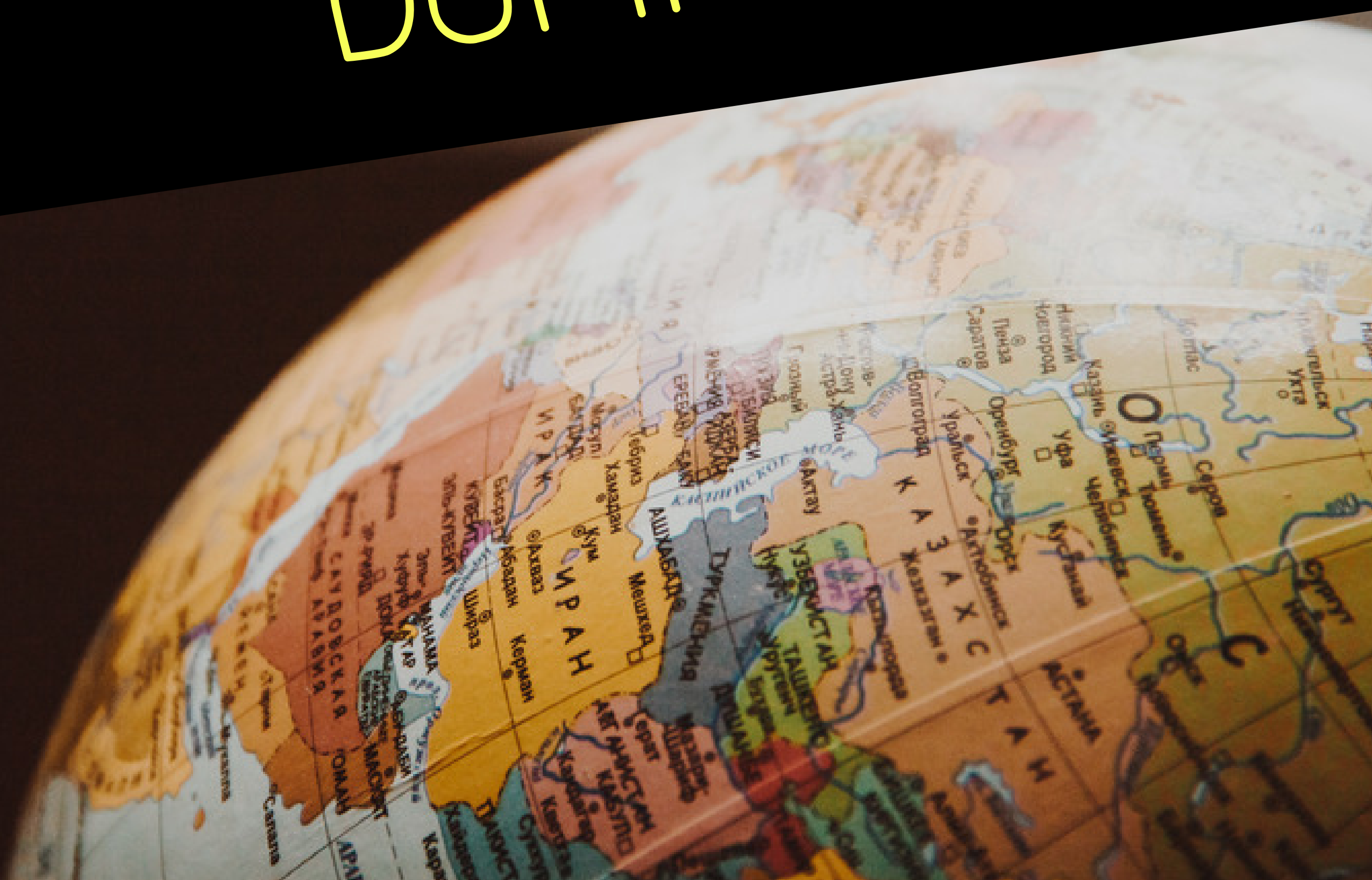


**UNDERSTANDING HISTORY &
HISTORIOGRAPHY
HAS NEVER BEEN THIS EASY!**

**Take a
look
inside!**

Understanding History & Historiography

**FOR
DUMMIES**



A REFERENCE FOR THE REST OF US!

