

# HIST 250

# A History of History

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Ian Milligan  
Assistant Professor

Joseph Buscemi  
PhD Candidate



UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO  
FACULTY OF ARTS  
Department of History



CANADIAN BATTLEFIELDS FOUNDATION  
FONDATION CANADIENNE DES CHAMPS DE BATAILLE

## BATTLEFIELD STUDY TOUR 28 MAY TO 12 JUNE 2016

Now in its 22<sup>nd</sup> year, the Canadian Battlefields Foundation Study Tour is intended for Canadian university students who want to learn more about the role Canadians played in the liberation of Europe in the World Wars. This year's tour, led by Professor Marc Milner (University of New Brunswick) will visit Ypres, the Somme, Vimy Ridge, Dieppe, the Normandy battlefields, and participate in ceremonies marking the 72th anniversary of D-Day.

The Foundation offers a bursary to each successful applicant but requires them to contribute \$1000 towards the cost of the tour, which includes air and ground travel from Toronto, accommodation, meals, and study materials.

Twelve students will be expected to prepare for the trip academically, to lead one on-site discussion, present a short biography of a Canadian soldier buried at one of the sites on the itinerary, and keep a detailed journal and blog describing their experiences.

Outstanding undergraduates, graduate students, and very recent graduates are encouraged to apply.

The on-line application form can be found on the CBF's website at [www.cbf-fccb.ca](http://www.cbf-fccb.ca). Applications for the 2016 tour are due February 29th, 2016.

For more information, contact:  
Professor Marc Milner, [milner@unb.ca](mailto:milner@unb.ca) or  
David Patterson, [dave@softours.com](mailto:dave@softours.com).

# Quick Tips

- Accessing library resources from home (i.e. the American National Biography Online)
- You don't have to pay! :)



Search Google or type URL



**Tutorials after class!**  
(on tutorial days we will try  
to end a few minutes early)

# | 10:30 Tutorial

- Jessica Carter
- Svetomir Ignjatovic
- Shannon Larsen
- Spring Orlik
- Kelly Garcia
- Hilary Neeb
- Nicolini Volovic
- Nolan Finkelstein
- Sarah Oeste
- Ezra Beudot
- Charles Michael Pavey
- Sarah Johnston
- Travis Longland

# 11:30 Tutorial

- Andrew Prosser
- Brandon Semus
- Dahlia Kechrid
- Hyo Jeong Kim
- John Cruise
- Krenare Recaj
- Kristen Marumoto
- Kristen McDougall
- Martha Charters
- Michael Soares
- Rebecca Little
- Stephen Casta

# Recap

- What is history?
- The idea of historicism
  - Avoiding anachronism
  - Understanding historical context
  - Ideas of historical progress

How did the western  
historical tradition  
evolve to bring us  
there?

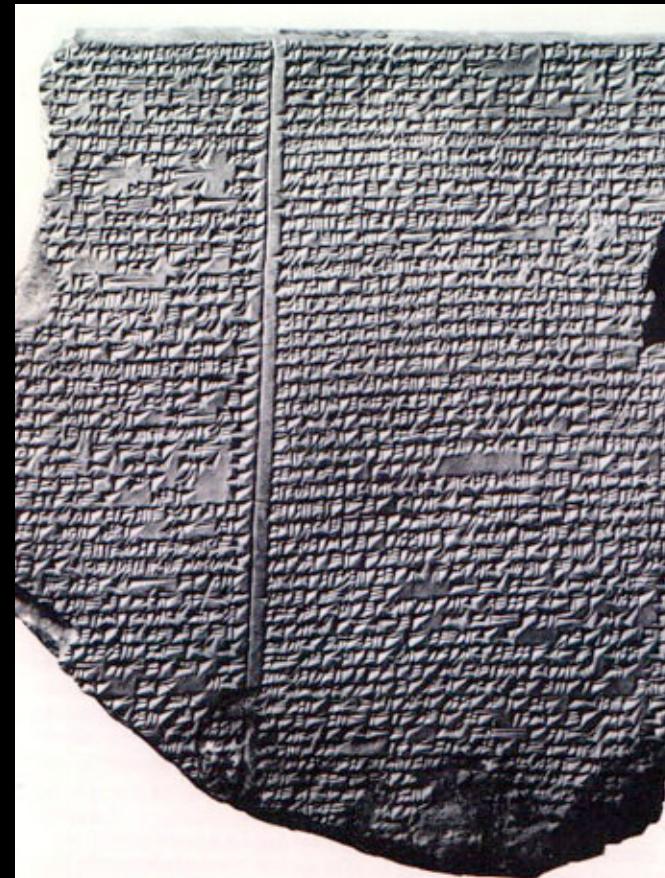
(i.e. a story of dead  
white guys, but that still  
matters)

We need to know  
where we came from.

# Pre-Histories

# Mythopoetic Narratives of the Past

- A Mythical View of Time and Space
- A Belief in the Eternal Recurrence of Cycles
- Absence of Progress

