Selfies. Social media. Journalism. Advertising. Tourism. Surveillance. Photography is ubiquitous in the twenty-first century. It mediates our everyday lives in ways that would have been unimaginable in 1839, the year it was first publicly introduced to the world. How did we get here? AHIS 373 explores the history of photography across the globe, tracing key moments, themes, and questions from the birth of the medium in the early nineteenth century to its widespread popularity today.

This class is welcome to all – no previous experience in art or art history necessary!