



# History: An Introduction to Theory, Method and Practice

*Peter Claus, John Marriott*

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Why should history students care about theory? What relevance does it have to the "proper" role of the historian?

Historiography and historical theory are often perceived as complex subjects, which many history students find frustrating and difficult. Philosophical approaches, postmodernism, anthropology, feminism or Marxism can seem arcane and abstract and students often struggle to apply these ideas in practice.

Starting from the premise that historical theory and historiography are fascinating and exciting topics to study, Claus and Marriott guide the student through the various historical theories and approaches in a balanced, comprehensive and engaging way. Packed with intriguing anecdotes from all periods of history and supported by primary extracts from original historical writings, *History: An Introduction to Theory, Method and Practice* is the student-friendly text which demystifies the subject with clarity and verve.

Key features -

- Written in a clear and witty way.

- Presents a balanced view of the subject, rather than the polemical view of one historian.

- Comprehensive - covers the whole range of topics taught on historiography and historical theory courses in suitable depth.

- Full of examples from different historical approaches - from social, cultural and political history to gender, economic and world history

- Covers a wide chronological breadth of examples from the ancient and medieval worlds to the twentieth century.

- Shows how students can engage with the theories covered in each chapter and apply them to their own studies via the "In Practice" feature at the end of each chapter.

- Includes "Discussion Documents" - numerous extracts from the primary historiographical texts for students to read and reflect upon.

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