

Session 1. Using a DSLR

4 October 2016

DSLR checklist

1. Select the AWB (Auto White Balance).
2. Set focus to manual (MF).
3. Set the resolution to 1920 and 25fps.
4. Select shutter speed of 1/50 or above.
5. Set exposure to manual.
6. Double-check audio quality.
7. Double-check SD card is working.
8. Level the tripod



1 To set the AWB, you need to press the WB button (next to the screen) and select AWB. You can confirm that AWB is selected by clicking the Q button.



2 To select MF, you need to change the switch on the lens. Note that if you change lenses, you need to double-check the MF for the new lens.



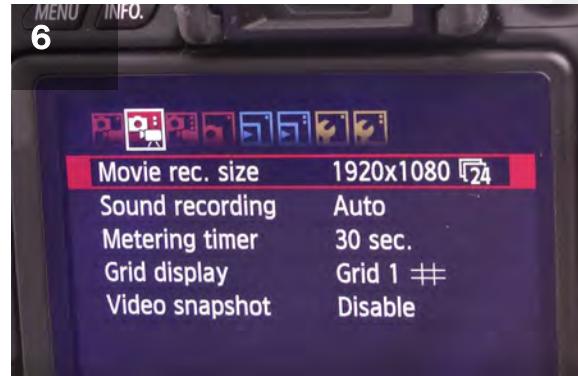
3 To set the resolution to 1920 and 25fps, you need to press the Menu button (top left corner), select the second video menu and choose 1920x1080 (25).



4 To set the shutter speed, you simply need to turn the dial until you see the number 50 on the bottom left of the screen.



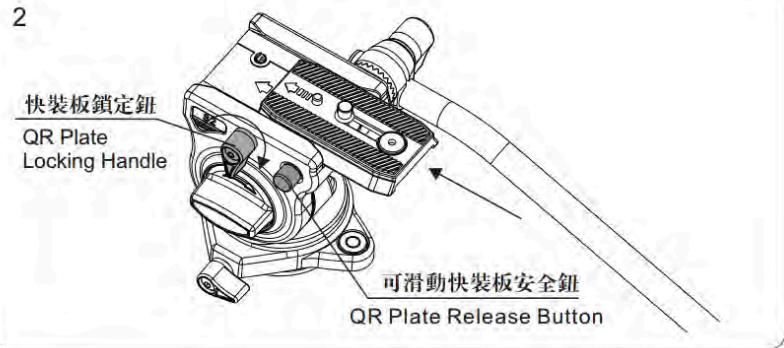
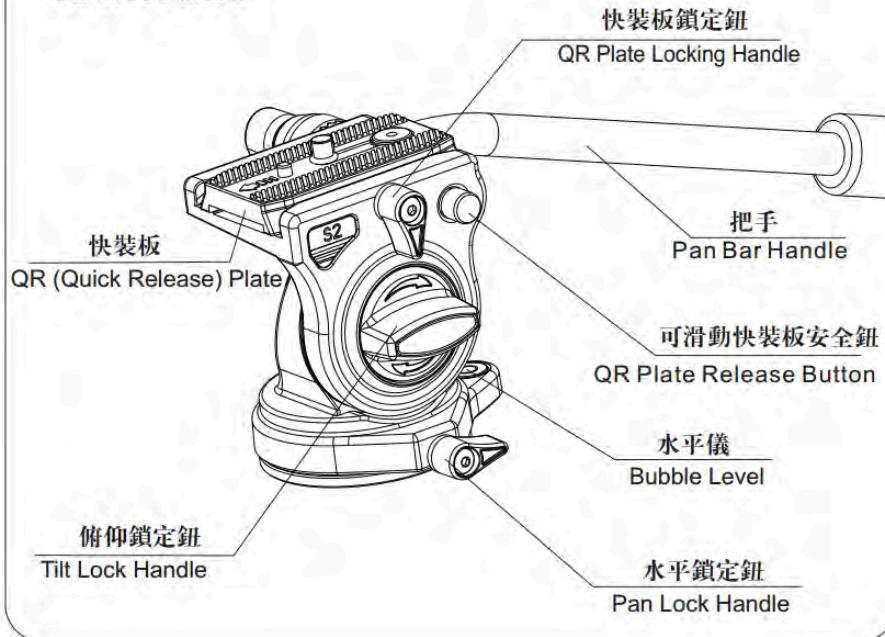
5 To set the exposure to manual, press the Menu (top left corner), go to the first video menu and select Movie exposure 'Manual'.



6 You can display a rule of thirds grid on screen by pressing the Menu button (top left corner), going to the second video menu and selecting 'Grid display', 'Grid 1'.

Tripod

S2迷你型攝像雲臺
S2 Video Head



Focus

- A subject will be focused when it appears on screen sharply. A subject will be out of focus when it is blurred.
- We focus by rotating the focus ring at the front of the camera.
 - It is useful to use the digital zoom to magnify the image and make sure it is on focus.