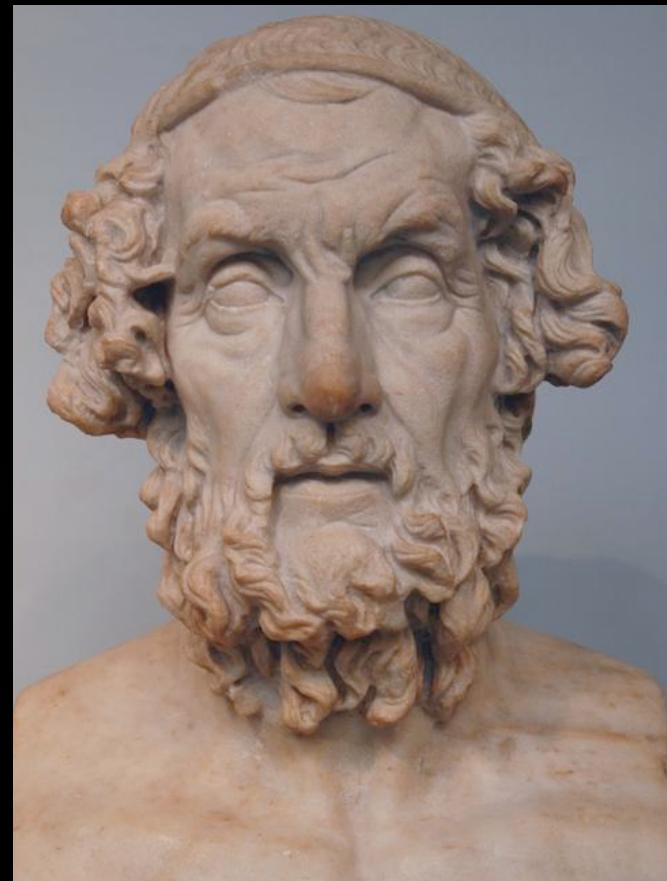


Is this history?



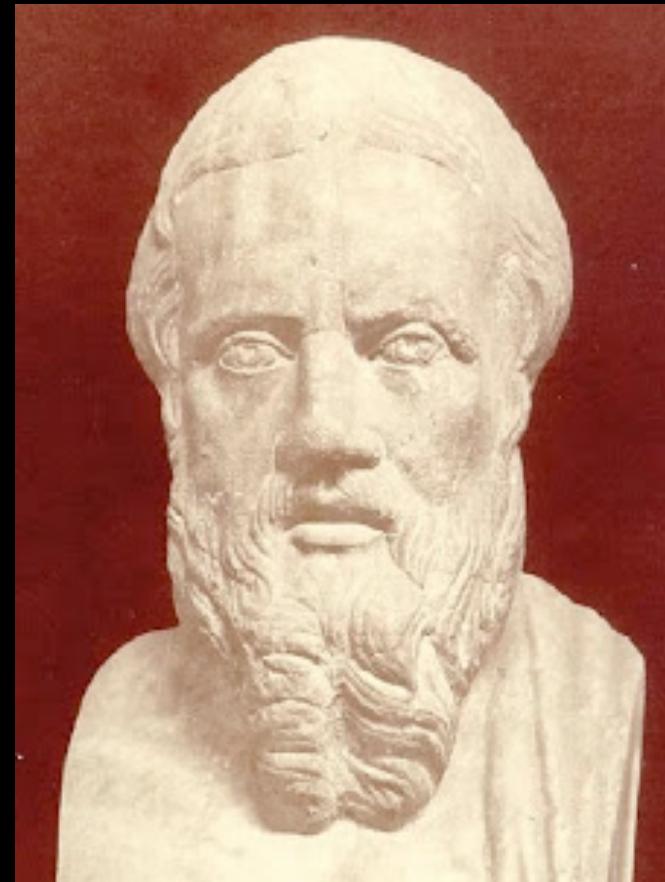
# The Greek Tradition

- The beginning of “**HISTORY**”, properly understood
- **Homer**, 6th Century BCE



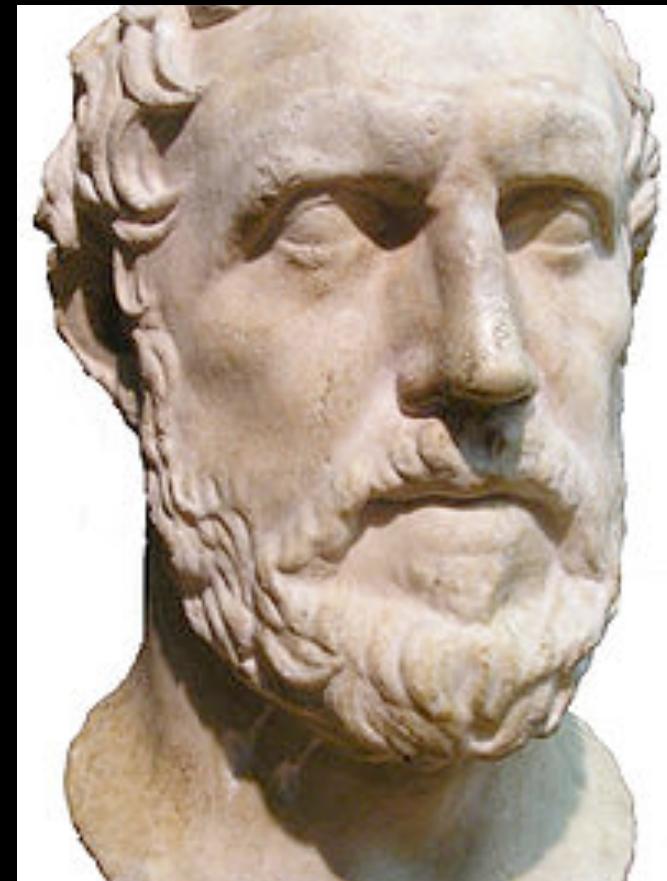
# The Greek Tradition

- HERODOTUS  
(484-425 BCE)
  - Fan of Homer, but a critic too
  - The *Histories*



