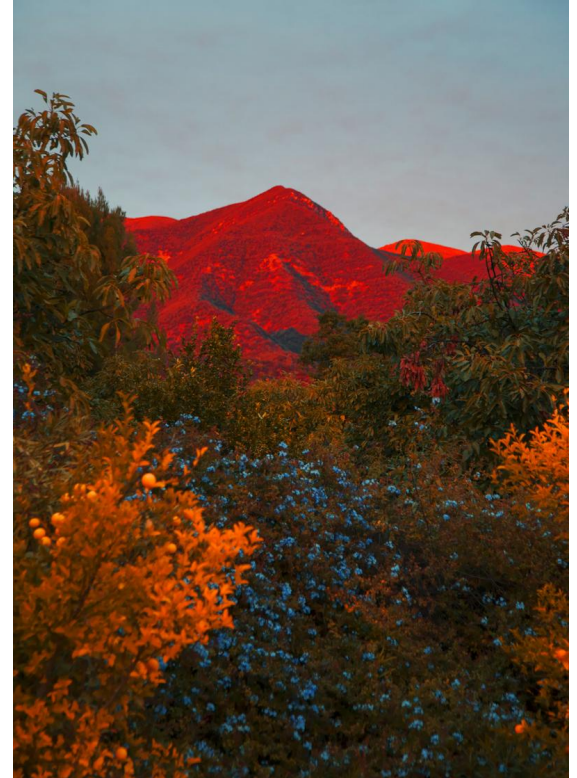


# Intro to digital photography using the Sony Alpha 3000



Photographs by Lou Bank and  
Levi Mendel  
Shooting on a DSLR (just like you!)



Set your camera to manual using the wheel on top of the camera. This allows you to change the settings on the camera.

**Shooting in Camera RAW: Menu>camera>quality>raw.** RAW is a file format that captures all image data recorded by the sensor when you take a photo. When shooting in a format like JPEG image information is compressed and lost. Because no information is compressed with RAW you're able to produce higher quality images, as well as correct problem images that would be unrecoverable if shot in the JPEG format.

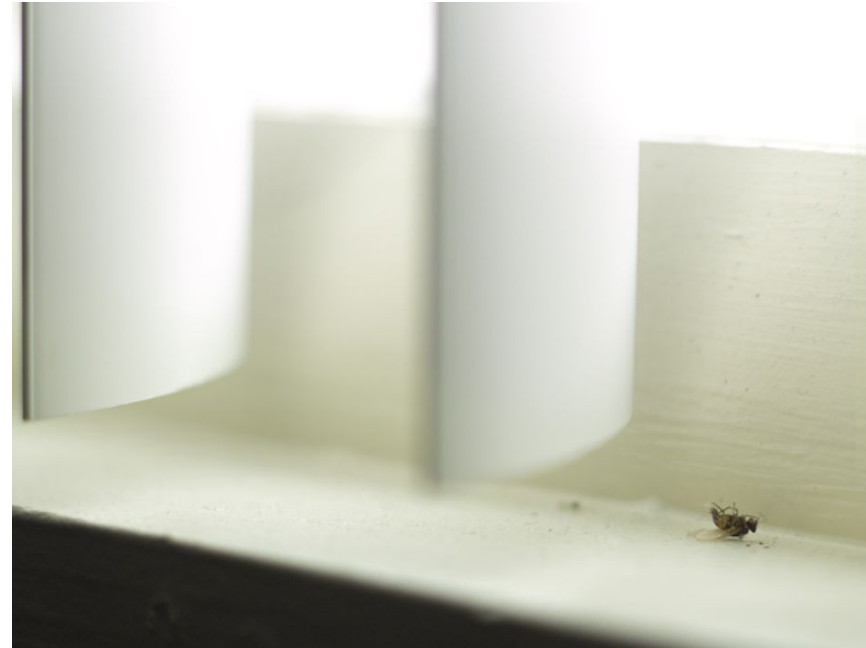
- **Aperture:** Aperture refers to the opening of a lens's diaphragm through which light passes. It is calibrated in f/stops and is generally written as numbers such as 1.4, 2, 2.8, 4, 5.6, 8, 11 and 16. The lower f/stops give more exposure because they represent the larger apertures, while the higher f/stops give less exposure because they represent smaller apertures.

The lower the f/stop—the larger the opening in the lens—the less depth of field—the blurrier the background.

The higher the f/stop—the smaller the opening in the lens—the greater the depth of field—the sharper the background.

Choices about aperture can create drama, focus and perspective in an image

Image by Julia C. Martin



- **Aperture continued:** to adjust the aperture make sure your camera is set to manual, then adjust by holding the edge of the control wheel and spinning it.
- **ISO:** Set the ISO by using the control wheel on the side next to the viewfinder. ISO measures your camera's sensitivity to light. You may want to use an ISO of 100 indoors but an ISO of 400-500 outdoors. Adjust your ISO based on the environment you are shooting in.
- **Keep in mind:** a higher ISO will affect your image quality, creating a grainier image.
- **Shutter Speed:** Shutter speed is the amount of time your shutter is open. You can adjust it using the control wheel you used to change your ISO. When thinking about your shutter speed think about if anything in the shot might be moving, and how you want to capture the movement. Capturing a bird in flight might require a high ISO so we can see a bird in flight caught in a split second, But the blur of movement in a street scene or an image of the ocean may convey more of a feeling for the subject or place.

**Autofocus the camera:** hold the shutter button halfway down, camera will focus based on a grid. When you let go of the button the camera will keep that focus.

Andy Warhol and his infamous polaroid camera



# In Class Assignment: portraiture

Play with the cameras and take a portrait of your work partner, then adjust the color, white balance and composition.

Portrait Inspiration

Peter Hujar





Peter Hujar





Carrie Mae Weems





Carrie Mae Weems



Shterna Goldbloom

Lou Bank



# Resources:

Camera Manual:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1CVICf4bKkZkfByrRUdmj6ZEyshZdxkHZ/view?usp=sharing>

ISO: <https://www.digitaltrends.com/photography/what-is-iso/>

Shutter Speed: <https://digital-photography-school.com/shutter-speed/>

Aperture:

<https://www.nikonusa.com/en/learn-and-explore/a/tips-and-techniques/understanding-maximum-aperture.html>

Discover New Photography: <https://www.aint-bad.com/>