1
When focusing on an object, you will rotate the focus ring until the subject is sharp.



2
You can use the Magnified View to make sure the subject is in fact on focus.



3
To access the magnified view, you need to press the blue magnifier button on the top right hand side of the camera.



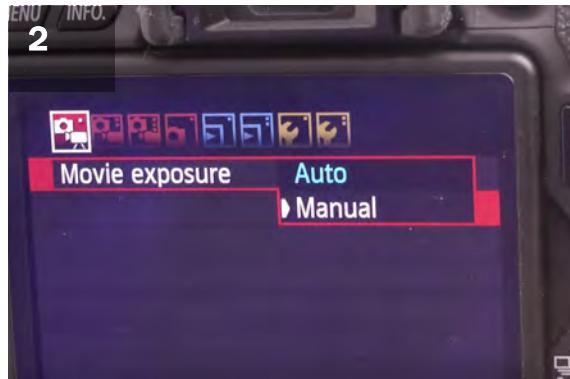
4
It is recommended that, as long as you use the tripod, you turn off the stabilizer, which is a switch on the lens.

Exposure – How to control it

- There are three ways to change the exposure:
 - Manually changing the shutter speed.
 - Not recommended at this point – we will try to keep the shutter speed at 1/50 for the time being.
 - Manually changing the exposure (ISO).
 - Higher ISO more sensitivity to light (more grain).
 - Lower ISO less sensitivity to light.
 - Manually changing the aperture (*f*-stop).
 - Larger *f*-stops allow less light into the camera.
 - Smaller *f*-stops allow more light into the camera.



1 To change the ISO, you need to press the ISO button (front right) and select the appropriate level by simply turning the dial/wheel.



2 Again, it is recommended that you change the exposure to Manual, so you can have full control over your pictures.



3 To change the aperture (f-stop) you need to press the AV button (next to the screen) and turn the dial/wheel at the same time.



4 On your screen the first value on the bottom left refers to the shutter speed (should be 50), the second is the f-stop.



5 The scale from -3 to +3 refers to the level of exposure. Ideally the marker should be at 0. If it is closer to -3, your picture is underexposed. If closer to +3, it is overexposed.



6 If you press the INFO button (top left), you will get a summary of your current settings.



For some more advanced controls, you can change the 'Picture Style' in the third video Menu.

The picture style allows you to control saturation, contrast, sharpness and colour tone.

If you plan to control these settings while you are editing, you can select Neutral. If you'd rather control these settings with the camera, a good choice is 'Standard'

Depth of field (or focused zone)

- We can control the depth of field by
 - Changing lenses
 - A wide lens will have shallower depth of field (foreground, subject and background are focused)
 - A telephoto lens will have deeper depth of field (foreground and background are out of focus)
 - Changing the aperture
 - A larger aperture gives us a shallower depth of field.
 - A smaller aperture gives us a deeper depth of field.

Video tutorials to review the concepts

- Basic settings: <https://youtu.be/W0tfj2jngbw>
- Exposure settings: <https://youtu.be/equzhV9Aq2E>
- Focus: https://youtu.be/tS_SBklnzFE
- Shooting at night: https://youtu.be/OxCQEa_4yeQ
- Depth of field: <https://youtu.be/I3zdybilbCY>

Camera shots

Most frequent shots

- Wide shot (WS), long shot (LS) or full shot (FS)
- Medium long shot (MLS)
- Medium shot or midshot (MS)
- Medium close-up (MCU) or “head and shoulders shot”
- Close-up (CU)
- Extreme close-up (ECU)

Other frequent shots

- Over-the-shoulder shot (O/S)
- Cross-shot (X/S)
- Two-shot
- Three-shot
- Extreme long shot or very long shot (ELS o VLS)
- Overhead (high-angle) shot
- Low-angle shot

Composition checklist

1. Use backgrounds that do not distract.
2. Keep the rule of thirds in mind.
3. Beware of crossing the line of action.
4. Leave enough noseroom and headroom.
5. Use depth of field to draw the attention.

Camera moves

Tripod does not move

- Pan
- Tilt
- Cant
- Pedestal
- (Zoom)

Tripod moves

- Dolly
- Crane
- Arc
- Tongue
- Truck or track
- Handhold

Camera moves techniques

1. Hold the beginning and end for **4 to 6”**.
2. Test out the move before you shoot.
3. Beginning and end should be meaningful.
4. Lock the tripod handles not in use.
5. If not using a tripod, bend your knees and use your **upper body** only when moving.

Session 2. In class exercise #5

4 October 2016

Assignment – News package

- Each group will be given one news release.
- Sketch a storyboard of how you would turn the news release into a news package.
 - Your target medium is an online news platform.
- Go out and shoot as much material as you think you will need. Remember:
 - Record a couple take of the most important shots.
 - Record enough b-roll.
 - Record some extra audio.

Assignment – News package

- Come back ahead of time to be able to upload the footage to Drive or upload it later today.
- Share the folder and post the link to Canvas.
- Some other things to note:
 - I posted some sample news stories to find inspiration on Canvas.
 - Practice what we have learnt in class: camera moves, shot composition, exposure, shot sizes...

Next week

- There is no class on Week 7, it is reading week.
- Use the time to meet with your group and begin brainstorming about the commercial.
 - Instructions for the commercial and individual assignment 2 are on Canvas.
- Try to spend some time going through the footage you will shoot today and do some logging for easier editing the following week.