

WORLD HISTORY CURRICULUM

(VOL.1)

This curriculum is designed to be an as-available approach to becoming a world historian. This curriculum is prepared under the assumption of genuine interest for the field. The meaning of life (for humans) is fun productivity. If your ideal life consists of a fun and productive career in one (or more) of the many fields of world history: this curriculum is the single best resource on the planet for attaining that aim through self-education. If you are not excited about anything concerning the subject of world history, there is a chance your true interests lay elsewhere. Your ideal career will be a job you can't wait to get to in the morning (or night). Your dream career is one that you'd do for fun if you possessed unlimited wealth. If that's the case with world history pursuits, please see below:

The material below is presented in no particular order. Pick whichever is the most interesting to you and start there. As you learn the fundamentals of "the cool stuff", the less interesting material becomes more interesting as you begin to see its relevance. Don't worry about the subjects that seem daunting. As you learn more, hesitation will become interest. Then curiosity.

World History Curriculum consists of material from free or commercially available online sources.

AUDIO COURSES & AUDIOBOOKS

All material currently available at www.audible.com [x3 speed encouraged]

The underlining is for ease of navigating the list, and has no relevance concerning content.

1. History's Great Military Blunders and the Lessons They Teach (Gregory S. Aldrete)
2. The Foundations of Eastern Civilization (Craig G. Benjamin)
3. The History of the United States, 2nd Edition (Allen C. Guelzo, Gary W. Gallagher, Patrick N. Allitt)
4. Lost Worlds of South America (Edwin Barnhart)
5. A History of Russia: From Peter the Great to Gorbachev (Mark Steinberg)
6. The Fall and Rise of China (Richard Baum)
7. The Fate of Africa (Martin Meredith)
8. Peoples and Cultures of the World (Edward Fischer)
9. Customs of the World: Using Cultural Intelligence to Adapt, Wherever You Are (David Livermore)
10. History of the Ancient World: A Global Perspective (Gregory S. Aldrete)
11. The African Experience: From Lucy to Mandela (Kenneth P. Vickery)
12. Understanding Japan: A Cultural History (Mark J. Ravina)
13. The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness (Michelle Alexander)
14. Ancient Greek Civilization (Jeremy McInerney)
15. A Short History of Nearly Everything (Bill Bryson)
16. War, Peace, and Power: Diplomatic History of Europe, 1500 – 2000 (Vegas Gabriel Liulevicius)
17. The Story of Medieval England: From King Arthur to the Tudor Conquest (Jennifer Paxton)
18. The United States and the Middle East: 1914 to 9/11 (Salim Yaqub)
19. Fall of Giants (Ken Follett)
20. Winter of the World (Ken Follett)
21. The History of Ancient Egypt (Bob Brier)
22. The History of Ancient Rome (Garrett G. Fagan)
23. History's Greatest Voyages of Exploration (Vegas Gabriel Liulevicius)
24. Great Ancient Civilizations of Asia Minor (Kenneth W. Harl)
25. The Civil War: A Narrative, Volume I, Fort Sumter to Perryville (Shelby Foote)
26. The Civil War: A Narrative, Volume II, Fredericksburg to Meridian (Shelby Foote)
27. The Civil War: A Narrative Volume, III, Red River to Appomattox (Shelby Foote)
28. Basin and Range: Annals of the Former World, Book 1 (Nelson Runger)
29. The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich (William Shirer)
30. Great Catastrophe (Thomas de Waal)
31. On the Origin of Species (Charles Darwin)
32. The Information: A History, a Theory, a Flood (James Gleick)
33. The Gulag Archipelago. Volume 1: The Prison Industry and Perpetual Motion (Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn)
34. The Gulag Archipelago. Volume 2: The Destructive Labor Camps and the Soul and Barbed Wire (Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn)
35. The Gulag Archipelago. Volume 3: Katonga, Exile, Stalin is No More (Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn)
36. The Story of Human Language (John McWhorter)
37. Turning Points in Medieval History (Dorsey Armstrong)
38. Living the French Revolution and the Age of Napoleon (Suzanne M. Desan)
39. The Industrial Revolution (Patrick N. Allitt)
40. America in the Gilded Age and Progressive Era (Edward T. O'Donnell)
41. The Foundations of Western Civilization (Thomas F.X. Noble)
42. Foundations of Western Civilization 2: A History of the Modern Western World (Robert Bucholz)
43. From Yao to Mao: 5000 Years of Chinese History (Kenneth J. Hammond)
44. Understanding Cultural and Human Geography (Paul Robbins)
45. The Other Side of History: Daily Life in the Ancient World (Robert Garland)
46. Origins of Great Ancient Civilizations (Kenneth W. Harl)
47. Alexander the Great and the Hellenistic Age (Jeremy McInerney)
48. The World of Byzantium (Kenneth W. Harl)
49. Greece and Rome: An Integrated History of the Ancient Mediterranean (Robert Garland)
50. The Long Shadow of the Ancient Greek World (Ian Worthington)
51. The Age of Pericles (Jeremy McInerney)
52. Classical Archaeology of Ancient Greece and Rome (John R. Hale)
53. The Greek and Persian Wars (John R. Hale)
54. The Peloponnesian War (Kenneth W. Harl)
55. Rome and the Barbarians (Kenneth W. Harl)
56. The Fall of Pagans and the Origins of Medieval Christianity (Kenneth W. Harl)
57. Late Antiquity: Crisis and Transformation (Thomas F.X. Noble)
58. Exploring the Roots of Religion (John R. Hale)

