

HST 201: History of the United States (Escobar Meta 21035 21036)

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The Study of History

by Joe Escobar - Friday, October 10, 2014, 11:35 AM

This forum thread is for The Study of History posts and replies.

After studying the required materials, address the various questions. For purposes of encouraging discussion, you may decide to separate your responses into SEPARATE posts. To make your POSTS, click the reply link in this, MY post. To reply to another student's post, be sure to click the reply link within in THEIR post.

IMPORTANT - SUBJECT LINES

BE SURE to use an informative subject line for your post. Do NOT simply leave it RE: The Study of History

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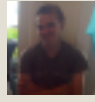
Re: The Study of History

by Brody Wasson - Saturday, October 11, 2014, 9:53 PM

As a teacher to be I lean toward position 2. I believe that not only does history that is taught in todays schools have sharp turns but also have gaps and sometimes inaccurate. I see history as something that can always be rewritten and changed by the finding that are found with the advances in technology that are available today. From what I have read in our text book the authors take the side of position 1. In our text book they write throughly and never really deviate from the time period. They go from date to date pretty accurately.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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textbook history or actual events?

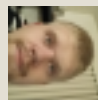


by Samuel Black - Monday, October 13, 2014, 11:47 PM

I am just trying to understand your post, you say that "I see history as something that can always be rewritten and changed by the finding[s] that are found with the advances in technology that are available today." Is this your reasoning behind your view of argument #2? So the reason history has sharp breaks is because at any moment we could have a new technology and find out we were wrong about something and "rewrite" history? I find I am not able to agree with you on this point because despite whether our textbooks are wrong or not is irrelevant, what happened still happened, whether we got it right or not. You can't rewrite history by correcting a textbook, you merely come closer to seeing how all of history would be connected to each other, cause and effect.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Relitivity



by Evan Kossow - Sunday, October 12, 2014, 11:13 PM

Mr. Muller and I seem to have shared a very similar public education experience on the study of history. The furthest I ever remember going forward was WWII. We also got a very deluded seemingly abridged version that mostly just covered what happened in what battle and how. No explanation was really given to why other than the holocaust, which of course is not why the united states got involved with Germany. Same story with the civil war, we were given the slavery connection but never a real answer of why. Looking back I reflect my whole study as a youth to be centered on some sort of higher plain of superior American morality. I guess we didn't have to go any further forward to know the rest; Cold war, Korea, and Vietnam were all fought to protect us from communist extremists who were jealous of our liberty and most recently war is fought to protect us from Muslim extremists who hate our freedom. Perhaps the closer truth of American history is a picture thought too graphic for our youth to swallow. Perhaps it is too

much for the average adult to cope with and understand that we as a country, and as individuals are just as capable of committing atrocities as any other group around the globe given a relative situation.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

2

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Chronological order gives us a better understanding on the early development of history.

by Mariah Brant - Monday, October 13, 2014, 1:38 PM

I have to disagree with James muller. I agree though through grade school and high school Hlstory class never played out in chronological order, It always seemed more confusing going back in time but now I understand why they did that. I need a a good understanding of what happened in the past to understand the way things are now in the present. Otherwise I have no idea why things came to be. I think rather that starting at a time period and going back in time we should have started from the beginning though. I lean toward there being sharp breaks and turns in History. I think the text book authors seem to agree that there are abrupt changes throughout history that need to be covered by reverting back to the past. They do a good job on bouncing back and fourth to cover facts, its just so much information to cover and so much to remember.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

2

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History is continuous

by Alma Cuevas-contreras - Monday, October 13, 2014, 4:33 PM

I feel that history is a series of continuous events. Just like cause and effect, the same applies to history. Decisions that were made buy someone led to a plan, people to get involved and therefore action to be taken. When those actions take place history occurs. One thing leads to another and another and another but at the end all is related. For example, the decision of Spain to sponsor Columbus to explore and discovered the new world. With that decision all of our history began to write itself.

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King Henry VIII

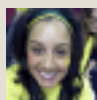


by Samuel Black - Monday, October 13, 2014, 10:52 PM

After reviewing my own personal thoughts, I find myself mostly siding with argument #1 that everything has a connection to something else in history. This is quite obviously the view of our textbook authors as I cite the entirety of chapter one, which more or less started in the ice age and never seemed to reach anything to actually do with America. This entire chapter would not be in our American history textbook unless all of these events were connected to each other. It is also quite possibly the view of our instructor as he did give a 5-10 minute speech about King Henry VIII who's only connection to America whatsoever was that he wanted a divorce. Which in turn caused the creation of the Church of England and the separatist which in their turn became the pilgrims. They of course being the people we associate as the founders of this country. An example of one of the reasons for my personal belief in this argument is the latter.

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History is always evolving.

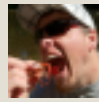


by Arianna Magana - Monday, October 13, 2014, 11:35 PM

When I think of how history impacts everyday life I look at in the perspective of our first choice. I believe that everything in history is connected and continuous. I strongly believe that history is continuous. There are acts made everyday in the United States and in other countries that forever affect history. I think the book focuses more on that there are sharp breaks in history and that turn it into a new direction. Our book always explains how we got from Point A to B or why we used to think of subject A in this light but now we think of it this way because a certain fellow leader changed this. That's a rather vague example but I hope you get what I mean when I say our book defines history as big breaks and how that affected us so other things happened. History is obviously a never ending process but I believe it's all connected back to the 16th century and further.