Table of Contents

What is History? pg. 2

What does it mean to do History? pg. 3

What do Historians do? pg. 4

What is Historiography? pg. 5

Acknowledgements..... pg. 6

What is History?

History is the study of the past. This knowledge is used by historians to develop arguments which are constantly changing.

These arguments exist to explain and interpret the past by answering questions such as what caused a specific event to happen. These arguments are derived from facts about the past which historians grasp because of firsthand accounts and primary documents. Without these arguments history would simply be facts laid out on a page. History is actually analyzing the events of the past to understand why and how they have impacted the world today.

What does it mean to do History?

Often times when people think of the phrase “doing history” they think of completing a worksheet, reading a history book, or simply memorizing facts. These steps are an essential part of “doing history”, but most people stop at this portion of the history expedition and do not proceed. Learning historical facts is only the basis of doing history; to fully “do history” one must then analyze and interpret the facts. Once the facts are taken into consideration it's necessary to form questions as to why events happened the way they did and how they made an impact. The last step, but the key part in “doing history” is to create an argument over historical events. In summary, in order to really do history one must use their study and knowledge of the past to develop arguments over historical events

What do Historians do?

First of all, historians are people who try to make sense of the past. Historians find significance to events in time. In history there are certain questions that historians use to create and develop arguments. They start by answering the “why” questions: “Why did this event happen?” Historians also answer the why question by answering the “who” questions: “Who is responsible?” or even “Who started this event?” They also answer the “what” questions: “What caused the event?” Afterwards, historians answer the when, and the where. They begin to ask, “When and where did this event happen?” When historians answer these questions it helps them understand the past and develop arguments.

There are also six key concepts historians use to make sense of the past. The six concepts are: perspective, consequence, significance, what changed over time, what caused the change, and what stayed the same. Perspective is simply what viewpoint you are looking at history from. Changing the perspective can affect the story and if it does, it can lead to more questions such as why does the story change. Events in History can cause other events so when historians examine an event they ask what is the consequence of said event occurring. Historians ask many questions to find out what changed, what continued, and what the effects are.

What is Historiography?

In a history class, historiography is commonly overlooked, but understanding and applying it in a history class is a vital process when studying history. To further explain, historiography is the study of how arguments about history have changed over time. Unlike science, data is typically definite and will not change, but in history arguments are constantly changing. Historiography explains why there is a variety of historical commentary nowadays. Historians are analyzing the arguments of their fellow historians and adding, contradicting, or even just coming to an agreement with these arguments and sharing their opinions of it. In reality, historical arguments are not concrete, they are always changing to fit new arguments, and this is what historiography is.

Acknowledgements

Alexa Robles

Breana Hemingway

Elise Lane

Michael Cross

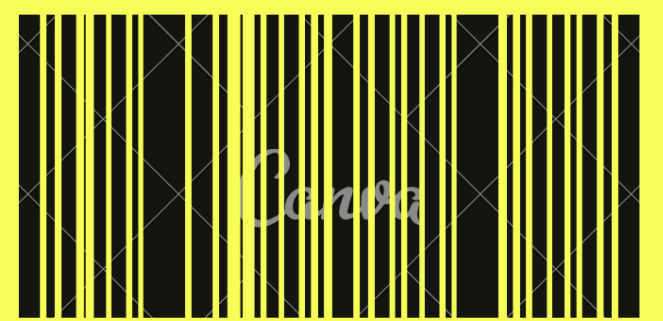
Truly understand History and Historiography for the first time!

History and historiography are commonly misunderstood, but now that you've found this book you're closer to getting to know true history and historiography!



Open up this book to find:

- **What is history?**
- **What does it mean to do history?**
- **What do Historians do?**
- **What is Historiography?**



0000000000000000