AUDIO COURSE AND AUDIOBOOKS (CONT'D)

59. Great Battles of the Ancient World (Garrett G. Fagan)
60. The Barbarian Empires of the Steppes (Kenneth W. Harl)
61. Cities of the Ancient World (Steven L. Tuck)
62. Maya to Aztec: Ancient Mesoamerica Revealed (Edwin Barnhart)
63. Living History: Experiencing Great Events of the Ancient and Medieval Worlds (Robert Garland)
64. The Early Middle Ages (Phillip Daileader)
65. Food: A Cultural Culinary History (Ken Albala)
66. Napoleon's Buttons: 17 Molecules That Changed History (Penny Le Couteur, Jay Burreson)
67. The Guns of August (Barbara W. Tuchman)
68. The Wright Brothers (David McCullough)
69. Human Prehistory and the First Civilizations (Brian M. Fagan)
70. Espionage and Covert Operations: A Global History (Vejas Gabriel Liulevicius)
71. Salt: A World History (Mark Kurlansky)
72. The Race for Paradise: An Islamic History of the Crusades (Paul M. Cobb)
73. Japan 1941: Countdown to Infamy (Eri Hotta)
74. Forgotten Ally: China's World War 2, 1937 – 1945 (Rana Mitter)
75. The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration (Isabel Wilkerson)
76. Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind (Yuval Noah Harari)
77. 1421: The Year China Discovered America (Gavin Menzies)
78. What is Life?: How Chemistry Becomes Biology (Addy Pross)
79. An Army at Dawn: The War in North Africa (1942 – 1943): The Liberation Trilogy (Rick Atkinson)
80. Before 1776: Life in the American Colonies (Robert Allison)
81. The Silk Roads: A New History of the World (Peter Frankopan)
82. The Secret Life of Words: English Words and Their Origins
83. Great World Religions: Islam (John L. Esposito)
84. Great World Religions: Judaism (Isaiah M. Gafni)
85. Cultural Literacy for Religion: Everything the Well-Educated Person Should Know (Mark Berkson)
86. A History of England from the Tudors to the Stuarts (Robert Bucholz)
87. The Red Flag: A History of Communism (David Priestland)
88. History of Science: Antiquity to 1700 (Lawrence M. Principe)
89. The History of Science: 1700 – 1900 (Frederick Gregory)
90. Ally: My Journey Across the American-Israeli Divide (Michael B. Oren)
91. Breaking the Chains of Gravity (Amy Shira Teitel)
92. The Origins of Political Order: From Pre-human Times to the French Revolution (Francis Fukuyama)
93. The Catholic Church: A History (William R. Cook)
94. The Last Cavalier (Alexandre Dumas)
95. Decisive Battles of World History (Gregory S. Aldrete)
96. Pimsleur: Mandarin Chinese
97. Pimsleur: Spanish
98. Pimsleur: German
99. Pimsleur: Arabic
100. Pimsleur: French
101. Mexico (Joseph Stromberg)
102. A Narco History: How the United States and Mexico Jointly created the "Mexican Drug War" (Carmen Boullosa & Mike Wallace)
103. A History of India (Michael H. Fisher)
104. Bad-Ass Librarians of Timbuktu: And Their Race to Save the World's Most Precious Manuscripts (Joshua Hammer)
105. Rise of Rocket Girls: The Women Who Propelled us from Missiles to the Moon to Mars (Nathalia Holt)
106. Venice: A New History (Thomas F. Madden)
107. Empires of the Sea: The Contest for the Center of the World (Roger Crowley)
108. The Medici: Power, Money, and Ambition in the Italian Renaissance (Paul Strathern)
109. The Secret War: Spies, Ciphers, and Guerrillas, 1939-1945 (Max Hastings)
110. The Battle for Spain: The Spanish Civil War 1936-1939 (Antony Beevor)
111. The Maisky Diaries: Red Ambassador to the Court of St James's, 1932-1943 (Gabriel Gorodetsky)
112. The Ottoman Endgame: War, Revolution, and the Making of the Modern Middle East, 1908-1923 (Sean McMeekin)
113. Latin Lessons: How South America Stopped Listening to the United States and Started Prospering (Hal Witzman)
114. Open Veins of Latin America: Five Centuries of the Pillage of a Continent (Eduardo Galeano, Isabel Allende (Foreward))
115. The Gates of Europe: A History of the Ukraine (Serhil Piokhy)
116. Big History: The Big Bang, Life on Earth, and the Rise of Humanity (David Christian)
117. Conquerors: How Portugal Forged the First Global Empire (Roger Crowley)
118. The Romanovs: 1613-1918 (Simon Sebag Montefiore)
119. Putin Country: A Journey into the Real Russia (Anne Garrels)
120. Brazil: The Troubled Rise of a Global Power (Michael Reid)
121. The Arabs: A History (Eugene Rogan)

