

Outdoor Photography

part 1



Saturday, June 14th
2:00pm – 4:00pm
Instructor: Jeannine Lau
Wyatt Fertig

<http://photographylife.com>

Today we'll cover:

- Major types of cameras
 - lenses
- Manual settings including:
 - Image size
 - ISO
 - Aperture
 - Shutter Speed
- And tips to make your compositions more interesting with:
 - Lighting
 - Positioning
 - Framing

- Photography skills can far outweigh costly cameras.
- With digital photography the best way to learn is to make mistakes.
- And there is no right or wrong as long as you like the photos you are taking!

The two largest types of cameras (beside smartphones) are the **dslr** and the **point and shoot**



www.camerauserguide.net



<http://www.techhive.com>

DSLR stands for digital single lens reflex

This means that the camera reflects light from a mirror through the lens to the viewfinder, the movement of the reflecting mirror creates the traditional camera noise

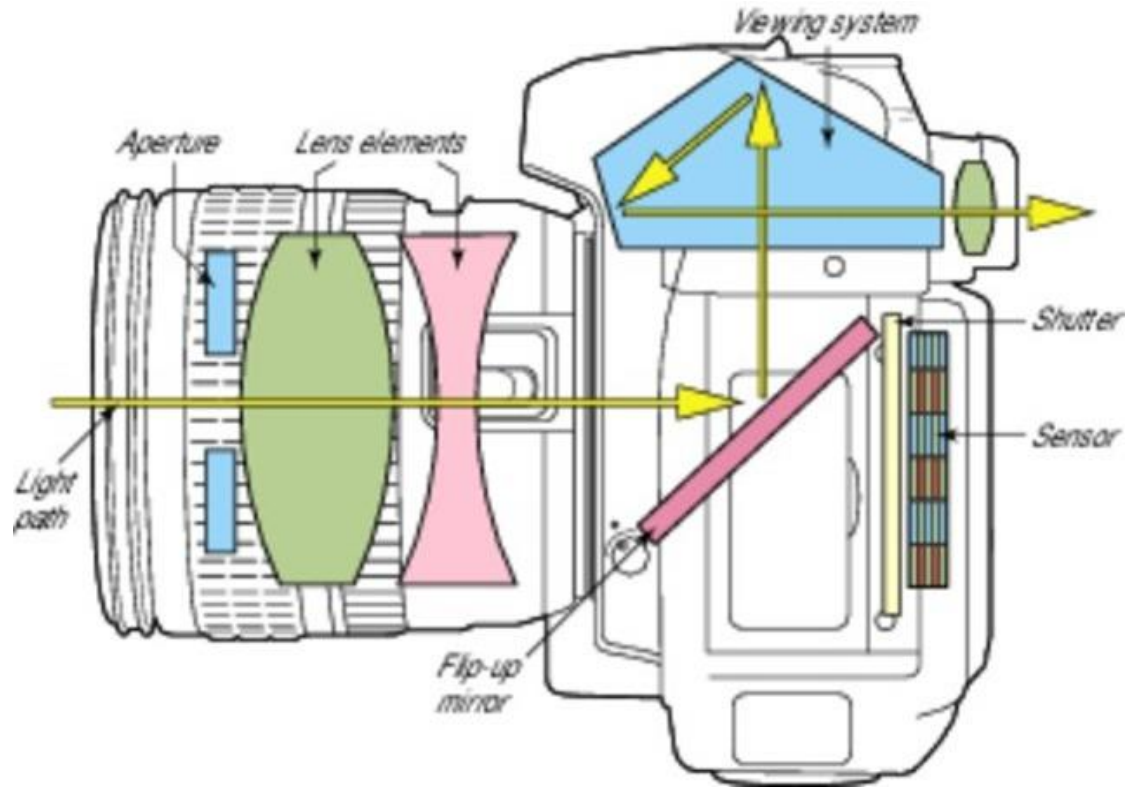


photo.stackexchange.com

Point and Shoot Cameras typically have attached lenses, smaller bodies, and less settings



snapsort.com

Digital point and shoot cameras typically will not have a viewfinder (which is displayed on the lcd screen)

Lenses

Prime vs Zoom

Prime- Basic lenses which have a fixed focal length, these lenses are usually faster (let more light in on their first aperture setting), also smaller in size

Zoom- Lenses which have a adjustable focal length which make them more versatile and require less movement of the photographer



photographylife.com

Wide-angle, Normal, Telephoto?

