Total time:
6-8 hours

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Difficulty Level: Normal

Skill Points:
- Composing to meet client expectations
- Composing with natural light and a set structure
- Creating a personality for an inanimate object

CREATING
ARCHITECTURAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Architectural photography can take many forms. If the shot is being created for the architect, they will want the photo to illustrate their vision of the building, and for the structure to look architecturally sound (no weird angles). Interiors can be particularly difficult.

KEY LESSON: For an architect- do not bend vertical lines and study how the building makes use of natural light and artificial light. A great time to shoot architecture is right after dusk- when the natural lighting balances in intensity to the artificial lighting. Look for key details and try to highlight them.

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EQUIPMENT
- **Camera**
  Any camera (depending on end use)
- **Any lens + lens hood:**
  A wide angle to normal (tilt-shift is a plus)
- **Filter** (optional):
  Polarizing and graduated ND filters
- **Tripod + Shutter release:** Highly suggested
- **Post-production software:** Highly suggested

TIPS! These settings can vary widely. This is a starting point.

Shooting Mode	**M** or **A/Av**	Metering mode	**Evaluative / Matrix**
ISO	**400**	Focus mode	**Single shot**
Aperture	f/**8** - f/**16**	Format	**RAW**
Drive Mode	**Single shot**	White balance	**AWB** **AUTO**
Shutter Speed	As needed (Use a tripod if necessary)		

Post-process to correct for converging lines to gain experience

SAMPLE PHOTOGRAPHS

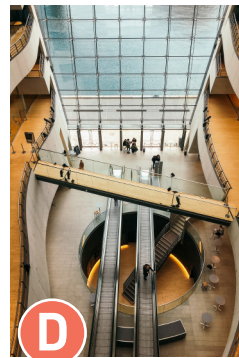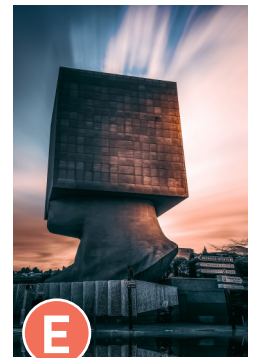**ACTION ASSIGNMENT!**

1- Study the sample photographs:
  A- This is a classic 'clinical' architectural photo. There is no distortion. If your equipment cannot correct for converging line distortion up close- shooting from a distance can be an alternative.
  B- To display an architectural era, scout for a shooting location that shows more than one building. Put interesting details in the foreground and use juxtaposition to place an overall view in the background.
  C- Architecture photography as art is an easier way to get started. Scout your intended subject. Look for interesting shapes and angles at different times of the day.
  D- The trick to architectural interiors is balancing interior and exterior exposure. Shoot camera raw /expose for shadows. Don't forget composition.
  E- A sunset, or sunrise, will often provide the most dramatic lighting. Bring a flashlight. With extended exposures, you'll need a tripod and a remote shutter release. Notice the converging lines due to focal length, camera position, and an upward angle.

2- Set aside one full day to explore architectural photography: Begin the 1st half of your shoot by trying to create 'clinical' architecture shots. For the 2nd half of your shoot, create artistic architecture shots.

3- Explore your chosen subjects carefully: study **space, shape, color, light,** and the **architect's intent.**

HOW DID YOU DO?

- Does your shot have a pleasing composition? Did you study, and highlight, the architect's intent for design?
- Did you use juxtaposition and find interesting details? Does your shot have pleasing light?

READY! SET! GO! ACTION CARDS - GENRE: ARCHITECTURE