YOUTUBE

(Material available at www.youtube.com/crashcourse)

CRASH COURSE – YouTube Channel (all videos in each playlists below are part of the Curriculum)

1. CRASH COURSE: WORLD HISTORY
2. CRASH COURSE: WORLD HISTORY 2
3. CRASH COURSE: U.S. HISTORY
4. CRASH COURSE: U.S. GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS
5. CRASH COURSE: BIG HISTORY

YouTube Channels that aid in the study of World History

YouTube search:

- World History Movies
- Alternate History Hub
- Geography Hub
- Suibhne
- Seeker Stories
- Atlas Obscura
- Wendover Productions
- Home Team History
- Real Engineering
- China Uncensored
- Geography Now
- CGP Grey
- World History Channel
- IT'S HISTORY
- Epic History TV
- The Great War
- Forgotten Weapons
- British Pathe
- War Archives
- History Buffs
- Vintage Space
- Real Stories
- History
- History TV
- The Infographics Show
- Big History Project
- Historia Civilis
- Kim History
- History Respawned
- RealLifeLore
- The Armchair Historian
- Lindybeige
- Planet Doc Full Documnts.
- Now This
- Epic History TV
- Feature History
- Kings and Generals
- Oversimplified
- Jabzy
- Jack Rackam
- National Geographic

WEBSITE LINKS

World History Matters – a portal to world history websites. www.worldhistorymatters.org

Best History Websites – quick, convenient, and reliable access to the best history-oriented resources online in a wide range of categories. besthistorysites.net

University of Delaware Library – portal sites specifically for world history. guides.lib.udel.edu/c.php?g=85352&p=549186

Washburn University (Useful websites for World Cultures Instructors) www.washburn.edu/cas/history/stucker/WebLinks.html

Quora forum (What are the best history websites) – <https://www.quora.com/What-are-the-best-history-websites>

Center for History and New Media – uses digital media to democratize history. www.chnm.gmu.edu

History Central – History website. www.historycentral.com

Hippocampus.org – free education resources from middle school to college. www.hippocampus.org

The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History – array of programs for schools, teachers, and students. <https://www.gilderlehrman.org>

Smithsonian Education – Lesson plans available for K-12 grades+. www.smithsonianeducation.org/educators/lesson_plans/history_culture.html

APPS

The following apps will aid in the study of World History.

