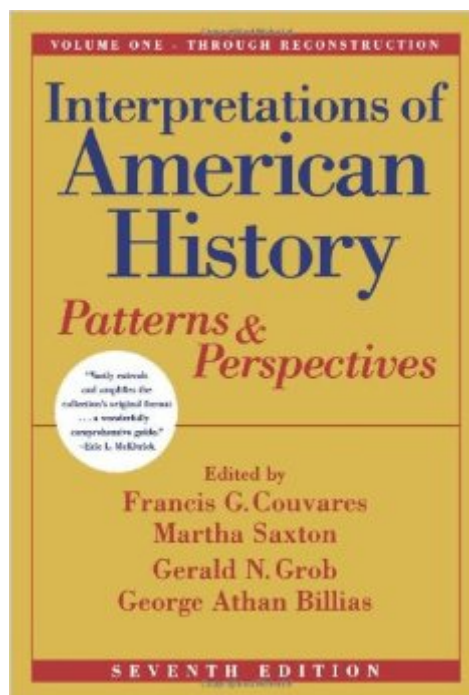


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Contrary to conventional wisdom, no area of study is outdated more quickly than history, and no time has been more turbulent for the discipline than our own. This classic point/counterpoint reader in American history, now in a completely revised and updated seventh edition, takes note of history's impermanence, giving voice to the new without disposing of the old. In ten lively chapters, essays by the editors introduce dialectical readings by distinguished historians on topics from the Puritans through Reconstruction. The essays and readings address history's timeless questions: "The American Revolution: Social or Ideological?," "The Constitution: Conflict or Consensus?," and "Slave Culture: African or American?" New readings are included on African Americans, women, and immigrants. In the fray of debate, eminent historians from Perry Miller and Allan Nevins to Eric Foner, Gordon Wood, and Carol Sheriff struggle to interpret the past. The editors' essays moderate these passionate arguments and offer a clear, distanced vision of the changing character of history. They explain how history has usually been viewed through the lens of the present and demonstrate with sparkling historiography that the discipline is as contemporary as the headlines of today, as vital as the problems of tomorrow.

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This book is an excellent read that supplements additional topics in early American colonial history. It is a great companion book for the period.

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