

Paul's Photo, Inc.

23845 Hawthorne Blvd.
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310-375-7014
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Basic Photography
Class Syllabus

Week 1. The Camera

Which camera is best for you?
Shutter speeds for creativity.
Lens openings.
Lenses: wide angle, normal, telephoto.
Film.

Week 2. The Image

Visualization.
The moment.
Composition: the Rule of Thirds and Leading Lines.
The details!

Week 3. The Exposure

Neutral Gray.
The light meter.
The zone system for 35mm photographers.
Mark's rule of exposure.

Week 4. The Light

Quality of the light: Harsh light, soft light, north window light.
Direction of the light: Front light, top light, side light, and backlight.
Color of the light.

Week 5. Flash and Focus

Electronic flash and the inverse square law.
Bounce flash.
Fill in flash.
Focus to concentrate attention.
Depth of field.

Week 6. Improving Your Image

Creative filters.
The ultimate image quality.
Presentation and showing your photographs.

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Basic Photography Tip Sheet 1

CAMERAS: Which is best for you?

Film vs Digital. How do you want to process your photos? What "kind" of photographer?

Automatic vs Manual. How much control do you desire? How creative do you want to be?

35mm vs. 120 film. 35-quick shooting family & travel images, 120 for superior portraits & landscapes.

What is important? Image quality. Auto & manual. Spot Metering. TTL Flash. Lenses.

SHUTTER SPEED: Fractions of Second. Controls the action stopping ability.

1/2000 1/1000 1/500 1/250 1/125 1/60 1/30 1/15 1/8 1/4 1/2 1sec 2sec 4sec

Fast Shutter-1/2000 to 1/500 to FREEZE action.

Slow Shutter-1/30 to 1/4 to BLUR action.

To blur action you may hold the camera steady or move with the subject (panning)

Control the SHUTTER SPEED with:

P (Program). Camera sets SS & F-stop. You may shift up or down.

A (Aperture Priority). You set F-stop, camera sets SS. Make sure shutter is not too slow!

S or **TV** (Shutter Priority). You set SS, camera sets F-stop. Make sure you are in the OK range.

M (Manual)

LENS OPENING, F-STOP, APERTURE: Fraction of focal length.

Divide FOCAL LENGTH by the ACTUAL diameter. Controls the AMOUNT of focus (Depth of Field).

1/1 1/1.4 1/2 1/2.8 1/4 1/5.6 1/8 1/11 1/16 1/22 1/32 1/45

F-Stop and Shutter Speed are two components of the **Exposure**

Proper exposure is a balance of Light, Film ISO, Shutter Speed and F-Stop.

LENSES create the image. The finer the lens, the better the photograph.

Choose your lens for the proper angle, perspective, quality, and speed.

50mm Lens- 45' angle of view- 1.0x magnification

24mm Lens- 90' angle of view- 0.5x magnification

100mm Lens- 22' angle of view- 2.0x magnification

Normal Lenses for a normal view. The lens sees like the eye.

Wide Angle Lenses exaggerated distanced. Enlarges the foreground, reduced the background.

Fill the frame by moving closer.

Telephoto Lenses reduces distances. Moves background and foreground together. Fill the frame by moving farther away.

FILM: Use the slowest ISO needed to complete the assignment.

Double the ISO... **1/2** the light (exposure) and **1/2** the detail.

Halve the ISO...**double** the light (exposure) and double the detail.

25 32 40 50 64 80 100 125 160 200 250 320 400 500 640 800 1000 1280

ISO= shutter speed required at f/16 in **bright sunshine**. (that's the Sunny 16 rule).

***Color Negatives** for color prints, photo album, enlargements. Prints are 2nd generation, color & quality are variable. Insist on premium printing!

***Color Slides** for slide shows, professional results, and true view of your photography. Requires a projector or viewer, small prints more expensive.

***Black & White** the artistic choice. Create with shades of gray ONLY!

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Basic Photography Assignment 1

Basic Photography Assignments

- Spend approximately **two hours** on a **photowalk** on the location of your choice.
- **Prepare** ahead of time by selecting a good location, knowing the assignment and your equipment.
- **Practice** the photographic techniques learned in class. Show yourself and the class your technique and creativity.
- Your assignment may be returned as 8x10 mounted print or 35mm slide.
- To make **color slides**: shoot one or more rolls of Agfa, Fuji or Kodak **E-6 process** 35mm slide film on your walk.
- Return the film for processing to Paul's Photo (or any other quality E6 lab) for processing. If you wish, use Paul's night film drop 24 hours a day. Retrieve your film and edit the results.
- Place the assigned slides in the tray before the start of class next week.
- Please only show slides that were shot this week to complete the assignment.
- Good Luck and happy shooting.

Mark Comon

Assignment 1. Use your 35mm camera to creatively practice the techniques learned in week one. Think about the end photograph, the subject and the technique. Use your **WIDE ANGLE lens** to increase the apparent distance, accentuate the foreground and reduce the background. Use your **TELEPHOTO lens** to compress distances. Squeeze the foreground and background together

1. Shoot with a **FAST shutter speed** to stop action. Find a fast moving subject that is exciting to freeze.
 2. Shoot with a **SLOW shutter speed** to blur action. Produce an image that shows dynamic movement of the subject. You may hold the camera steady or pan with a moving subject.
 3. Shoot a subject that is exciting to **stop and blur**. Create **two images** of the same subject...one stopped and one blurred. Don't be afraid to experiment with different shutter speeds to find the perfect setting.
- Bring to class with you next week **FOUR images**. One from #1, one from # 2 and two from #3.
 - Show your examples creatively illustrating the techniques of fast shutter speed, slow shutter speed, wide angle lens, and telephoto lens.
 - Complete the assignment. We are all here to learn and improve!

Notes...