

#ret #disorganized #incomplete

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# 1 | history? essay.

## 1.1 | prompt

title: Prompt

**\*\*Origin narratives for the United States\*\***

The telling of American history has become one of the focal points of conflicts over our national culture.

In a 2-3 page, double spaced essay, evaluate how the authors we've read so far approach the telling of American history.

summary: what are the key considerations in constructing an American history narrative. say these with explicit engagement with the texts.

how to frame early years of American colonialism is a better anti-racism a framing on colonialism?

to understand what should be in the narrative, we need to understand the purpose of the narrative? we shouldn't have a narrative? narrative should be ever changing to solve societal problems?

### 1.1.1 | more planning

can't have one simple narrative

narratives: events filtered by framework, turned into a story

value structures, project narratives onto them America good: America ended slavery, we should be the heroes!

vs. America bad: America was built on slavery and sin

#### **the narrativisation process:**

values narrative structure events

filter events on values fit into narrative structure

narrative absorbed into populace changes/creates – perpetuates – populates values

there is no complete narrative – what should the narrative be? one of many.

narratives are true but not complete

narratives do not need to be complete to be true to have truth?

narratives incomplete incomplete truths revealed narrativization process

rough outline:

- narrativisation process
  - values filter events
    - \* distortive!
  - events fit into narrative structure
    - \* distortive!
  - narrative creates values
    - \* creates distorted/incomplete values!

- big point:
  - \* narratives are inherently distorted/incomplete
- narrativisation
- america good
- america bad
- both have truth
  - we should look to multiple narratives
    - \* embrace the truth in each even when they conflict
- conclusion
  - we have to live with multiple narratives

thesis: narratives are inherently distorting, and thus we must not operate under a singular narrative