

# Patrician College of Arts and Science

Department of Visual Communication

Basic Photography

Subject Code: SAX 4B

Odd Semester

Presented By

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# Photography



# What is Photography?

- The word photography comes from two ancient Greek words: photo, for "light," and graph, for "drawing." Therefore, a literal translation of Photography is **Drawing with light.**
- When a photograph is made, light or some other form of radiant energy, such as an X- ray, is used to record a picture of an object or scene on a light-sensitive surface.

- Today, photography has become a powerful *means of communication* and a mode of **visual expression** that touches human life in many ways. For example, photography has become popular as a means of recording memories.
- Most of the billions of photographs taken today are **snapshots**--casual records to document personal events such as vacations, birthdays, and weddings.

# Purposes of Photography

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- Photography is used in nearly every human endeavor from **astronomy** to **medical diagnosis** to industrial quality control.
- Photographs can also be objects of art that **explore the human condition** and provide **aesthetic pleasure (for people to enjoy looking at)**. For millions of people, photography is a satisfying hobby or a rewarding career.

## Photography as Art:

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- When photography was first invented, some people believed that it was not an art-form because photographs were created by a machine.
- Artists argued that the camera is simply the tool used to create. The art is in the photographer's selection of what to include in their photos.



## Photography As Art:

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- Today photography is widely recognized as a fine art. Photographs are displayed in art museums, prized by collectors, discussed by critics, and studied in art history courses.

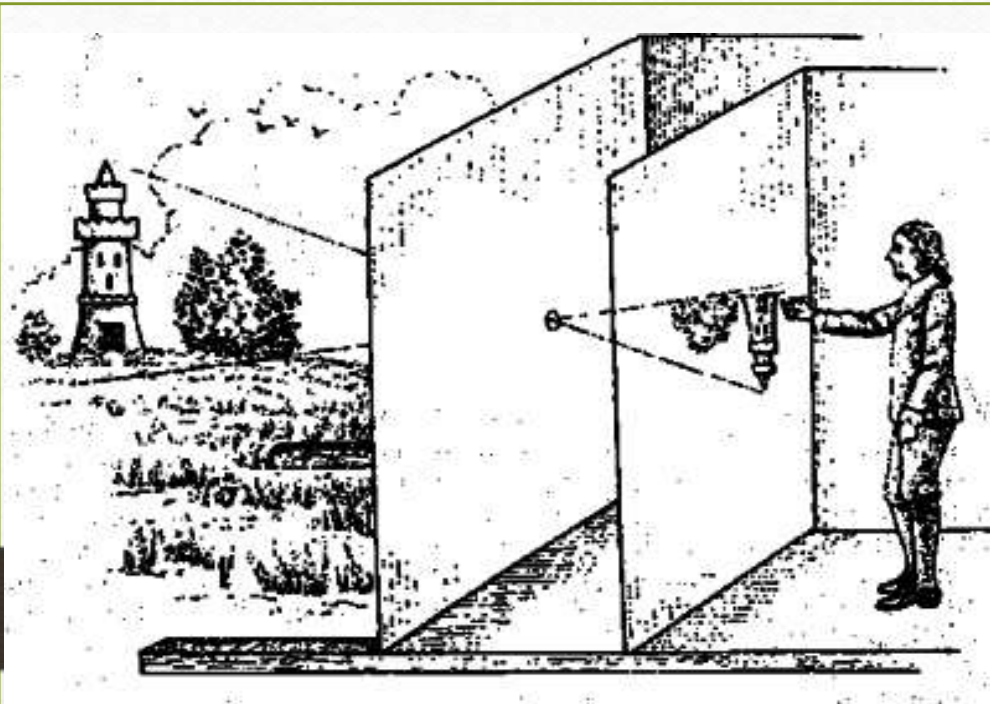


# How Photography Began:

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- **Leonardo DaVinci**, a very famous **Renaissance** artist and inventor, is credited with creating the first camera.
- DaVinci's "**Camera Obscura**" was a large room completely sealed from light except for a very small hole in one wall. An image of the outside world--houses, trees, and even people--could be projected, upside down and reversed right-to-left, onto a wall or white screen placed opposite the opening.