Lenses come in varying focal lengths and are used for shooting different subject matter

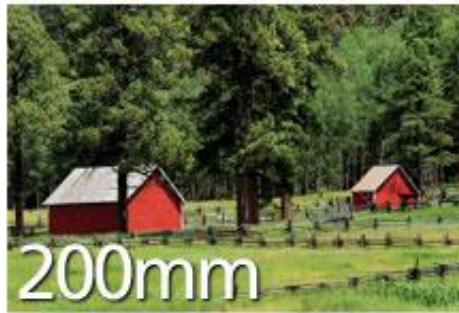
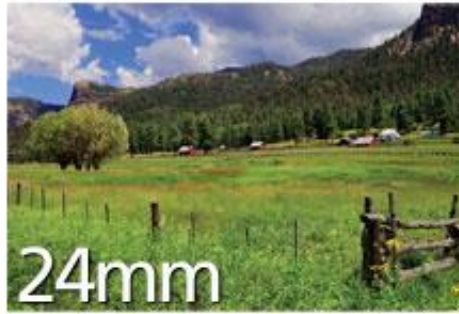


www.digitalphotographygear.com/

Wide-angle lenses have lower numbers (18-35mm) and have a wider angle of view

Normal is somewhere in between (40-60mm)

Telephoto for longer subjects with greater magnification (90mm-and up)



People often think they need a more expensive camera, better lenses, or newer equipment but by better understanding the camera's manual settings great *controlled photos* can be taken anywhere with almost any camera

The most important manual settings are:

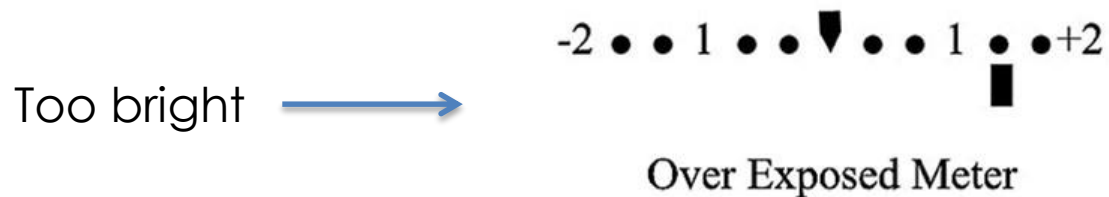
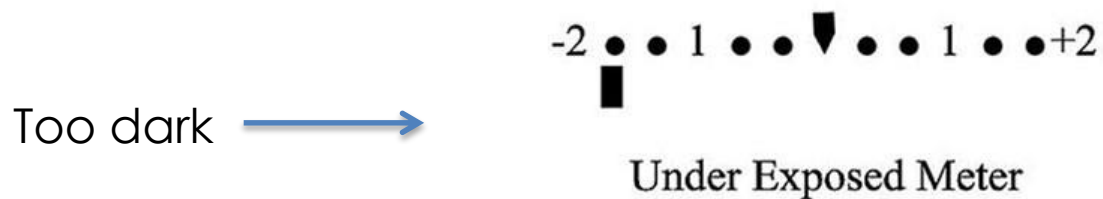
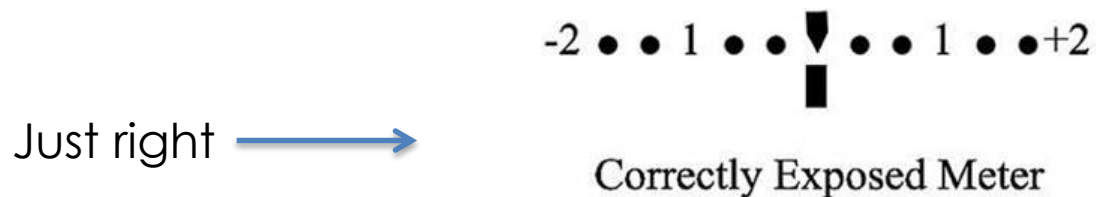
ISO

Aperture

Shutter Speed



Most cameras have an internal light meter which tells whether the exposure is too dark, too bright or just right!



