

ASSIGNMENT: BASIC CAMERA USE

DUE: CHECK CANVAS FOR DUE DATES. CANVAS UPLOADS

The purpose of this assignment is to familiarize you with the basic operations of your SLR style camera. You will use the digital equivalent of a first roll of film to adjust your camera to various aperture, shutter, and exposure combinations.

All exposures should be taken outdoors during daylight hours. Use your camera METER to determine the correct aperture/shutter combinations (exposure) for all shots.
Zoom lens should be set at focal length 35mm for most dSLR cameras (APS-C size).

Full-frame dSLRs should use a focal length of 50mm for this assignment

Micro 4/3 dSLRs should use a focal length of 25mm for this assignment

For Mirrorless Cameras, the sensor size varies by manufacturer, please check your manual

Unless otherwise indicated, your focal point should be an object that is approximately 8-10 feet away from the camera and placed in the center of the frame. All objects should be at eye level, sized between a large stuffed animal and a person, and objects meant to be 'in focus' should be centered in the viewfinder.

The focusing screen on your camera probably has more than 1 focus location indicator (seen as 'squares' through the viewfinder) For this assignment; set the square (usually by moving the command dial on rear of camera) to the center most indicator. It should 'glow red' briefly when the shutter button is depressed halfway and will also usually be indicated on the rear LCD screen. Intended focal point object should completely fill the 'square'.

Use dSLR camera at ISO 400 set at RAW+JPG, White Balance set to AUTO
REMEMBER TO TURN OFF ISO SENSITIVITY FOR THIS ASSIGNMENT

EXPOSURE: 3 Images Due

Use Aperture f8. Meter to determine correct shutter speed.

DO NOT CHANGE YOUR POSITION - IMAGES SHOULD BE EXACTLY THE SAME EXCEPT FOR THE EXPOSURE.

- Create a properly exposed image involving an object in a strange location
- Deliberately UNDEREXPOSE the scene and take a 2nd shot.
(minimum 2-3 whole-stop shutter speeds faster, 6-9 'clicks' on your camera dial)
- Deliberately OVEREXPOSE the scene and take a 3rd shot.
(minimum 2-3 whole stop shutter speeds slower, 6-9 'clicks' on your camera dial)

APERTURE ADJUSTMENTS: 2 Images Due

(shoot minimum of 6 sample shots to choose from)

METER to determine correct shutter speed.

- With your minimum aperture (big number) - create a scene with at least 3 large objects located at 5, 10 and 18 feet from the camera.
Focus on the middle object (the one at 10 feet from you).
All objects should be sharp.
- With your maximum aperture (small number) - create a scene with at least 3 large objects located at 2, 3 and 6 feet from the camera.
Focus on the middle object (the one at 3 feet from you).
Only the middle object should be sharp.
(If you need to move your focus object closer than 3 feet, that's ok)

SHUTTER ADJUSTMENTS: 2 Images Due

(shoot minimum of 6 sample shots to choose from)

METER to determine correct aperture setting.

Only the objects should move – NOT the camera.

- Create an “Unidentified Flying Object” using the principles of blurred motion.
(slow shutter, generally $\leq 1/125$)
- Freeze an object in midair that symbolizes the life of an MSU student.
(fast shutter, generally $\geq 1/250$)

DISCUSSION BOARD

For this discussion board you should post and label: One image you feel is successful and one image that you feel still needs improvement. Ask your classmates for comments and /or help. For your responses: Respond to at least two other students of your class with commentary and advice. You may also respond to any student in the class, but you must respond to the members of your group.

FORMATTING

Step 1 - Organize and copy your images into a new folder on the desktop called 'LastName_BCU'.
Use the RAW version of the image

Step 2 - Rename your image files as indicated below (01-07).
Keep the original file extension at the end of the file name (.nef, or .cr2, etc...).

01_NormalExposure

02_UnderExposure

03_OverExposure

04_MinAperture

05_MaxAperture

06_UFO

07_FrozenMidair

Step 3 - File-Share the ZIPPED FOLDER to CANVAS

Helpful Tips & Things to Remember

- Your camera has an optimum focusing range for objects between 5 –25 feet away
- Think about your position (point of view) in relation to your subject
- Remember to focus your images & use the correct exposure ratio

List of Whole Stop Aperture Settings (from large to small)

2	2.8	4	5.6	8	11	16	22
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List of Whole Stop Shutter Speed Settings (from fast to slow)

1/1000	1/500	1/250	1/125	1/60	1/30	1/15	1/8	1/4	1/2	1
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NOTE: Your camera may have larger/smaller aperture settings or faster/slower shutter speed settings. This is just meant as a representative list.

NOTE: Your camera is set to move in 1/3 stop per 'click'. Thus, you would turn the command dial of your camera 3 times to move from aperture f5.6 to aperture f8 or to move from shutter speed 1/500 to shutter speed 1/250.