Module Twelve Assignment: Portraits

Learning outcomes

Taking portrait photographs can be a very rewarding experience, and you are now going to use what you have learnt within module thirteen to create an emotional portrait image.

Use this assignment to practice taking both candid and posed portraits, and also practice preparing for each shoot. This will help your confidence, and help you connect with your subject(s) – in-turn making them feel more relaxed, and producing more natural, or professional styled portrait images.

Posed Portrait

Posed portraits are typically taken in a studio setting (but not always). Preparation is extremely important for these shots; however, as they’re usually planned you can take more control over lighting, background, props, framing and ambience.

Make sure to vary the shots, angles, lighting and style. Try not to finish with a series of images that look identical.

• Remove any distraction, so your subject(s) feels comfortable.
• Occasionally photograph away from the viewfinder, by setting up a tripod instead (where possible).
• Use all available light, and increase your ISO setting if necessary.
• If there is a risk of lens flare, use a lens hood (or your hand) to avoid this.
Candid Portrait

Candid portraits are about spontaneity and capturing that special moment. However, preparation is still important, it just means your subject(s) doesn’t need to be firmly positioned, and can have more freedom to react naturally.

- Switch camera to continuous shooting mode, and shoot bursts of multiple image sequences quickly.
- Try not to distract or interrupt your subject(s)
- Attempt to do shots without a Flash, as it can become distracting and annoying for your subject(s).
- Increase ISO in low light situations.

Assignment Details

For this assignment please choose either a **Posed** or **Candid** portrait to photograph.

It can be an indoor, outdoor or a studio portrait, just choose the environment that you feel most comfortable in.

The main exercise here is to capture an emotional response, ensuring that the audience feels drawn and connected to your subject. The emotion could be:

- Happiness
- Sadness
- Anger
- Love or Pride
  The list is endless.
Submission Details

For this optional assignment please choose and submit **ONE** of the following portrait photographs:

- Posed Portrait
- Or, Candid Portrait

Please submit your image through the Assignment Submission area, which is accessible through the dashboard.

**If there is more than ONE image submitted, only the first image will receive tutor feedback.**