ISO is film's technical term to describe the film (when we still had film) or the sensors sensitivity to light. In the past you would pick a film by it's ISO number before shooting also called the film's speed.

Film with a higher ISO number is more sensitive to light but grainier.

Film with a lower ISO number is less sensitive to light and clearer.

And the same goes for digital sensors –which are described as noisy



ISO Auto



ISO 100



ISO 200



ISO 400



ISO 800



ISO 1000



ELMHURST
PUBLIC LIBRARY

ISO

Aperture controls the iris of the camera acting like a gateway, letting more or less light in. Lower numbers allow more light than higher ones. Aperture is measured in **F-Stops**.



Large Aperture

f/2



Medium Aperture

f/8



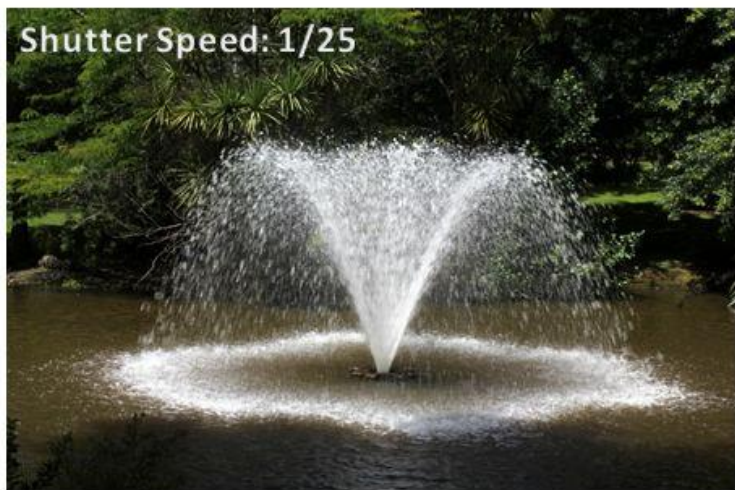
Small Aperture

f/22

The final component is **Shutter Speed** which determines how long the exposure is made. This is the time the sensor is exposed to light.

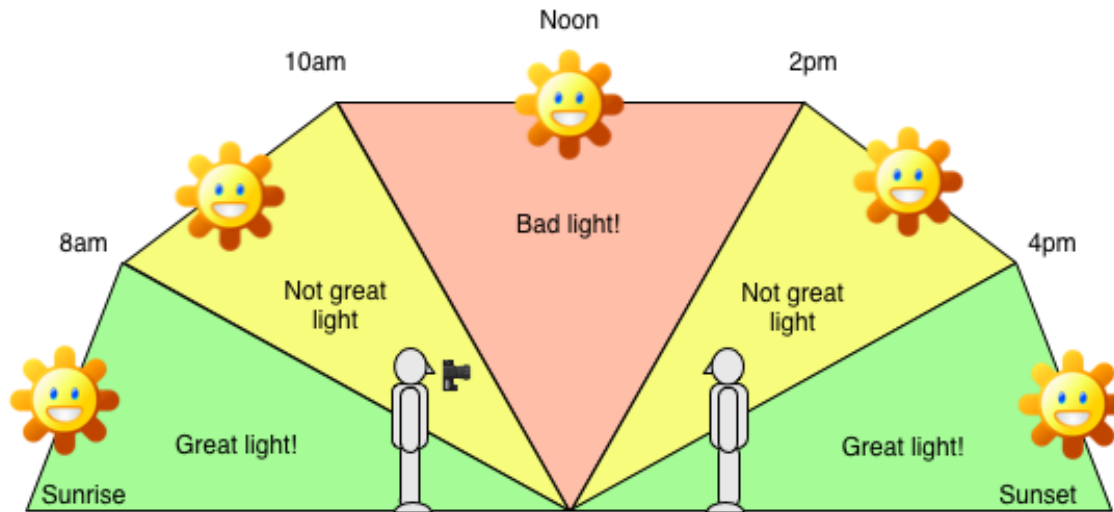
Quick moving objects require a faster shutter speed (less time) to capture subjects without motion blur.