- **History in Pictures** (Bryce Canyon Productions) <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.history.in.pics>
- **Today in History Calendar** (Alexandru C. Ene) <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.alexandrucene.dayhistory>
- **Histopedia – History Daily** (Factsnest) <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.factsnest.histopedia>
- **Learn World History** (JoeMorris) <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=net.xenotropic.quizworldhistfree>
- **World History Timelines** (Warehouse Inc.) <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.girfa.apps.worldhistory>
- **Oxford Dictionary of History** (MobiSystems) <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.mobisystems.msdict.embedded.wireless.oxford.oxfordworldhistory>
- **European History** (Alphonso SoftTech) <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.alphonso.android.bookviewer.books.europeanhistory>
- **Indian History in English** (Sudhakar Kanakaraj) <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.whitire.apps.en.india.history>
- **Chronology of Ancient India** (Graylogic Technologies) <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.glt.chronology>
- **Study AP World History** (Wasim Sandhu) <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.wsandhu.studyapwh>
- **Historia World** (Olivier Tranzer) <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/historia-world/id570560724?mt=8>

OPEN CULTURE

Free online courses

www.openculture.com/freeonlinecourses

ARCHAEOLOGY Courses section

1. Out of the Past (David Webster and William T. Sanders)

DEMOGRAPHY Courses section

1. Demographic Trends and Problems of the Modern World (David Coleman)

ECONOMICS Courses section

1. Capitalism: Success, Crisis and Reform (Douglas W. Rae)
2. Crisis, Globalization and Economics (Roberto Mangabeira Unger)
3. Economic History of the Soviet Union (Guinevere Liberty Nell)
4. History of Economic Theory (Dr. Shivakumar)
5. Mexico's Economy: Current Prospects and History (Robin Grier)
6. The Eurozone Crisis (Tyler Cowan, Alex Tabarrok)

GEOGRAPHY Courses section

1. Economic Geography of the Industrial World (Richard Walker)
2. Geography of World Cultures (Martin Lewis)

ANTHROPOLOGY Courses section

1. Anthropology of the South Pacific (Patrick Kirch)
2. Introduction to Biological Anthropology (Terrence Deacon)

HISTORY Courses section

1. A Tale of Three Super Powers (Joseph Huges)
2. African-American History: Emancipation to the Present (Jonathan Holloway)
3. Asia in the Modern World: Images & Representations (John Dower)
4. Australian Aboriginal History (Richard Broome)
5. China: Traditions and Transformations (Peter K. Bol & William Kirby)
6. Early Imperial Russia (Adrian Jones)
7. Early Modern Germany (David Wetzel)
8. Epidemics in Western Society Since 1600 (Frank Snowden)
9. Europe and the World: Wars, Empires, Nations 1648 – 1914 (David Wetzel)
10. European Cultural History, 1500 – 1815 (George Mosse)

3. World Religions, Peoples, and States (Nathan Sayre)

3. Introduction to Cultural and Social Anthropology (Arizona State)
4. Witch-Hunt Persecutions (Nicholas Herriman)

11. European Cultural History, 1660 – 1870 (George Mosse)
12. European Cultural History, 1880 – 1920 (George Mosse)
13. France Since 1871 (John Merriman)
14. History of Iran to Safavid Period (Richard Bulliet)
15. History of the Modern Middle East (Richard Bulliet)
16. History of the World to 1500CE (Richard Bulliet)
17. International History and Global History Since 1945 (Daniel Sargent)
18. Medicine and Public Health in American History (Chris Hamlin)
19. The Ancient Mediterranean World (Isabelle Pafford)
20. The Ottoman Empire (Adrian Jones)
21. The Rise and Fall of the Second Reich (Margaret Anderson)
22. War and Peace: International Relations Since 1914 (David Wetzel)

RELIGION Courses section

1. Medieval Church (Carl Trueman)

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES Courses section

1. Australian Environmental History (Richard Broome & Katie Holmes)
2. Blue Planet: Introduction to Oceanography (Edwin Schauble)
3. How Climate Works (Multiple professors)

4. The Atmosphere, the Ocean, and Environmental Change (Ronald B. Smith)
5. Wildlife Ecology (William Bean)

PUBLIC HEALTH Courses section

1. Epidemiology and Control of Infectious Diseases (Tomas Aragon)

TEXTBOOKS

(Material available at www.amazon.com)

Text Material – According to your budget: preview everything you can about each book, and pick which ones you're most interested in first.

1. Prehistoric Life (DK Publishing)
2. Timelines of History (DK Publishing)
3. Geography: A Visual Encyclopedia (DK Publishing)
4. Ocean: The Definitive Visual Guide (DK Publishing)
5. Timelines of Science (DK Publishing)
6. The Silk Road: A New History (Valerie Hansen)
7. The Greatest Stories Never Told: 100 Tales from History to Astonish, Bewilder, and Stupefy (Rick Beyer)
8. The Greatest Presidential Stories Never Told: 100 Tales from History ... (Rick Beyer)
9. The Greatest War Stories Never Told: 100 Tales from History ... (Rick Beyer)
10. The Ultimate Visual Dictionary (DK Publishing)
11. Lies My Teacher Told Me: Everything Your American History Textbook Got Wrong (James W. Lowen)
12. The Book of General Ignorance (John Mitchinson)
13. Firearms: An Illustrated History (DK Publishing)
14. China History: A New Manual 4th Edition (Endymion Wilkinson)

PODCASTS

World History Podcasts compensate for classroom and campus discussion. They will allow you to be immersed in social conversation of the material contrary to the lecture form of many of the above media.