Drawing of a Camera Obscura

Right- A Modern day camera obscura



## Making the Image Permanent

- In the early 19th century Joseph-Nicephore Niepce of France developed a process whereby he could permanently capture the image of a camera obscura. In 1827 he made the world's first surviving photograph from the window of a country home in France. It required an exposure, in bright sunlight, of eight hours.



# Daguerre

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- Louis Daguerre worked with Niepce on a different approach. In Daguerre's process, a silver-coated sheet of copper was sensitized by treatment with iodine vapor, forming a coating of light-sensitive silver iodide.
- Daguerreotype-This method made photos that lasted longer and were much clearer.

# Daguerreotype

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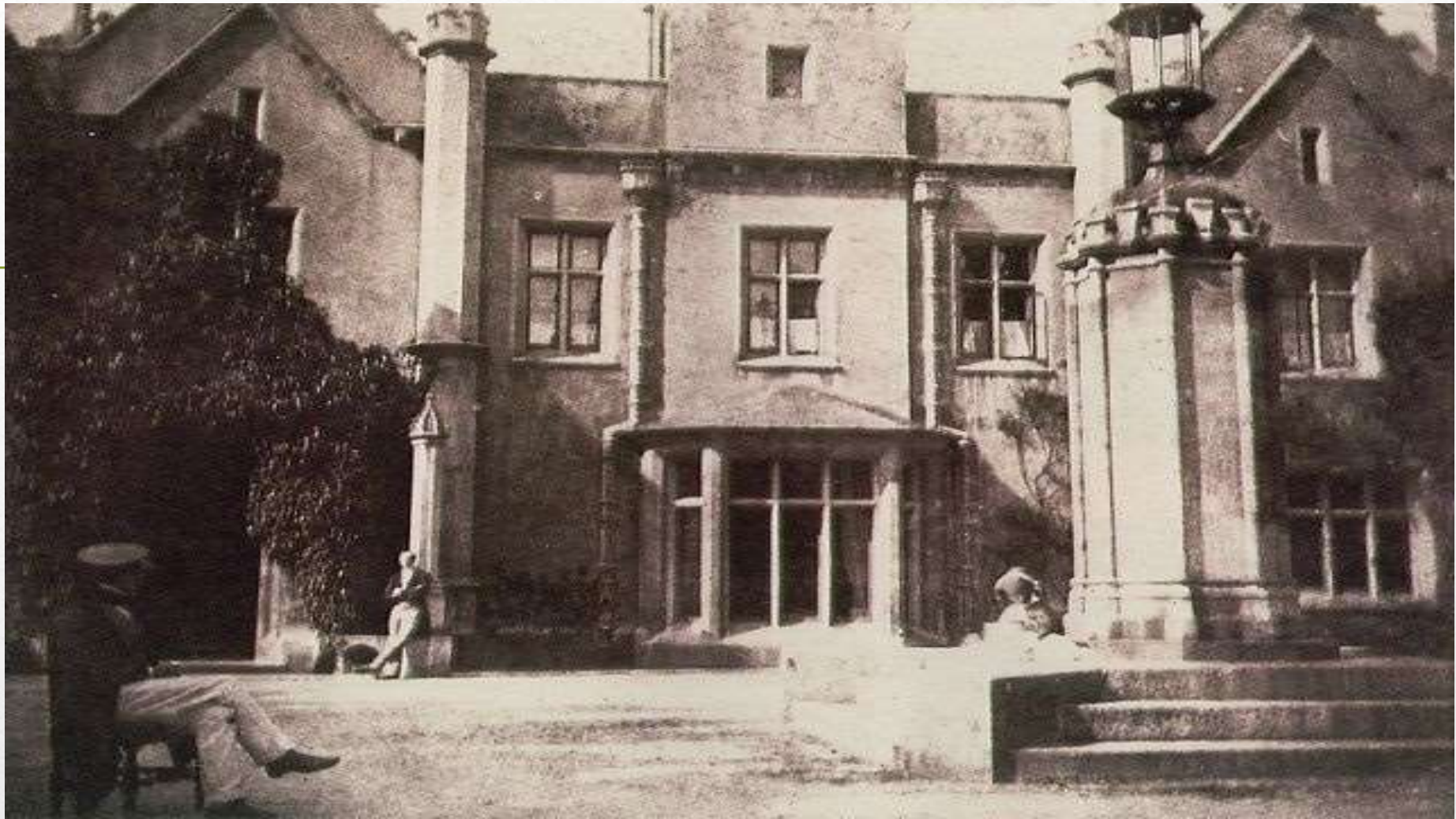
- This type of Photo, called a daguerreotype, recorded only one image which could not be re-printed.



