

Focal Length Portrait Experiment

Objective:

Understand the differences that focal lengths have on portrait photography.

The Experiment:

In teams of 2 or 3, you will take turns taking portraits of one group member using the following focal lengths and framing:

- **200mm: headshot, waist shot, full body.**
- **85mm: headshot, waist shot, full body.**
- **50mm: headshot, waist shot, full body.**
- **35mm: headshot, waist shot, full body.**
- **18mm: headshot, waist shot, full body.**

You will end up with 15 photos total each. (Everyone takes their own photographs of another group member!)

Instructions...Please read carefully:

- **Keep the framings as consistent as humanly possible!!**
- **Your subject will remain in the same spot the entire time. Only the photographer moves!**
- Make sure there is **open space behind the subject** in order to see the differences in depth of field. ***Don't position your subject close to a wall/building!***
- Set your camera settings according to the suggestions below.
- Take a test shot to assess the exposure, fix ISO if necessary, then begin your series of shots.
- The only thing that changes is the focal length, the f-stop, and the where the photographer is standing.

Camera Settings: Aperture Priority mode (Av), lowest f-stop at each focal length, ISO 400*

Automatic Focus (AF).

**If the camera chooses a shutter speed lower than 1/100, increase the ISO. If the photo is overexposed (too bright), then lower the ISO.*

Photo playback shows the settings used in each photo:

