which gives you more creative control.	✗ Don't forget to review your images to learn from your exposure choices.

Reflection Questions

- How did using aperture priority mode change the way you approach composition?
- What challenges did you face while using shutter priority mode, and how did you overcome them?
- In what situations did you find one priority mode more effective than the other?
- How does understanding the exposure triangle improve your overall photography skills?

Technical & Creative Focus

Technical:

- Ensure that your aperture is wide or narrow depending on your desired depth of field.
- Select a fast shutter speed to freeze motion or a slower speed for motion blur.
- Use the camera's metering mode to evaluate exposure levels.
- Check the histogram after each shot to avoid clipping highlights or shadows.
- Experiment with different apertures or shutter speeds to see their effects on exposure.

Creative:

- Vary your aperture settings to achieve different blur effects in the background.
- Experiment with shutter speeds to create dynamic motion effects in subjects like moving water or people.
- Use the exposure triangle to set the mood of your images, such as bright and airy or dark and moody.
- Consider the relationship between depth of field and subject isolation.
- Explore different compositions while adjusting your exposure settings.

Related Reading

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

[What Is Exposure In Photography](#)