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History progresses by breaks and starts

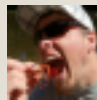


by Erik Fischer - Tuesday, October 14, 2014, 9:45 AM

I am of the opinion that you do not need extensive knowledge of the history leading up to the specific time period you are studying. A quick overview of the previous time period and the culture of the people will lend its self to a deeper understanding of the motives of the people studied, but lacking the back story shouldn't be an overt hindrance. James Muller mentions that by high school he had to learn about the Crusades as the set up for U.S. history. Even though I believe that they an important historical event and teach about the religious and political environment that eventually leads to exploration and the discovery of the Americas, that much backstory isn't necessary to see why the puritans would leave England for a new start in the new world away from the oppression of the English church.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Re: History progresses by breaks and starts



by Erik Fischer - Friday, October 17, 2014, 4:19 PM

Take Columbus for example, Europe is just hanging out not really going anywhere and then Columbus takes this epic journey. Next thing you know the Spanish are rolling in silver and gold and Britain and France and the Dutch are all trying to establish colonies to cash in on the wealth also. New peoples are discovered, new trade goods and routes discovered and new economies established. The whole world is changed by one event and everyone rushes off into the future.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Continuous vs. Major Breaks and Turns



by Keith Corsaut - Wednesday, October 15, 2014, 7:06 PM

My opinion towards continuous versus major breaks and turns, is that major breaks and turns are more correct. I

feel this way because i feel that people are responsive to what happens to us. I feel like people react and act which can cause both negative and positive effects. A good example of this is war. When people are at war and attack the opposing side, the opposing side then decides their counter move. This is responsive to a major break in the war.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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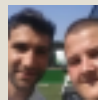
Re: Continuous vs. Major Breaks and Turns

by Erik Fischer - Saturday, October 18, 2014, 1:02 PM

I tend to agree that war has a profound impact on history. Take King Phillips war and Bacon's rebellion for examples. After these wars the Native Americans were considered more like pests to be eradicated than a people who should be respected as an enemy and people could be traded with and converted to Christianity. If they had won the wars a vastly different outcome may have effected the Europeans.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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The Textbook Authors View

by Keith Corsaut - Wednesday, October 15, 2014, 7:14 PM

I feel that the text book authors have more of a continuous point of view. I feel this way because they do not follow a timeline when talking about events that happened. They connect earlier issues with more recent issues in the timeline that they are talking about, then go back and link these events with something else. An example of this is talking about the religions of the settlers and how it affected their establishment of colonies. Then it goes back to where the religions beliefs came from and then moves to more issues that the religion caused for the native people. I feel as if this is linking everything together as in a continuous way.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Study of History verbatim edition

by Evan Kossow - Saturday, October 18, 2014, 3:29 PM

I agree with professor Muller in the respect that you don't need to know world history to know American history, the study of American history alone is certainly enough to know American history but I also think it would be hard to argue that a world outlook leading up to would give you a better view. When it comes to continuous or sharp breaks I think it depends on how you look at it. The issue is relative to me. History flows fairly even on its own overall but there are also bigger breaks that seem to influence more. It all seems to flow in the same direction to me though. I think our textbook authors have ignored the philosophical issue and presented things as they seem relative. I even feel like taking a side one way or the other would do the story your presenting an injustice.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

1

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Fate or Free Will? Continuous or Defining moments?

by Jesse Bowman - Saturday, October 18, 2014, 6:42 PM

I toyed with this question for hours on end trying to figure out the depths of it's existential nature, and what I've come to realize with the question of whether or not we believe in a continuous history or if we believe in defining moments or "sharp breaks".

I consider myself a person to understand that there are connections in the world causing certain actions but I would have to argue for free will and emotion. Again, this argument that free will exists or that it's just apart of fate is at a standstill between two good debaters, but here it goes: Free will, the heat of the moment, when passion or circumstance just so happens to along when a small decision could have changed the outcome of history forever, but it didn't (fate? Possibly), this idea of free will allows me to believe that there are indeed "sharp breaks" in history. For example, what is Christopher Columbus was an honest man (just bear with me) in his letters when he wrote back to Luis De Sant Angel about the "discovery" of America and it's "riches", and instead explained the horrors they experienced there as well? The decision to lie, could have come from his historical context I do not know, but his choice could have changed the desire for conquest or expansion in the

Americas all together!

Consider the simple choices made by men that forever altered the course of our history here in America, John Rolfe, decided he needed to *choose* a crop to cultivate at a commercial scale in order to bring success to Jamestown, and lucky for Jamestown he chose tobacco, and with his success, Rolfe revolutionized the tobacco industry, hell, even the American industry as its first profitable export.

I believe our textbook do a fairly good job at interpreting the large full scale affect and decisions that played a role in history as well as highlighting the smaller but potentially crucial moments that shaped American history.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

3

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