

Homework:

Please take some photos and bring an interesting one to class on a thumb drive if possible.

A tripod will be useful for the homework (and it is an essential tool for photographers).

1 Using your favorite lens, take a photograph inside a room illuminated by natural light (sunshine). Use an ISO of 100, 400, 800 and 1600 (higher if you wish). Study these photographs on your computer. At what point do you begin to see significant amounts of digital noise?

2 Set your camera to Aperture Priority (A or Av) Mode. Take several photographs of the same object or scene using the lens' maximum, middle and smallest aperture f-stop). Turn a dial on the camera to select the desired f-stop.

(Traditional "full stops" are: f/1, f/1.4, f/2, f/2.8, f/4, f/5.6, f/8, f/11, f/16, f/ 22, f/32. However, your camera may be set to interpret 1/2 or 1/3 stops. (Each full stop doubles or halves the amount of light reaching the lens. In A or Av Mode, the camera adjusts shutter speed to compensate for this).

Study these photographs on your computer. How does the depth of field and image sharpness change with f-stop values?

3. Set your camera to Shutter Priority (S or Tv) Mode. By turning a dial, select a shutter speed of 1/25s. Photograph moving people or objects without using a tripod. Try a speed of 1/15s, 1/60s and 1/225s. Study the images on your computer. Did any of your photographs convey a sense of motion without resulting in a distracting blur?

At what speed can you use your camera, with no tripod, and not obtain any motion blur in an image?

4. Take several photographs of the same scene, pet or person using different locations: close vs. farther away, looking up vs. looking down, either side vs. straight on. What perspective best communicates the "subject of interest" of the photograph?

5. Critique your photography using your computer monitor or a print. Are there any red, green or blue colorcasts? Did you pay attention to foreground and background? How could you have used the medium of photography to communicate visually?

