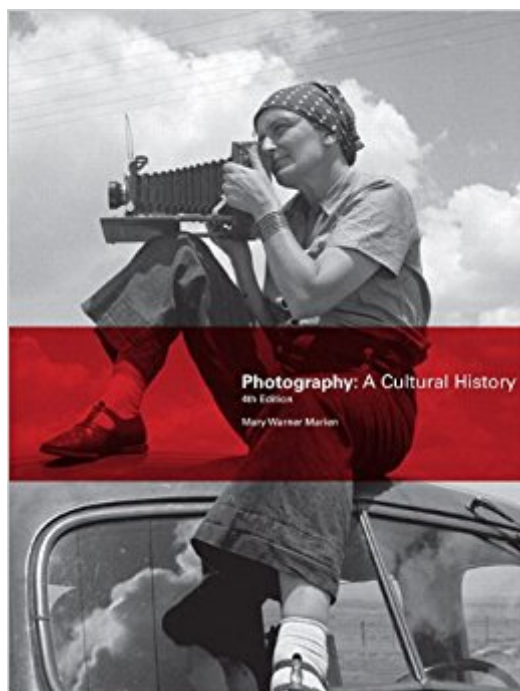


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# Photography: A Cultural History (4th Edition)



## Synopsis

A richer, more kaleidoscopic account of the history of photography – Incorporating the latest research and international uses of photography, *Photography: A Cultural History*, 4/e surveys the history of photography in such a way that students can gauge the medium's multifold developments and see the historical and cultural contexts in which photographers lived and worked. Mary Warner Marien's comprehensive survey shows how photography has sharpened, if not altered forever, our perception of the world. It provides a unique focus on contemporary photo-based work and electronic media. – The book was written to introduce students to photography, requiring no previous technical knowledge of photography. The fourth edition has been revised to include new material and to expand topics that have received recent scholarly and public attention. Material on the history of photography in China, ranging from the nineteenth century to the present, has been added throughout the new edition. For the first time, adopting instructors may receive access to a PowerPoint set containing many images from the book. –

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Mary Warner Marien is a professor in the Department of Fine Arts at Syracuse University New York where she teaches courses on photographic history as well as on art criticism and its history. In 2008 she won an Andy Warhol Foundation Arts Writer award for her continuing work on the history and theory of documentary photography and is the author of 'Photography and its Critics' (Cambridge University Press, 1997) as well as numerous articles on the history of photography.

My problem with this book is that it was required for a history of photography course and is thus way overpriced. \$130.00 for an f'n paperback? Are you nuts? I would have said "Rent it if you are really curious", but that was when the rental price was down around \$20. Not for \$40. Organization is OK and the history of photography is certainly well covered, although due to the amount of subject matter, some areas are lighter than others. In several instances, information on a particular photographer or process are not all in one chapter. This makes for some searching the index to find all relevant information. As is typical for a textbook, it is written for the academic and not for casual reading. If you are truly interested in the history of photography, then it's a pretty good book. If you want to know more about particular processes, photographers, or times, then there are other resources that are better, less costly, and easier on the brain. It will introduce you to a lot of folks you probably didn't know and may lead you to find out more about them and their photographic/creative process.

I used this book for my class, read what I could due to my busy schedule. When I did read, MAN did this book open my mind to appreciate art and photography in many ways. This book inform readers about how photography first began, using chemicals and processing methods and so on all the way to modern day cameras. This book is pretty sweet!

This was required for a 400-level history of photography class. The pictures in it are gorgeous, and the history was pretty thorough in that it seemed to cover all the major photographers of a given era (then my professor would go into greater detail about them individually). This book covers a TON of photographers, eras, movements, and so on. It does get a little dry, but it's easy to read. It's a huge and heavy book, so try not to have to cart it around everywhere you go.

I felt like the content wasn't arranged very well. Sometimes they would include pieces of important info scattered. Like they would talk about Atget's history and other important stuff, then talks about other things only to write something important about him somewhere else. It's really hard to keep track of all main points of a certain subject. A lot of book turning and glossary hunting I would say

Amazing amount of photography history from beginning to contemporary times. This was a class assigned text that I enjoyed alot, so much that Ill return to it to continue exploring the dense content and to reinforce what I have already learned. It basically offers the roots of photography so we can

all know what's been done and become inspired to build on this either by doing it all better or discovering something new to go down in history.

Had to get it for class, the reading is a little dense and includes a lot of history on it, especially on some of the images it tends to focus on. Overall, it was a good book and came within time! I rented the book and was able to return it back without any problems!

Worth every penny! I actually have to read each chapter for class, and if it weren't for that I wouldn't have read every word; but I'm glad I did! Fantastic book, beautifully put together, lots of information, incredible photography and simply the best text book I have ever read in my entire school life! Beautiful as well to have on the coffee table for guests to read, if you don't plan on cramming through.

An excellent text book that makes many connections across the history of photography. It is clearly written. The thematic structure makes it a more attractive text for teaching than most others. It is text to which I will compare others as I search for less expensive options to use in my class room.

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