

# History of Photography Timeline Project

Class Project designed to give an introductory photo class an overview of the history of Photography. Timeline includes photographers, technology, projects, cameras and specific imagery. Excellent start to a larger more in-depth history study or leave as is to give a short overview and broad scope for later reference.



## Materials Needed:

- 12x18 construction paper
- glue sticks
- paper cutter
- copy paper and ability to print (if done in class)
- access to research

Before we began the project, we watched a brief video on the history of photography. After the video, each student picked two “events” from hat randomly. The events consist of photographers, inventors, technology, cameras and specific events.

(EVENTS LIST ATTACHED BELOW)

## STUDENTS:

Responsible for researching two items and creating physical pieces for the the timeline. Each piece for the line needs to contain:

- Topic
- Date
- 5 facts regarding the event
- 1 or 2 images related to the event
- 2 cited sources

Example:

**1917**  
NIPPON KOGAKU  
K.K.  
STARTS NIKON  
COMPANY



Nikon started on  
July 25th 1917.

- Originally began as the Japan Optical Company.
- made telescopes, survey equipment, microscopes, binoculars, then lenses.
- made items for Japanese military in World War II
- After the war began to make cameras for consumer use

-1948 First Nikon camera was released.



Source 1 & 2

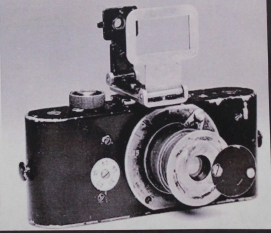

Oscar Barnack *Josh E.*  
1900

Oscar was born at 1879 in Germany.  
He lived his life as a German Optical Engineer.

Oscar Photographed with 35mm, and is known as the father of 35mm photography. Oscar had asthma growing up forcing him into a mechanical job style such as engineering. Oscar invented the smallest and lightest 35mm camera of the time.

His motivation to build the movie camera, was his love for photography and his need for lighter equipment due to his poor health

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oskar\\_Barnack](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oskar_Barnack)  
<http://www.kenrockwell.com/leica/oskar-barnack.htm>



After the students finished their individual pieces, the class spent one day building the timeline. Each student presented their pieces (in one minute) then found where it belongs on the timeline. The line was created with a large piece of tape. The dates begin at 1700 and go to 2010. I labeled the tape in about 30 year increments.

Once the timeline was complete, we discussed any patterns or interesting moments and observations. For example: The first “selfie” was a huge hit. And that the GoPro existed before the Iphone.

The list of topics is below:

Before 16th Century: Camera obscuras used to form images on walls in darkened rooms; image formation via a pinhole

17th century: Camera obscuras in frequent use by artists and made portable in the form of sedan chairs

1727: Professor J. Schulze

1800: Thomas Wedgwood

1816: Nicéphore Niépce

1826: Niépce (the first photograph)

1834: Henry Fox Talbot

1837: Louis Daguerre

1839: First “selfie”

1840: First fake photograph

1841: Calotype

1851: Frederick Scott Archer, Collodion process

1853: Nadar (Felix Toumarchon)

1854: Adolphe Disderi

1855: Stereoscopic Photography

1855-57: AmbroTypes/Tintypes

1861: Scottish physicist James Clerk-Maxwell

1861-65: Mathew Brady

1868: Ducas de Hauron

1870: William Jackson

1870: Tim O'Sullivan.

1871: R.L. Maddox Dry Plate Process

1877: Eadweard Muybridge

1880: George Eastman

1888: First Kodak camera

1890: Jacob Riis

1900: Kodak Brownie

1902: Alfred Stieglitz

1902: "Photo Secessionist"

1906: Edward Curtis

1907: First commercial color film

1909: Lewis Hine

1914: Oscar Barnack

1917: Nippon Kogaku K.K.

1921: Man Ray and Rayograms

1925: André Kertész

1928: Albert Renger-Patzsch

1931: Development of strobe photography by Harold ("Doc") Edgerton at MIT

1932- Ansel Adams,

Margaret Bourke-White

Imogen Cunningham,

Willard Van Dyke,

Edward Weston

Group f/64

1932- Henri Cartier-Bresson

1933: Brassai publishes Paris de nuit

1934: Fuji Photo Film

1935: Roy Stryker to run a historical section.

Walker Evans,

Dorothea Lange,

Arthur Rothstein,

Roman Vishniac

Margaret Bourke-White,

Robert Capa,

Carl Mydans,

W. Eugene Smith

First Space Photograph (1946)

1947: Magnum picture agency

1948: Hasselblad in Sweden offers its first medium-format SLR for commercial sale; Pentax in Japan introduces the automatic diaphragm; Polaroid sells instant black and white film

1949: East German Zeiss develops the Contax S, first SLR with an unreversed image in a pentaprism viewfinder

1955: Edward Steichen curates Family of Man exhibit at New York's Museum of Modern Art

1957: First digital photograph

1959: Nikon F introduced.



1960: Garry Winogrand

1963: First color instant film developed by Polaroid;

1970: William Wegman

1972: 110-format cameras introduced by Kodak with a 13x17mm frame

1973: C-41 color negative process introduced, replacing C-22

1975: Nicholas Nixon

1976: First solo show of color photographs at the Museum of Modern Art

1977: Cindy Sherman

1977: Jan Groover

1978: Hiroshi Sugimoto

1980: Elsa Dorfman

1985: Minolta Maxxum

1985: In the American West by Richard Avedon

1987: The popular Canon EOS system introduced

1990: Adobe Photoshop released.

1991: Kodak DCS-100, first digital SLR, a modified Nikon F3

1992: Kodak introduces PhotoCD

1993: Mary Ellen Mark publishes book documenting life in an Indian circus.

1999: Nikon D1 SLR, 2.74 megapixel for \$6000, first ground-up DSLR design by a leading manufacturer.

2000: Camera phone introduced in Japan by Sharp/J-Phone

2001: Polaroid goes bankrupt

2003: Four-Thirds standard for compact digital SLRs introduced with the Olympus E-1; Canon Digital Rebel introduced for less than \$1000

2004: Kodak ceases production of film cameras

2005: Canon EOS 5D, first consumer-priced full-frame digital SLR, with a 24x36mm CMOS sensor for \$3000;

2005: Portraits by Rineke Dijkstra

2006: first goPro

2007: first iPhone