# The Greek Tradition

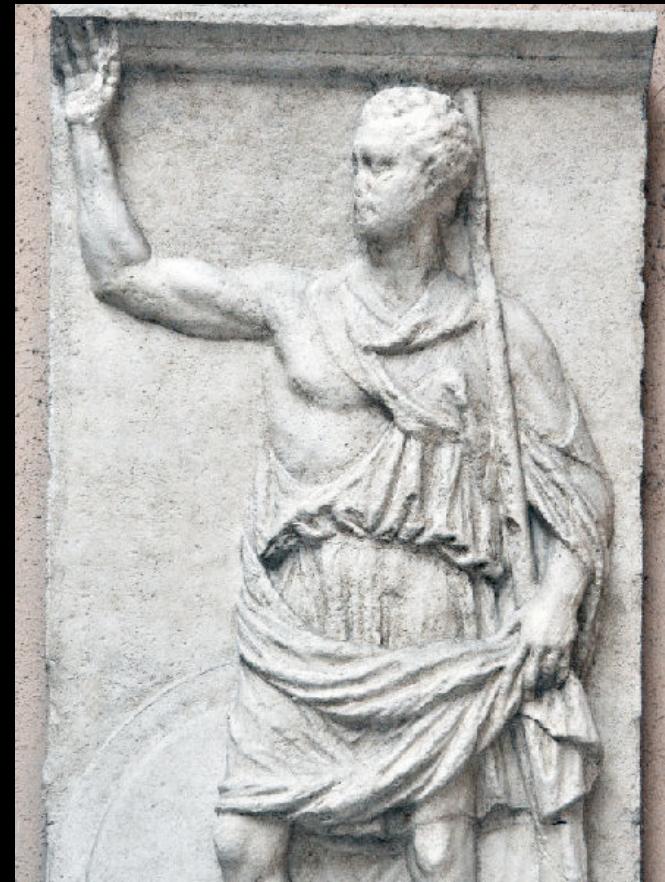
- THUCYDIDES  
(460-400 BCE)
  - *History of the Peloponnesian War*