1. History Extra
2. A History of the World in 100 Objects (Neil MacGregor)
3. The Memory Palace (Nate DiMeo)
4. Bizarre States (Jessica Chobot and Andrew Bowser)
5. To the Best of Our Knowledge (Wisconsin Public Radio)
6. BBC World War One
7. Rex Factor (Graham Duke and Ally Hood)
8. History of World War Two Podcast (Ray Harris Jr.)
9. Stuff You Missed in History Class
10. Oxford Dictionary of National Biography
11. Philosophize This! (Steven West)
12. Witness (BBC World)
13. Snap Judgment
14. The Writer's Almanac (Garrison Keillor)
15. History on Air
16. Hardcore History
17. History According to Bob (Bob Packett)
18. Matt's Today In History (Matt Datillo)
19. Binge Thinking History Podcast (Tony Cocks)
20. BackStory with the American History Guys
21. Laughing Historically (The Modern Day Pirates)

WORLD HISTORY CURRICULUM

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Potential Careers, Creative Compensations, and Condensed Wisdom

Pink = Education-based

Blue = Writing-based

Green = Research-based

POTENTIAL CAREERS IN THE FIELD OF WORLD HISTORY

Many of these span two or three of the colored categories above. The color correlation used is the more defining form of the vocation.

Business Analyst

History Teacher

Cultural Resources Management

Journalist

Documentary Editor

Archivist

Librarian

Litigation Support

Records Manager

Information Manager

Anthropologist

Writer / Editor

Publications Researcher

Preservation/Restoration Assistant

Legislative Aide

Intelligence Officer

Historian

Museum Curator

Archaeologist

Paleontologist

Continuity Editor (Art/Entertainment)

BRIEF CAREER DESCRIPTIONS

Archaeologist: Studies human activity in the past, primarily through the recovery and analysis of the material, culture, and environmental data left behind.

Anthropologist: Person with an extensive knowledge of anthropology who uses this knowledge in their work, typically to solve problems specific to humanity.

Archivist: An information professional who assesses, collects, organizes, preserves, maintains control over, and provides access to records and archives determined to have long-term value.

Business Analyst: Someone who analyzes an organization or business domain and documents its business or processes systems, assessing the business model or its integration with technology.

Continuity Editor (Art/Entertainment): Professional on (or off) set of an art or entertainment production that ensures factual continuity of non-fictional material.

Cultural Resources Management: Vocation and practice of managing cultural resources, such as the arts and heritage.

Documentary Editor: Edits and/or reviews the content of a documentary to ensure factual continuity of the material to be presented.

Historian: A person who researches, studies, and writes about the past, and is regarded as an authority on it.

History Teacher: An educator/historian that teaches History as a subject to students – usually concentrating on a particular category of historical content.

Information Manager: Organizes efforts involving the acquisition of information from one or more sources, the custodianship and the distribution of that information to those who need it, and its ultimate disposition through archiving or deletion.

Intelligence Officer: A person employed by an organization to collect, compile and/or analyze information which is of use to that organization.

Legislative Aide: Assists in the necessary functions required of an operative legislative body; including research, writing, and the analytical evaluation of data.

Librarian: Works professionally in a library, providing access to information and sometimes social or technical programming.

Litigation Support: Provides support for legal efforts through the research and acquisition of historical proof and/or continuity of concept.

Museum Curator: A content specialist responsible for an institution's collections and involved with interpretation of heritage material.

Paleontologist: Scientifically studies the existence of life prior to, and sometimes including, the start of the Holocene Epoch (approx. 11,700 years before present).

Publications Researcher: Researches in the necessary fields for the sake of providing continuity of facts (or exposing falsities) in the realm of publications.

Preservation/Restoration Assistant: Aide in the work of philanthropic or environmentalist efforts.

Records Manager: The professional responsible for records management in an organization.

Writer / Editor: A person who uses written words in various styles and techniques to communicate ideas.