# Talbot

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- In England **William Henry Fox Talbot** had developed his own method of photography at about the same time that Daguerre was inventing the daguerreotype. Talbot **coated paper** with silver nitrate or silver chloride.
- Talbot's method for recording photographs on paper was modified many times to arrive at the high quality photo paper we use today, but the idea is still the same.



William Henry Talbot- 1884

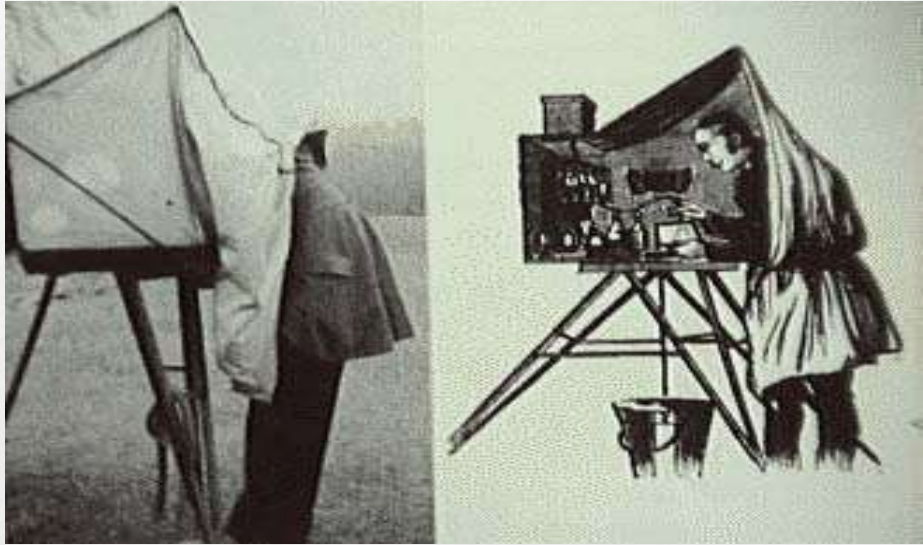
# Archer

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- In 1851 F. Scott Archer of England came up with the first portable photography process.
- Archer used a wagon to transport his photography materials, and recorded photographic images on plates, much like the negatives your images will be recorded on.
- Archer's technique was also less expensive than previous photographic techniques.

Left- Photograph and Drawing of the type of Camera that Archer used.

The cloth over the photographer's head keeps light away from the light-sensitive plate.



Photography by F. Scott Archer



# Photography Goes Public

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- In the **1880s** the American *George Eastman* put **flexible roll film** on the market, and in 1889 he introduced the first Kodak camera with the slogan, "You push the button and we do the rest."
- In the next century, the camera would undergo many changes, giving a much greater audience access to photography.

## Types of Cameras:

- **Point and Shoot Cameras** are a viewfinder type camera with added focus abilities that make it an ideal camera for vacation and travel snapshots.
- Point and shoot cameras are a very simple, straight forward way of recording imagery and do not allow the photographer as much freedom in decision making as the SLR camera.



## The SLR (Single Lens Reflex) Film Camera

- In an SLR camera, light passing through the lens is reflected by a mirror and brought to focus on a ground glass. The mirror causes a reversal of the image seen, but a special device called a pentaprism flips the image so that it is recorded upright on the film negatives.



# SLR Cameras

- There are many different brands and types of SLR cameras.
- Brands include: Pentax, Nikon, Canon, Fuji, and many more.
- Some of the older models are manual focus (this is fine!) while newer models offer both manual fully automatic options



# Digital SLR Cameras

- Digital SLR are very similar to film SLR cameras
- They have the same settings but instead of recording your image on film, the light hits a light sensitive electronic board that processes the image and stores it on your memory card.





# Thank you

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