# The ~~Greek~~ Roman Tradition

- **Rome**
  - Polybius (at right)
  - *The Rise of the Roman Empire*



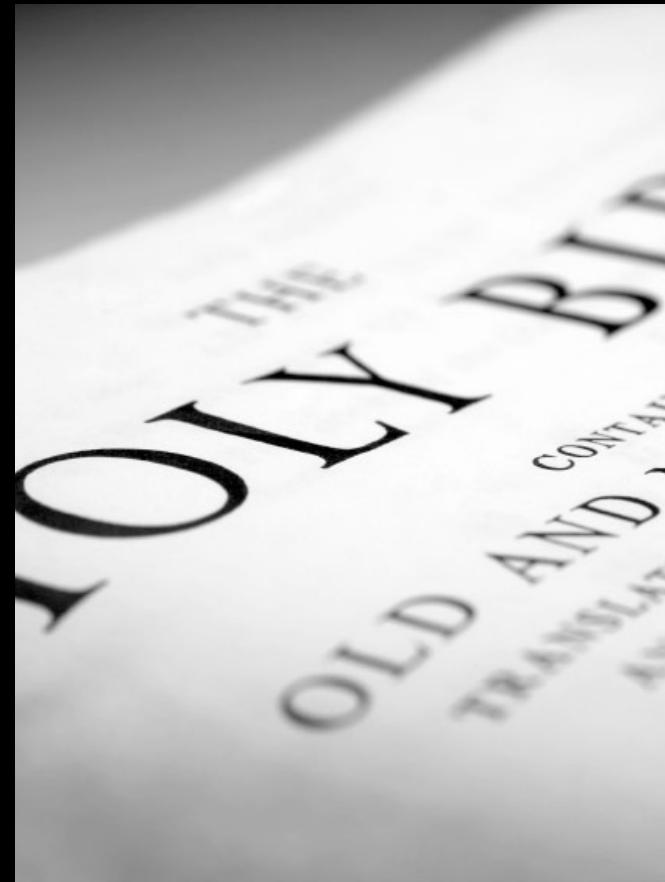
# The ~~Greek~~ Roman Tradition

- **TACITUS** (56-120 CE)
  - Strict Objectivity

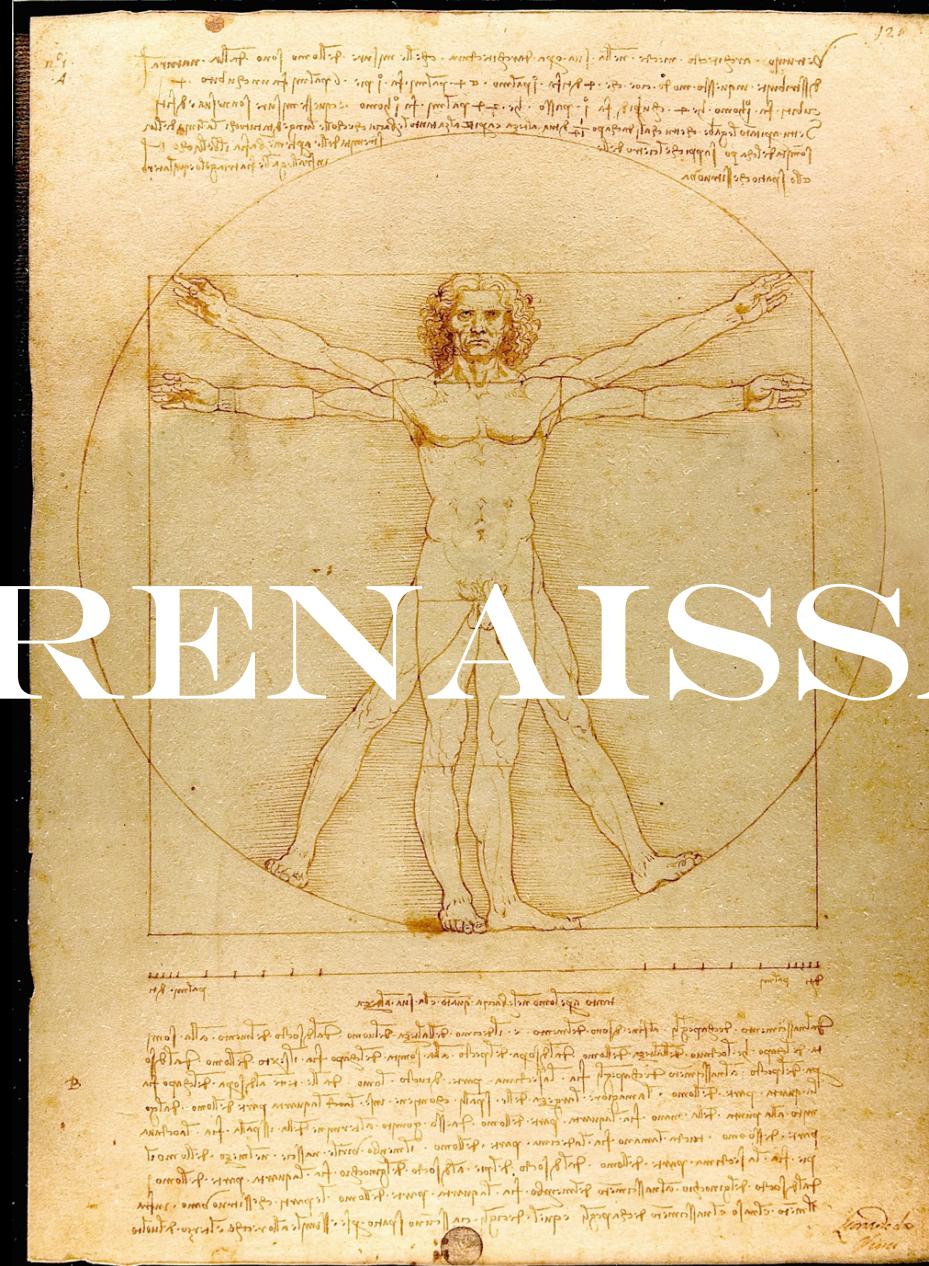


# The Christian Tradition

- Bible as a **historical narrative**
- Eusebius (275-339 CE)
- Augustine (354-430 CE)



# THE RENAISSANCE



# Renaissance

- A return to **Greco-Roman** art, philosophy, architecture... and, yes, histories
- Rise of **PERIODIZATION**



# RENAISSANCE

- Leonardo Bruni  
(1369-1444)
- Francesco Guicciardini  
(1483-1540) - ‘the  
**Father of Modern  
History**’



# RENAISSANCE

- Niccolò di Bernardo  
dei Machiavelli  
(1469-1527)
- 1532: *The Prince*



# Protestant Reformation

# HIST 250

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## PART TWO

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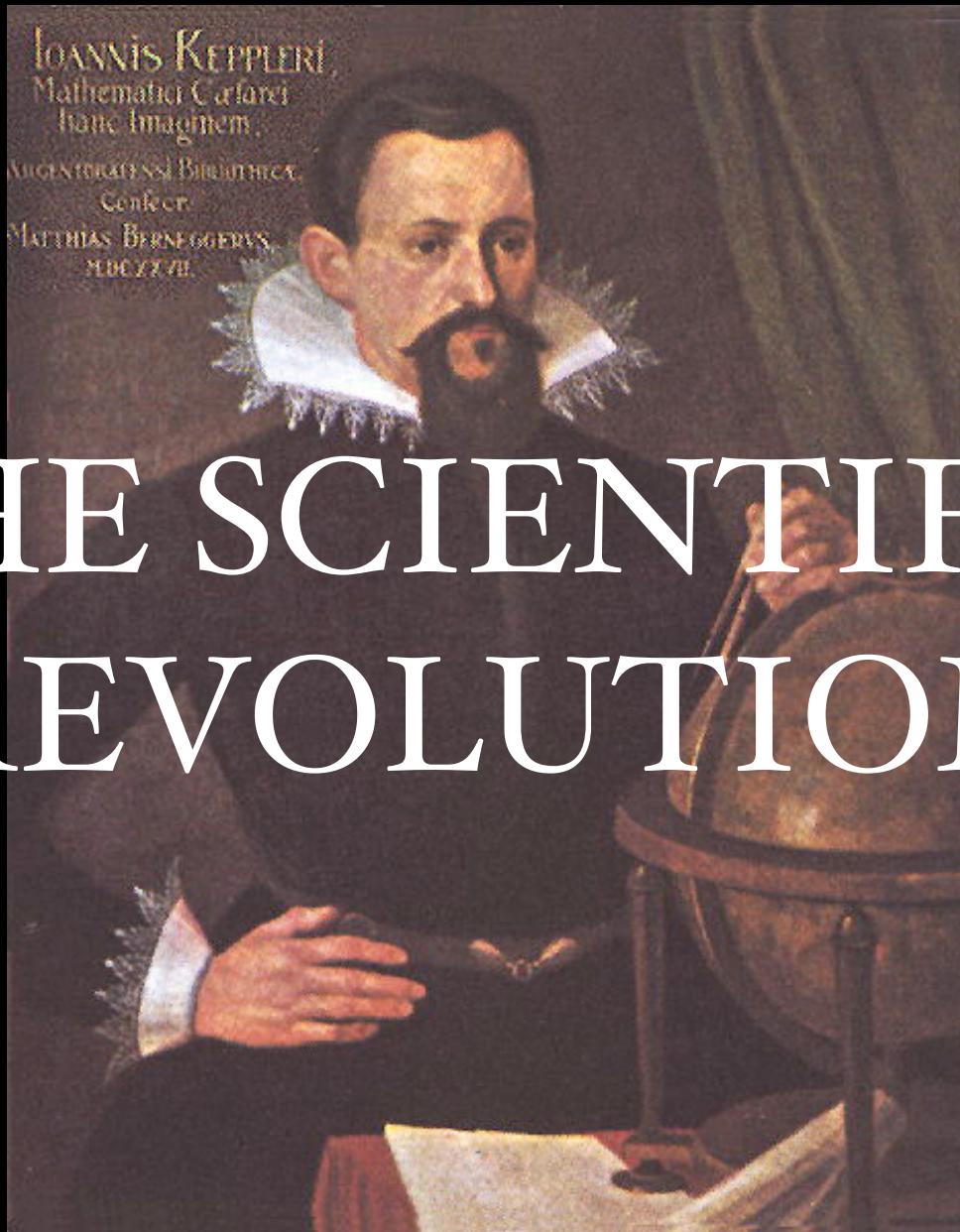
**Library: Meet in the  
Lobby, next to the Cafe,  
in a big gaggle. Look for  
Jane Forgay.**