EXPERIENTIAL SELF-EDUCATION IN WORLD HISTORY

A University Degree is a certificate verifying your aptitude in a particular field. Completing 100% of the World History Curriculum (with a Superficial, Conceptual, and Technical comprehension of the material) will merit you a Master's Degree equivalent in the field of World History knowledge. Because your education is unconventional, it is up to you to discover a creative way of exhibiting your mastery of the field to future employers. This curriculum provides a means of aptitude, not a guaranteed opportunity (...yet).

This section of the curriculum gets as close as possible to providing condensed wisdom traditionally only attained through experience in professional or institutional settings (universities, labs, sites, etc.). Mastering all the details and particularities of the information below (bolstered by your knowledge from above) will produce the technical skill necessary to (somewhat) seamlessly transition into most of the careers listed above without much orientation needed.

PROOF/EVIDENCE

- **Concrete Evidence** – As far as discovery, verification, and/or any reference to past events goes: concrete evidence is the single most important reference for a historian. This seems a no-brainer. A meticulous study is necessary to verify the true nature of the concrete evidence – not appearances alone.
- **Secondary concrete implication** – Finding secondary or unexpected material surrounding the site of a missing expectation is an opening to several new potentials, or modifiers to currently existing theories and/or axioms.
- **Logical Theory Alone** – The more dependent on facts your theories are, the more credibility they will have. The easier it is for you to explain a complex theory in brief and simple terms, the better your understanding of the principles you're talking about. --"Because we found all these A's in B territory, we've referenced some C's and D's and after the collection and analysis of E data; we got ourselves an F. Here's some more correlating data from G's..."
 - Just because you can orate on the matter doesn't make you automatically correct; but if you *can't* explain it simply, you don't fully understand it.

LOGICAL DEDUCTION

- Logical Deduction is our greatest tool for unlocking the past.
 - How do you know not to run in the street? Memory. What if your memory was erased and you came across an expressway: would a human ignorant of expressways cross? No. Why? Zoom-zoom-zoom. Take an adult human, shake their brain empty until they're about as astute as a toddler (without mobility hindrances): does that guy cross the street? Unlikely. Why? Zoom-zoom-zoom. That zooming might produce a negative effect on your person (whatever that effect might be). Logical deduction is inherent and automatic in most animals to some degree – it's (part of) what acquired reflexes are made of. Humans have the advantage of being able to deduce things *from* our deductive capacity.
- **The Complete Stories of Sherlock Holmes (by Arthur Conan Doyle)** are lessons on observation and deduction put in narrative form. They are a part of the curriculum. *Stories not written by Doyle – such as shows, movies, etc. – are not substitutions for the books/audiobooks (they are entertainment, not instruction).* Apply the advice and maxims from the books to specialized and everyday illations.

EXCAVATION

- **The most important mental components in any excavation are Information and Patience. The most important physical component to an excavation is Sensitivity.** Once a discovery prompts excavation, the immediate surroundings of the discovery are to be analyzed and referenced to the discovery's culture. Once the diameter of the site has been established, sensitive unearthing begins at the spot of discovery or at its perimeter, depending on circumstances (unless prompted to do otherwise by factors or other discoveries surrounding the site).
- Compensatory practices involving equivalent (mental and physical) concepts:
 - **Weeding** –with surgical utensils. It's not fun, but it hones sensitivity. Any sort of activity relying on the sensitive extraction of something is beneficial.
 - **Dusting Detailed Objects** that are laden with coats of dust – without touching the object. The goal is to get it looking brand new without handling it.
 - **Detailed Art (Makeup/Sketching/Painting/Etc.)** – Learning to do any detailed artistic practice/design requires patience, concentration, and sensitivity on a scale almost greater than that of handling historical objects – due to the additional element of color, and personal safety (for makeup).
 - Highly detailed artistic practice hones a patience and sensitivity that is applicable to many other career fields.

