Essential Questions

How do I select the right shutter speed?

How do I create shallow depth of field?

How can I control the quality of natural lighting?

What color is light?

What is a color cast?

What is golden light?

Why does flash look artificial?

How can I avoid harsh shadows?

• What makes photos blurry?
• What shutter speed should I use if I don’t have a tripod?
• Which shutter speed is faster: 1/60 or 1/500?
• How does ISO affect shutter speed?
• How are aperture and shutter speed related?
• When is shallow dof appealing -- and when does it look like a mistake?
• What are f-stops?
• How do zoom and macro modes affect depths of field?

• Analyze the visual impact of shallow depth of field on different subjects (interpret)
• Explain relationship between aperture and shallow depth of field (explain)
• Use camera settings to control depth of field (apply)
• Document what you learned (self knowledge)

• Critique the visual impact of various lighting conditions (interpret)
• Analyze an image and conclude what type of light sources were used to create the image. Explain your conclusions (interpret and explain)
• Use varying light conditions to create different moods (apply)
• Argue the merits of different lighting conditions on a given subject (perspective)
• Document what you learned (self knowledge)

Activities

• Read text
• Practice with online shutter speed simulator
• Attend a sporting event; set up near the goal and shoot photos.
• Take photos with and without a tripod—compare results.
• Systematically change shutter speed.
• Systematically change ISO
• Examine the exif information from your sporting event photos
• Note how aperture changes when shutter speed changes
• Note how shutter speed and aperture change as ISO changes
• Determine which shutter speeds produced the best results.

Assessments

• Photo: capture motion blur in passing traffic
• Photo: freeze the action at a sports event
• Journal: document results of your experiences at the sporting event. What did you learn?
• What camera settings would you use next time?
• Essay: explain relationship between shutter speed, aperture, and ISO

Evidence

• Use camera settings to freeze motion (apply)
• Use camera settings to create motion blur (apply)
• Predict results of changes in shutter speed (interpret)
• Explain relationship between shutter speed, aperture, and ISO (explain)
• Describe what you learned (self knowledge)

• Photo: object in focus, background blurred
• Journal: what did you learn at the botanical garden?
• Discussion board: compare photos with varying depth of field and analyze their visual appeal.

• Discussion Board: Evaluate and critique examples of warm images, cool images, and images shot with a flash.
• Analyze an image to determine what type of lighting was used. Explain your conclusions.
• Photo: 2 photos to the Discussion board of the same object at the same location, but taken at two different times of day. Argue the merits of the mood created in each image.
• Journal: what did you learn about controlling light?

Overarching Goals & Characteristics

What differentiates your course from others on the same topic?

Overarching Goals & Characteristics

This course focuses on photography as art. Photojournalism would emphasize different aspects of photography.