**Archives: Meet in the  
Archives, Lower Level**

**(turn right @ cafe,  
down stairs). NO  
FOOD/DRINKS/  
PENS!**

# History of History, Pt. I

- **Greek/Roman** (Herodotus, Thucydides, Polybius, Tacitus)
- **Christian** (Eusebius, Augustine)
- **Renaissance** (Bruni, Guicciardini, Machiavelli)



# THE SCIENTIFIC REVOLUTION

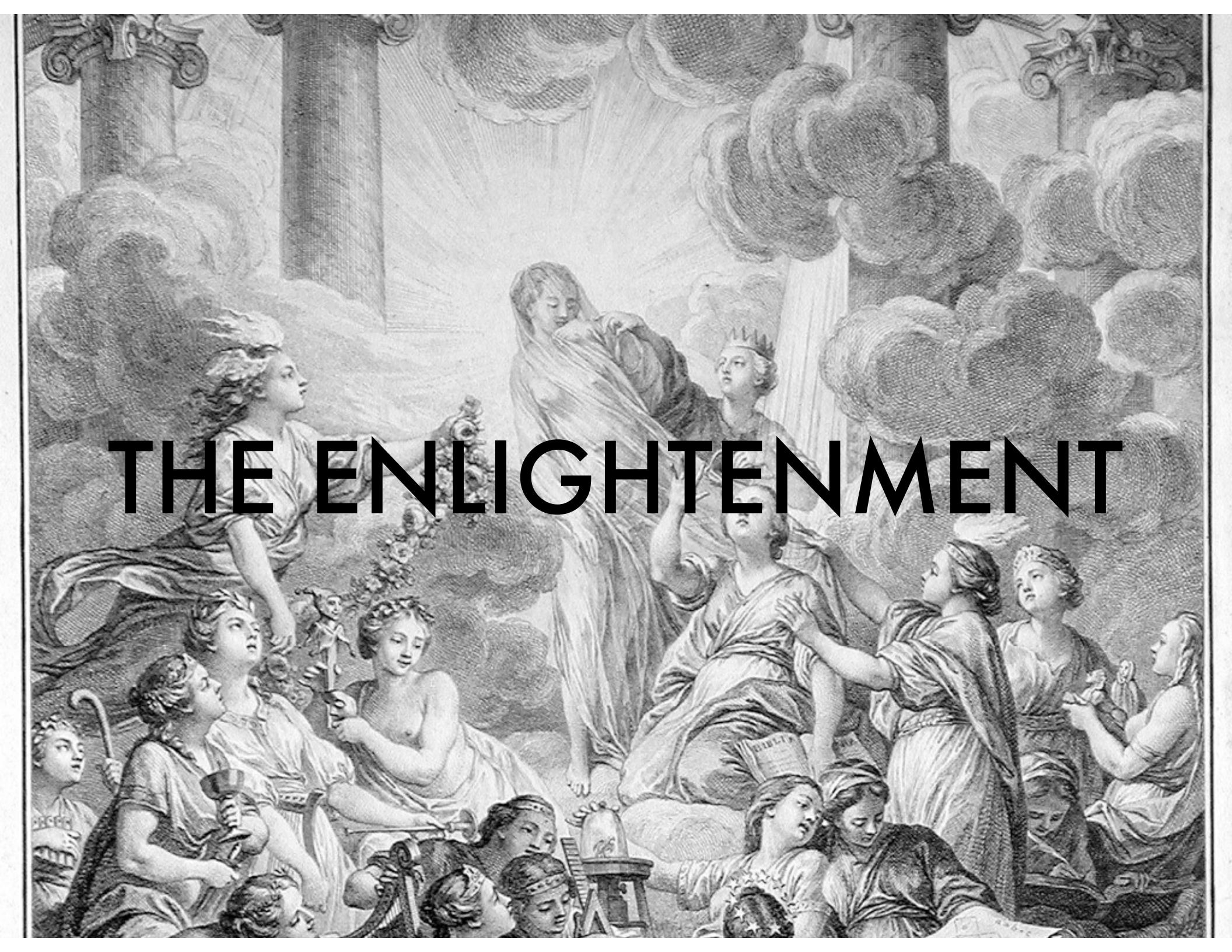
# Scientific Revolution

- Francis Bacon (1561-1626) and **EMPIRICISM** {at right}
- Jean Bodin (1530-1596) and his **lessons**



1560s, 1570s, we have  
the rise of  
**historicism**

**(the sense that the past is a different  
world, studied on its own terms)**

A black and white engraving depicting a scene of enlightenment and reason. In the center, a large figure, possibly personifying Reason or Philosophy, sits enthroned, holding a book and a torch. She is surrounded by a group of people, mostly women, who are looking up at her in admiration or seeking guidance. Some individuals are holding books, while others are engaged in various activities like playing a harp or holding a wine glass. The background features classical architecture with columns and a sky filled with clouds and rays of light, symbolizing divine inspiration and clarity.

