

# 1 | What is History?

:CUSTOM\_ID: what-is-history

- History is an academic discipline.
  - Also category of knowledge.
  - Different from Humanities.
- Concerned about past.
  - ONLY PAST TENSE
    - \* Literature analysis can be present tense.
- History is about people.
  - Concerned about way people have lived
  - How societies have changed over time
  - Organization of past societies
  - How do people experience the world and change?
- Epochs- major transitions.
  - Big decisions that seem small at time but are actually large
- Periodization
  - Categorizing the Past
    - \* Imperial/Dynastic
    - \* Arts/Culture
    - \* Technological
    - \* Politics
  - Contradictory
  - Which one captures it the best?
  - Historiography
- Three big meta-categories of all knowledge
  - Science
    - \* Imperial, observational
  - Social Science
    - \* Political science, sociology
    - \* Tries to isolate patterns in the world
    - \* Simplify the world
  - Humanities
    - \* Complexify things
      - Create more complexity in our knowledge, more layers.
    - \* All the things that social studies isn't.
- Anthropology
  - Studying culture

## **2 | Links**

Further metadiscussion on history can be found in Types of History.