AGING OBJECTS

- **DATING AN OBJECT(S) OR PLACE(S)**
 - **Radiocarbon Dating** measures the atomic decay rate of carbon and correlates paucity of carbon-14 with age.
 - **Layering/Stratification** – When dealing with locations, generally, if one place (or thing) is on top of another, the places on top are the most recent. Terrain and atmospheric shifts can potentially blur the lines, but this principle is mostly just common sense. The newest is the one on top.
 - **Deduction** is using all those mental resources you're so proud of to play an elimination game. What is the absolutely, positively, *latest* time in history that X item/place could've existed? Now the earliest? Chop your way down to the truth until you have a time span cornered.
 - Concentrate on local societal and geographic factors of that time span. Then regional societal and geographic factors. Then global.
 - Gain as much info as you can on everything, and see if the dots connect as you thought, or in a different fashion, or not at all
 - **Pattern Recognition**
 - Does the thing look familiar to you? Does it look familiar to a colleague or peer? If so, from where – and *when*? If the X People had Z Pattern, and your item also has Z Pattern, there is a possibility of a correlation. The thing is: B Pattern looks a lot like Z Pattern. Are you sure this isn't a B?...The greater your store of knowledge, the more instantaneous (or even automatic) your cross-referencing ability.
- **THE EFFECTS OF TIME ON AN OBJECT(S) OR PLACE(S)**
 - **Imperfections** on an object are the keys to its past. Was the damage (or defacing) slow or immediate? Through what means was it administered?
 - Comprehension of **Microbial and Microscopic Chemical Influences** is one of the best tools you can have at your disposal as a historian. The very best clues to history can be on the microscopic scale. Use all the tools you can get a hold of as a magnifier to feel the texture of the surviving past.
 - **Intentional, Accidental, and Environmental Damage** – it happens. Rein in every single informational resource you have at your disposal, set the place (or item) in front of you, and visualize time rewinding the object at super speed (decades per second).
 - Practicing this will hone your ability to rapidly scan the history of places and things. Your accuracy is dependent upon your knowledge and concentrating capacity. This is a tool for personal improvement; it is not (and never will be) a credible source for reference.

PERSPECTIVE / EMPATHY

- Cultural, Genetics, and Health/Survival are the factors that affect decision-making. It is mandatory to have as much information on each of these factors before you can have any worthwhile understanding of the way the people you are studying behaved. Without information on cultural or survival influences, you don't have anything to work with but theory and conjecture.
- When dealing with history, you're dealing with humans. It's important to take human psychology into account. What's at the forefront of human psychology? Survival – for the most part. Anything else?...Pleasure seeking...And after that there are a myriad of other things; but survival is more often than not necessary for those other things to even be relevant.
 - **What was the status of the mental and physical security (of the people you're studying) on the daily basis? Monthly? Yearly? Mental and Physical Security always has, and always will, set the standard for all human behavior (from the individual, to groups, to nations).**

WRITING

- Objective, factual, writing opportunities include: **Non-fiction, Historical Textbooks, and Alternate History Fiction.** (*Alternate History fiction involves taking any or many of the billions of key events in history and running it on a – realistic – different course of events based on existing possibilities).
 - Alternate History is technically fiction, but respectable alternate history will be fact-based and realistic in every manner of psychology, sociology, technology, and cause and effect.
- **An Ancient History Travel Writer** is a potential new idea (if it doesn't already exist). This would involve putting together histories of the ancient world and **creating factually-correct fictional travelogues, brochures, and/or full comprehensive volumes about the existing civilizations of the time** you're concentrating on – perhaps even from the perspective of a factual third-party.
- Journals and Essays are self-explanatory. Whatever topic piques your interest (or that of your employer) will be expounded on (textually) in X fashion.

REFERENCING

- Purchase a very large ledger (or notebook, or binder)) and use it as a **Running Reference Book** for all of your written works. Include the Title of References, Title of Your Work, Section, Paragraph, Etc. and a 1 – 2 sentence synopsis of the Reference and its relevance to your work.
- **Credibility** – The bottom line to any declaration of a human being is: **"Based on what?"** If you cannot readily answer this on your topic, you have no credibility.
- **Cross Referencing** – Unless one source is all there is (in the world) for your subject, one source is never enough. Neither is a mere two. To be correct all the time, you must have overwhelming proof for each assertion (whether public or private/internal opinion).

INDUSTRY

- **Historical Totems** – These would be useful or superannuated items from the past (made out of the same materials). The market may be limited for this, but the limited clientele are likely to be enthusiasts who are appreciative of your efforts. Learning the craft and construction styles of several different periods will increase the likelihood of landing the commissions or sales you're interested in.
- **Historical Past Parks** – Not a novelty park with typical fare, not a medieval fair, a veritable time machine requiring change of dress and abandoning of electronics – or any anachronistic technology (except medical devices). Visitors can stay up to a full month, dollars can be exchanged for replica monies of the period, and professionals and educators (in the realm of the park's era) will occupy positions of people from that time.
 - The idea of the park would be education through experience. The most difficult part in this entire venture would be the allowance of several archaic customs that break traditional convention. As long as it is not mentally or physically harmful to visitors, its fair game.
 - Use abandoned and desolate areas to recreate exact replicas of the most known ancient civilization on that land. (If a wilderness: attempt at forest-style recreation with closest modern relative flora). Different types of tours for different events/groups/etc. should be readily available.