# THE ENLIGHTENMENT

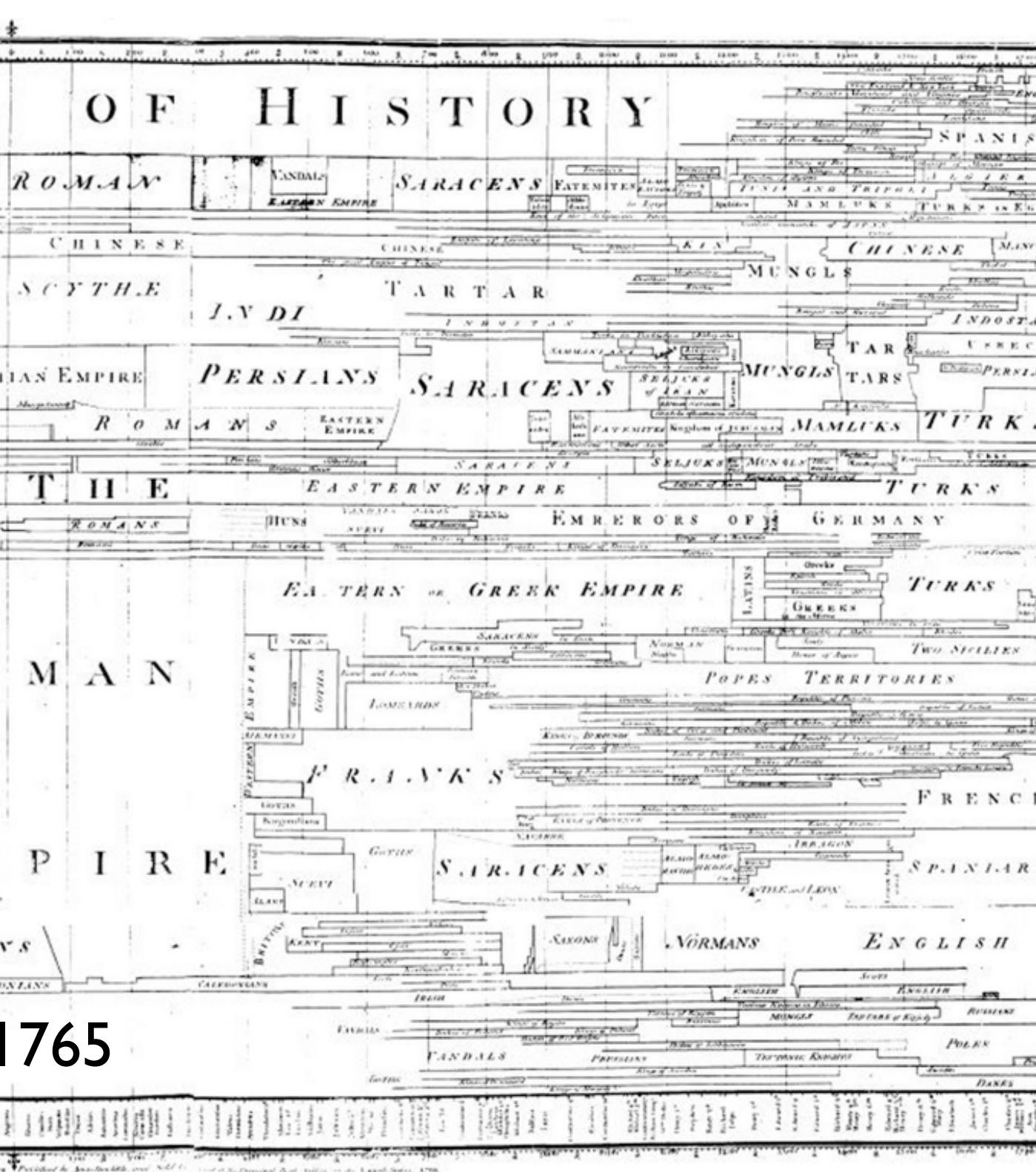
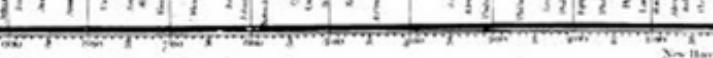
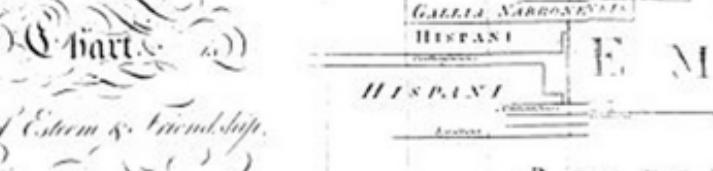
# PROGRESS

# NEW CHART OF HISTORY



**EXPLANATION OF THE CHART.**

This chart is intended to exhibit a series of events, or epochs, in chronological order, of the principal nations and their dominions, from a period anterior to the creation of the world, up to the present time. The date of the creation of the world is considered as a point of reference, and the date of the birth of Christ is taken as the epoch of history. The reigns of the principal monarchs, and the dates of the most important events, are given in the chart, and the reader will find it convenient to refer to the corresponding columns of the chart, and to compare them with the dates of the principal events, in order to determine the approximate date of each event. The reader will also find it convenient to refer to the chart, and to compare them with the dates of the principal events, in order to determine the approximate date of each event.



1765

Franklin & D. S.

Chart

Esteem & Friendship  
Gentleman

By his most Honorable  
Hand,

Joseph Priestley

# Enlightenment Historians

- François-Marie Arouet (1684-1778), also known as **Voltaire**
- Purpose of history: study the errors of the past in order to teach rulers and leaders to help their societies **PROGRESS**



# Enlightenment Historians

- Johann Gottfried von Herder (1744-1803) offered a **different view...**
- The idea of **cycles of the VOLK**
- All cultures in various stages had their own **value systems, worthy of equal attention**



# Enlightenment Historians

- Mary Wollstonecraft (1759-1797)
  - *Vindication of the Rights of Women* (1792)
- Past as continuity, of oppression of men
- Ignored...

