

Basic Info: (these are geared toward iPhones, but should be similar to Android devices as well)

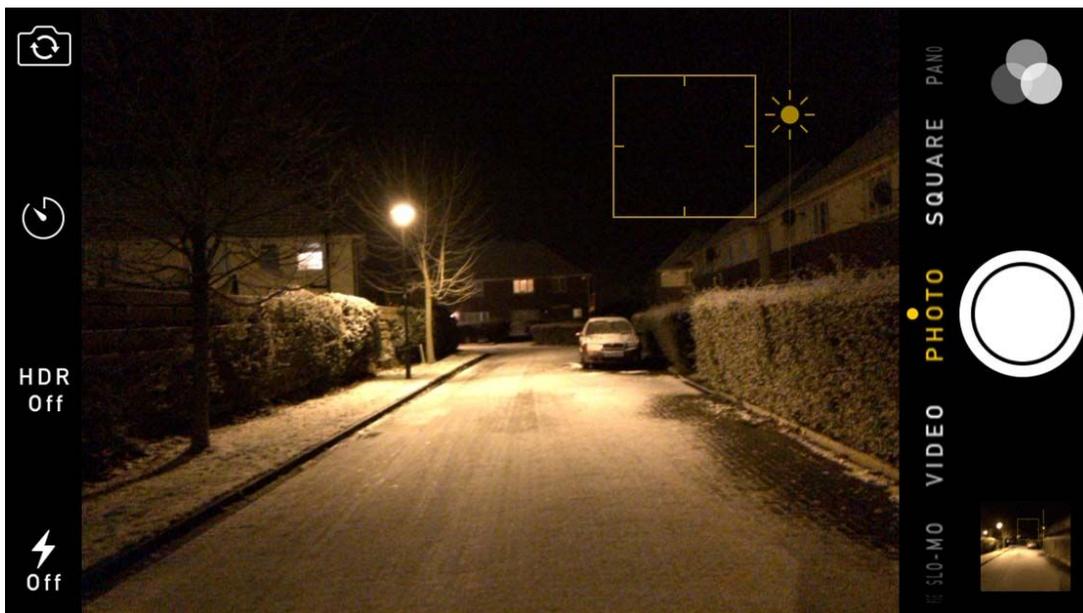
Most of the info in this section is from this [website](#) I have organized it for your convenience and am citing it as a resource and not as my original work.

Setting Focus (just tap the screen)

In your camera app, you can touch the screen to pick the focus area of your image. (Yellow box)

You can slide your finger up and down adjust how light or dark your image is (exposure)

When you set the focus by tapping the screen, a small sun icon appears on the side of the focus square. When you see the sun icon, simply swipe up or down on the screen to adjust the exposure slider.



Swiping up will brighten the overall image, and swiping down will darken it. When you're happy with the exposure/brightness of the image, release your finger from the screen. This manual exposure slider allows for much greater control over the look of the final image.

Zooming In (zoom with your feet)

Your phone has a zoom function which you can access by pinching or stretching two fingers on the screen. This brings up a zoom slider which you can slide your finger to zoom in and get a closer view of your subject.

Unfortunately, this is a digital zoom and not an optical zoom. In essence what happens with a digital zoom is that the image is [cropped](#) as you zoom in. This results in a noticeable loss in image quality the more you zoom in.

If you want to take a photo of a far away subject, don't use the zoom. Walk closer instead and use the camera as normal without any zoom. You'll end up with a far better quality shot.

Alternatively, you can crop the image yourself in the editing process to bring the viewer closer to your subject. Cropping afterward gives you more control over how much of the image you want to remove.

Filters (avoid Filters or gimmicky apps on your cell phone)

Resist the urge to use too many apps or overly strong effects when using your phone to take photos. A lot of beginners make the mistake of thinking that using photo editing apps will turn a bad photo into a good one.

Save the editing for Pixlr or Photoshop. Also, please don't edit your photos for our assignments in your phone. Use a computer monitor so that you can see your image clearly on the big screen. It's easy to miss photo issues on your small phone screen.

Apps for Cell Phones:

Apps will give you more control over your photos when taking them. Here are some of the apps mentioned in class.

[Camera+](#)

[More apps](#) if you would like more choices

Accessories

[Link to lens](#) from Amazon we have in class for macro and wide angle shots

[Link to iPhone photography accessories](#)