EDUCATION

- If you do not enjoy what you do (educating), its unlikely anyone else is going to draw much enjoyment from you doing it. If you don't look forward to teaching, don't be a teacher. Look for an occupation that will have you looking forward to going to work.
- If you do love educating, the most important thing to remember is the readiness of available information. If you don't know something asked of you, your answer should be "let's find out". Using internet access (usually available on phones) to search and filter answers on your subject (*with* the individual who asked it) will likely produce answers – or at least information – in significantly less time than solo searching for answers 'later'. Simultaneously, you'll be starting a student of history in the habit of on-the-spot inquiry (a very profitable habit to get into).

METADATA PRACTICING

- In daily life, and in your intellectual pursuits, you should be taking **Running Tallies** of the several things that involve your career concentration. These do not have to be (though they should be) on paper. They could be running estimates in your head. Unwritten, ballpark metadata that is constantly being edited and filtrated for facts is better than *not* practicing and honing an ongoing internal database. The more you write down, the better.
- **Metadata is the key to Pattern Analysis.** Art is discriminated by the details. If you want to turn your practice into an art, you're going to need an understanding of metadata of all kinds. The general is the already known; to find the unknown, you need to cull the specifics, not the generalities.

ARCHAIC STANDARDS

- **Morality:** The only way to properly view the past is through the eyes of those whose civilization you are studying. It is immoral to judge ancient standards by contemporary moral standards. Not for philosophical reasons (to each their own), but because any emotion (from indignation to pride) warps your understanding of the material. After you thoroughly understand your subject, you're ready to emote. Until then, it's unprofessional to hold the ancient past to the present's standards. The standards of the past should only be compared to alternate standards of the same period (or earlier).
- **Law:** How the ruling power(s) interact with the public is crucial to every society. How did the public view the ruling power(s)? What were the reasons behind this specific set of laws/edicts/etc. that you are studying? The nature of the law gives you an indication of the entire society (through implication).
- **Family life:** With the exception of a handful of civilizations, family life has been largely patriarchal up until recent generations. Sometimes power was evenly distributed, sometimes the father/men ruled like tyrants. You will find the full spectrum of potential human behavior in every society you study. Individual family management will always be the most varied of human behavior. Each is a sub-culture within the societal culture.
- **Functionality:** It took humanity much time and brainwork to know what we now know (and share) today. Its important to know the history of the struggle for knowledge in order to understand how we engineered our way to the luxury of present day technology.
- **Psychology:** Those of the technological age have a bad habit of assuming that the previous generations of humanity were inferior in their reasoning (simply because some of their ideas seem silly by today's standards). See: "Morality".

RECOVERY AND PRESERVATION

- The reasons for being interested in recovery and/or preservation are: a preservationist nature, a personal connection (or sense of possession) toward X, the progression of Public Knowledge of/on X, and/or the potential for Yielding Profit by the recovery/preservation of X.
- Whatever the reason, the most important thing is that the item(s)/place(s) in question should be in a situation that best allows for optimal preservation.

TECHNOLOGY

- The technology used in the tasks of world historians is intentionally not listed here. Find that out for yourself. But before you do that, ponder this for a second; with what you know of the technology available today: how would *you* go about excavating or discovering what's underneath the earth – while being as sensitive as possible with the material? What techniques would you use (or create) to see what can't be seen underground? After pondering that for a few minutes (or days), then start researching excavation technology. Why should you ponder before research? You guess. Why is it suggested?

PATTERN ANALYSIS

- Pattern Analysis is the first step of pattern recognition – which is the basis behind all sciences, and even lifetime functionality itself. Conscious animals are able to act on things entirely because of pattern analysis. A life in which everything is new would hardly be a life at all. (Even in conditions of memory deterioration, we still recognize more than enough to function, even if not optimally. Complete loss of pattern analysis would mean forgetting how to sit and stand, forgetting what language is and the sounds of everything, and forgetting the normal patterns of movement required of physical functioning).
- Pattern Analysis is the key to conceptualization, which is at the very heart of understanding anything.

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