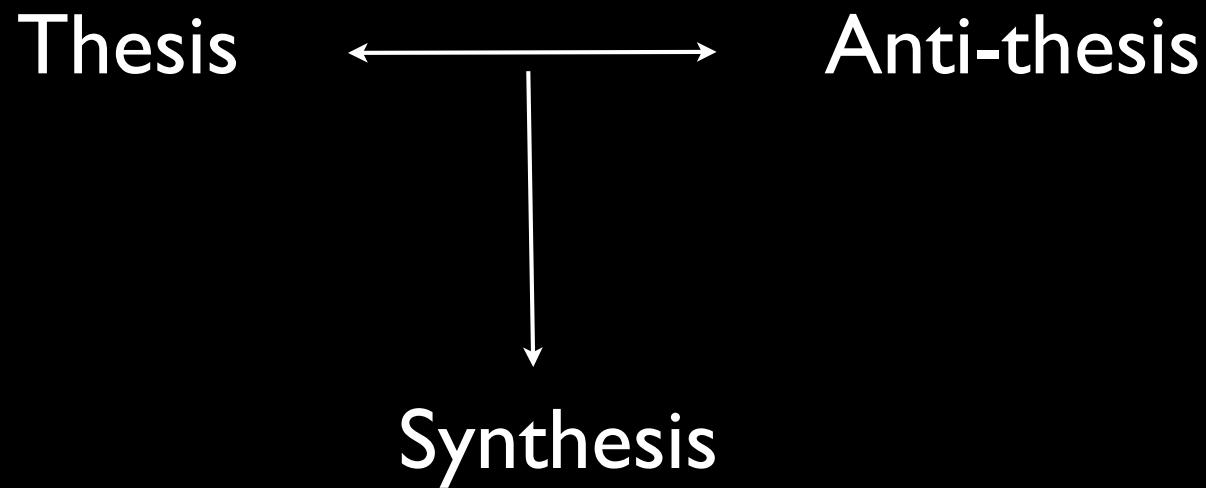


Most enlightenment  
historians =  
study the past of progress

And then the 19th  
Century

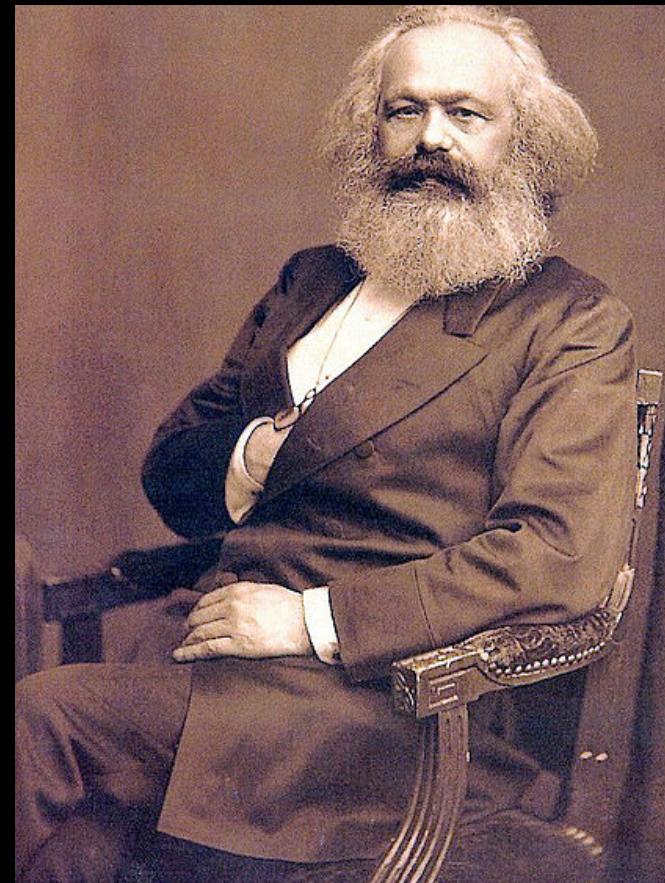
# Hegel and Idealism

- Georg Wilhelm Hegel (1770-1831)
- Agrees with progress, but comes up with idea of all things in nature giving rise to their opposites
- The “IDEA” - the progress of the consciousness of freedom



# MARXISM

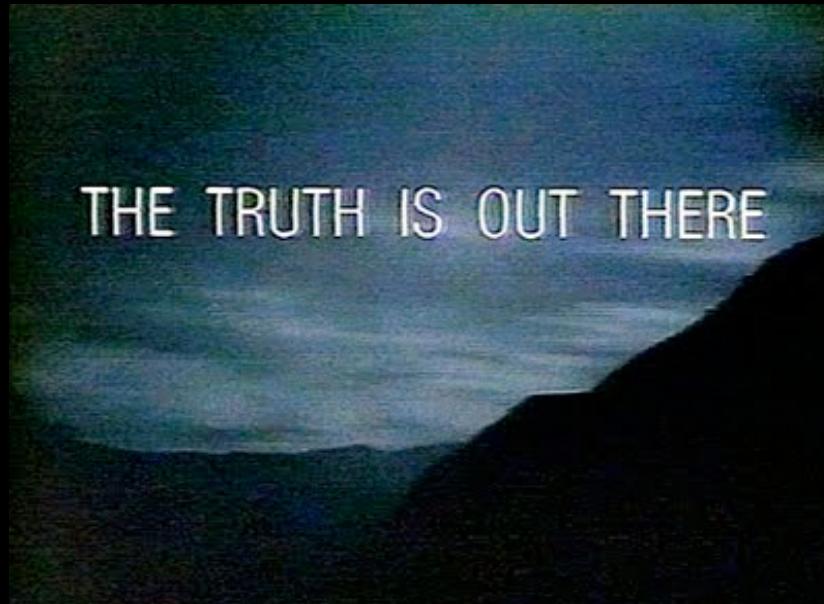
- Karl Marx (1818-1883)
  - Influence of Hegel
  - *History of Capitalism*
  - Real, Concrete,  
Observable Evidence



