



Overview

This assignment focuses on mastering the exposure triangle by utilizing aperture and shutter priority modes to control brightness, depth of field, and motion. Students will learn to effectively use ISO as a fixed variable while gaining practical experience with exposure settings.

Learning Objectives

- Understand the relationship between aperture, shutter speed, and ISO in the exposure triangle.
- Gain proficiency in using aperture and shutter priority modes to achieve desired photographic effects.
- Learn to evaluate exposure using histograms and metering modes.

Before You Shoot

- Select your camera and ensure it is fully charged.
- Choose a location with varied lighting conditions for diverse exposure challenges.
- Decide on a fixed ISO setting (recommend ISO 200) for your shoot.
- Familiarize yourself with your camera's metering modes and histogram display.
- Prepare lenses that allow for a range of apertures and shutter speeds.

Assignment Tasks

1. Shoot a series of portraits in aperture priority mode at f/2.8 with ISO 200 fixed, allowing the camera to determine shutter speed for depth of field control.
2. Capture a bustling street scene in shutter priority mode at 1/250s with ISO 200 fixed, letting the camera adjust aperture to capture the motion.
3. Take landscape photos at sunset using aperture priority mode at f/8 with ISO 200 fixed, allowing the camera to set the shutter speed for optimal exposure.
4. Photograph a waterfall using shutter priority mode at 1/30s with ISO 200 fixed to create motion blur, letting the camera adjust aperture.
5. Experiment with low-light conditions using aperture priority mode at f/4 with ISO 200 fixed to see how light affects your images.
6. Capture a series of images of moving traffic at night using shutter priority mode at 1/15s with ISO 200 fixed to create light trails.

Stretch Tasks

- Create a photo essay that utilizes both aperture and shutter priority techniques to convey a narrative about motion and stillness.
- Shoot in varying weather conditions, adjusting your metering and priority settings to maintain consistent exposure despite changing light.

**DO**

- ✓ Do experiment with different depths of field using aperture priority mode.
- ✓ Do regularly check your histogram for exposure accuracy.
- ✓ Do practice using different metering modes to understand their impact on your images.
- ✓ Do take notes on your settings and results to evaluate your progress.
- ✓ Do review your images post-shoot to analyze exposure and composition.

DON'T

- ✗ Don't shoot in manual mode; stick to priority modes for this assignment.
- ✗ Don't forget to set your ISO to a fixed value before shooting.
- ✗ Don't ignore the importance of checking the histogram after each shot.
- ✗ Don't rush your shots; take the time to adjust settings based on your creative vision.
- ✗ Don't rely solely on auto mode; actively engage with priority mode settings.

Reflection Questions

- How did using aperture or shutter priority mode change your approach to exposure?
- What challenges did you encounter when adjusting your exposure settings, and how did you overcome them?
- In what ways did the fixed ISO setting impact your creative choices during the shoot?
- Reflect on a particular shot that you felt captured the essence of exposure mastery. What made it successful?

Technical & Creative Focus

Technical:

- Use aperture priority mode to control depth of field while allowing the camera to set the shutter speed.
- Utilize shutter priority mode to freeze motion while the camera adjusts aperture.
- Regularly check the histogram to avoid clipped highlights and shadows.
- Experiment with different metering modes (e.g., spot, center-weighted) to see how they affect exposure.
- Practice bracketing exposures to compare results in challenging lighting situations.

Creative:

- Capture a portrait with a shallow depth of field using aperture priority to blur the background.
- Photograph a fast-moving subject using shutter priority to freeze the action.
- Experiment with different apertures to see how they affect the mood of a landscape photo.
- Use varying shutter speeds to create motion blur in a flowing water scene.
- Try to convey a story through the exposure settings you choose, such as using low light to create a moody atmosphere.

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](#)