Slower shutter speeds allow for more light.



Outdoor lighting can be tricky since the sun and other conditions are constantly changing. Be mindful of your conditions:

- Is the light soft (e.g. overcast) or harsh (e.g. sunny)?
- Where is your light coming from?
- What is the temperature of your light? Warm sunrise, blue light at dusk, or neutral midday?



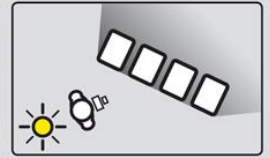
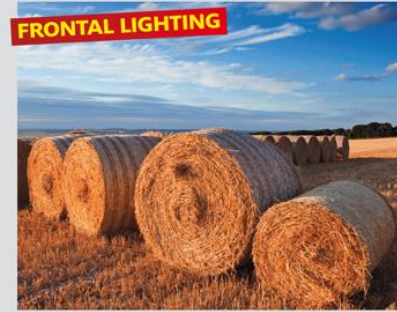
Consider:

- Where is your light coming from?
 - Angle of the sun
- Using Shadows
 - Illuminate texture
 - Give dimension and contrast
- Soft vs. Hard light
 - Soft, non-directional light is the most flattering for portraits
 - Hard light: highlight detail and produce strongest colors - best for landscape and architecture
- Time and Place
 - Sunrise/Sunset creates dramatic lighting
- Subject Matter and Framing
 - People or Places

Think about how your subject is lit

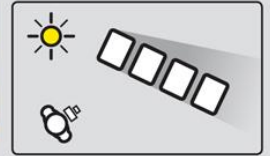


FRONTAL LIGHTING



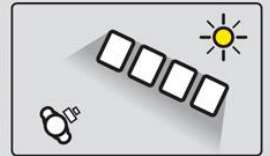
Direction: The light source is positioned behind you
Good for: Rich colours, blue skies, showing every detail, eliminating shadows, trouble-free exposures
Bad for: Texture, three-dimensional form, lack of shadows

SIDELIGHTING



Direction: The light source is to the side of the subject
Good for: Texture, three-dimensional form, visible shadows, simple scenes, adding drama
Bad for: Obscured detail, complex scenes, clear outlines

BACKLIGHTING



Direction: The light comes from behind your subject
Good for: Shape and outline, creating silhouettes, muted colours
Bad for: Effort-free exposures, revealing detail, enhancing colour, form and texture

www.digitalcameraworld.com



Harsh,
direct
sunlight



Shade &
reflected
daylight



Sunset
highlighting



Flat & overcast



Dramatic side lighting



Portraits:

Straight on

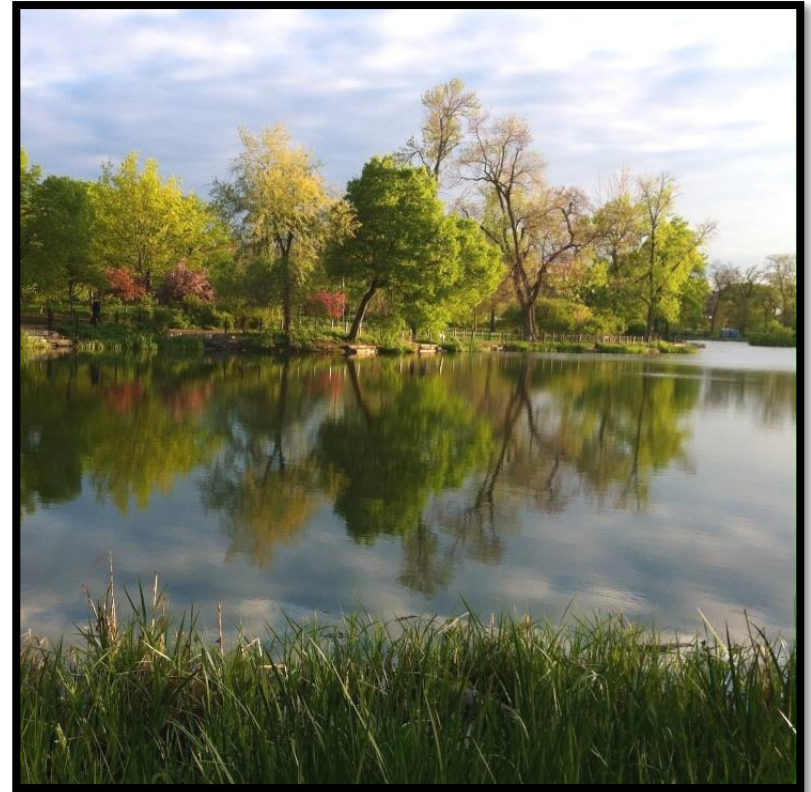
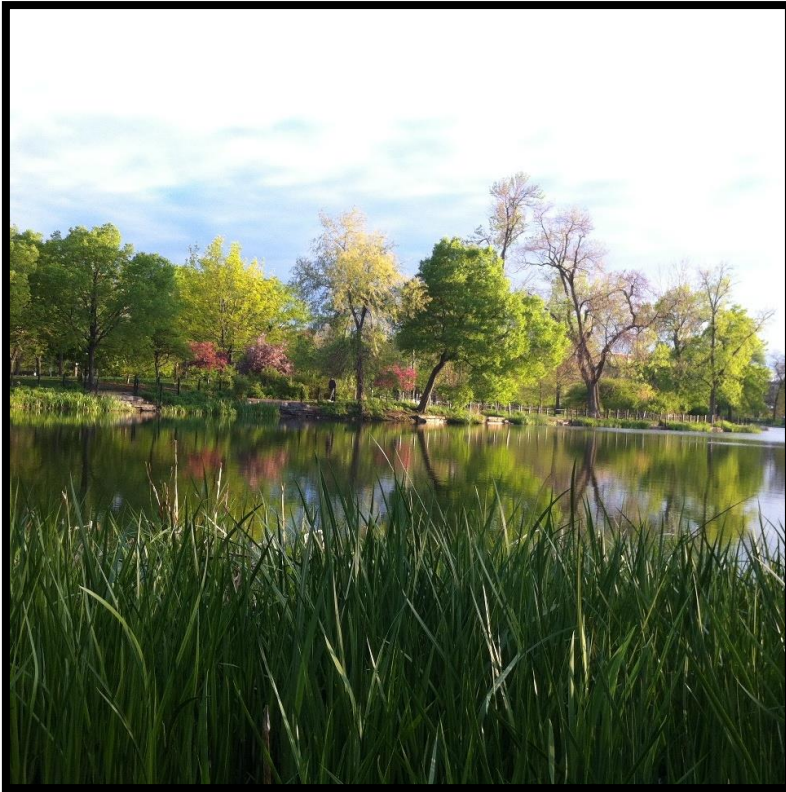
- Least flattering for most people

Using Angles

- Turn the body away from the camera
- Position yourself slightly higher than the subject
- Lower angles create towering figures

Landscapes:

- *Rule of Thirds*
- Try different viewpoints and angles
- Think about your foreground vs. background



Tips for Framing:

- Remember the *Rule of Thirds*
- Off-center main subjects
- Create angled lines
- Zoom in to your subject to create a point of focus or for more detail



Remember to Consider:

- Your background/foreground
- Landscape vs. Portrait Orientation
- Use a larger f-stop to create a shallow depth of field to blur busy backgrounds
- Where is the sun?



That was a ton of information! The best way to learn, though, is to try adjusting each manual setting and experiment with the results.

We're going to head out into the park now to take pictures feel, **we'll do a quick demo** and then you're free to start shooting and ask any questions as we move along.



Let's get shooting!

After the class (or after Pt. 2 if you are signed up) email two or three of your best pictures and the class winners work will be displayed on the website and in the building!

Please Email you pictures to:

reference@elmhurst.org



Let's get shooting!

Additional Library Resources
Located at:



lynda.com
You can learn it.™