

AHS Photography: Picture This!

By Lilly Ratledge | November 12, 2019

We live in the age of technology. Everything we do somehow connects back to it. Most people take the fact that we have the ability to instantly capture and store a memory for granted. It's so



Pinhole camera

easy for us to take out our phones, snap a pic, and post it on social media. At Allendale High School, the students of Ms. Overmeyer's class learn that photography is a layered art, and is more complex than just a quick picture.

The first pinhole camera was invented in 1839. The students of Photography 1 get to learn how to make these. It's one of their first projects. A pinhole

camera is a camera without a lens, and instead of a lens, it has a tiny hole. Another one of their first projects is a photogram. A photogram is a picture produced with photographic materials, such as light-sensitive paper, but without a camera. They also learn how to use film, and how to develop it.

AHS Photography teacher, Ms. Overmeyer, was gracious enough to answer a few questions about her class.

Do you believe photography is important? Why?

Yes, photography is very important. It's important for documenting important moments' past or present.

What makes you like photography?

It's a very powerful tool. Photography is an amazing art medium. One picture can of course tell so many stories. It can capture moments, good or bad; it's a documentary tool.

What are some pros and cons of digital photography?

Well, one of the pros is that you can take an unlimited amount of photos, and you get instant results. One of the cons is that out of those thousands, you might only get two good ones (but that is true of film as well). The only factor that really limits digital photography is the amount of space you have to store the pictures.

What about film photography?

With film photography, some of the pros are the pictures are generally higher quality, better photos, and the fact that you have a limited amount of pictures to take; you only capture the best of the best pictures. One of the cons is that you have a limited amount of film, film is expensive, developing film takes time, and you don't know if you've captured the ultimate shot until the film is developed.

Photography has changed quite a bit over the years. In AHS photography class, the students incorporate past and present photography technology gaining knowledge about the history of photography and learning skills that help them to become better photographers.