# EMPIRICISM

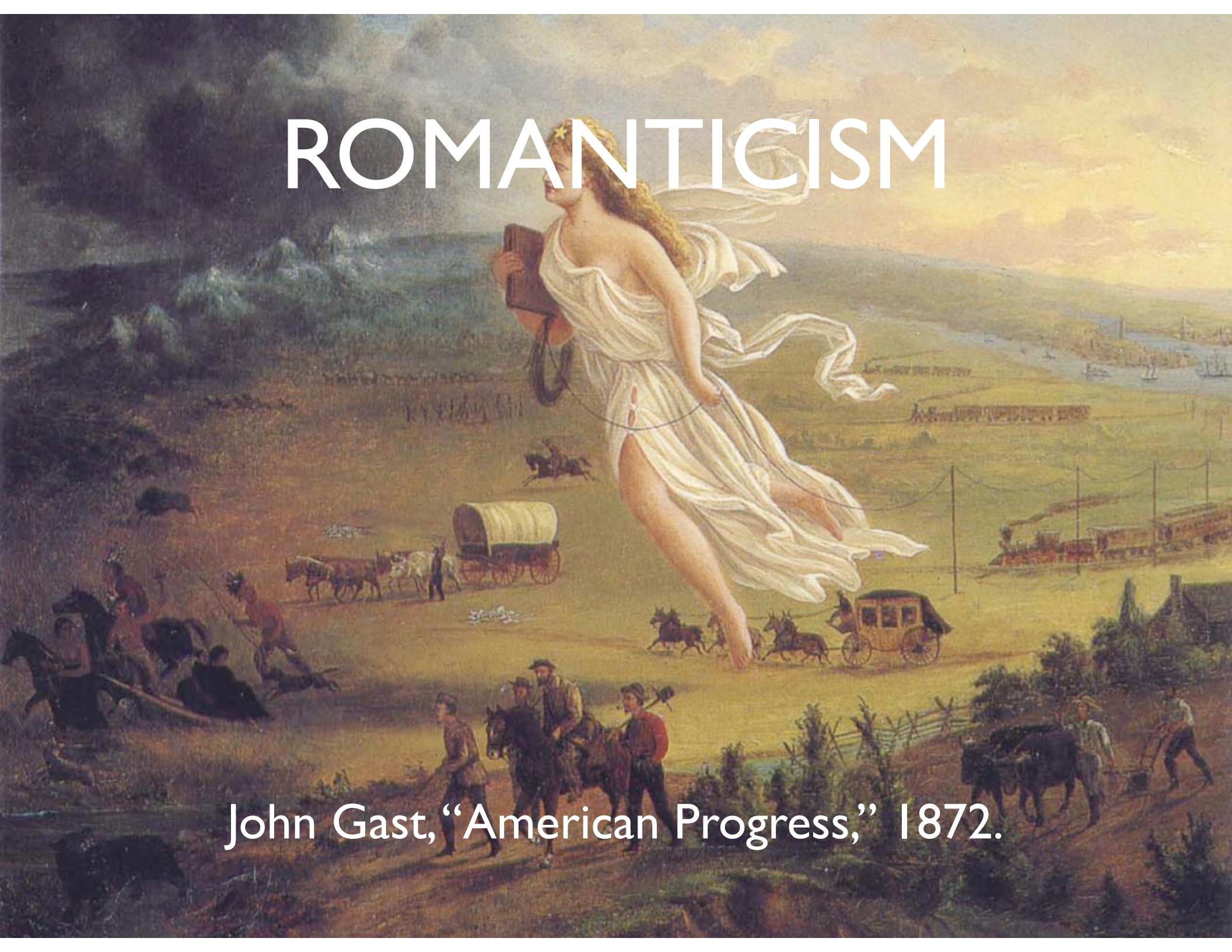
- Leopold von Ranke  
(1795-1886)
  - Berlin University
  - The superstar of his day
  - Find the truth





THE TRUTH IS OUT THERE

# ROMANTICISM



John Gast, "American Progress," 1872.

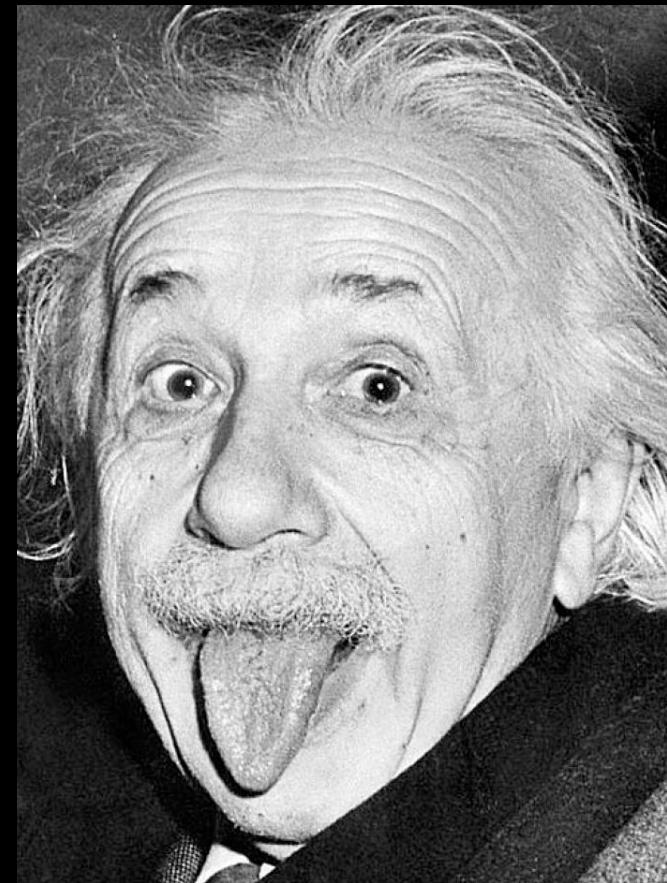
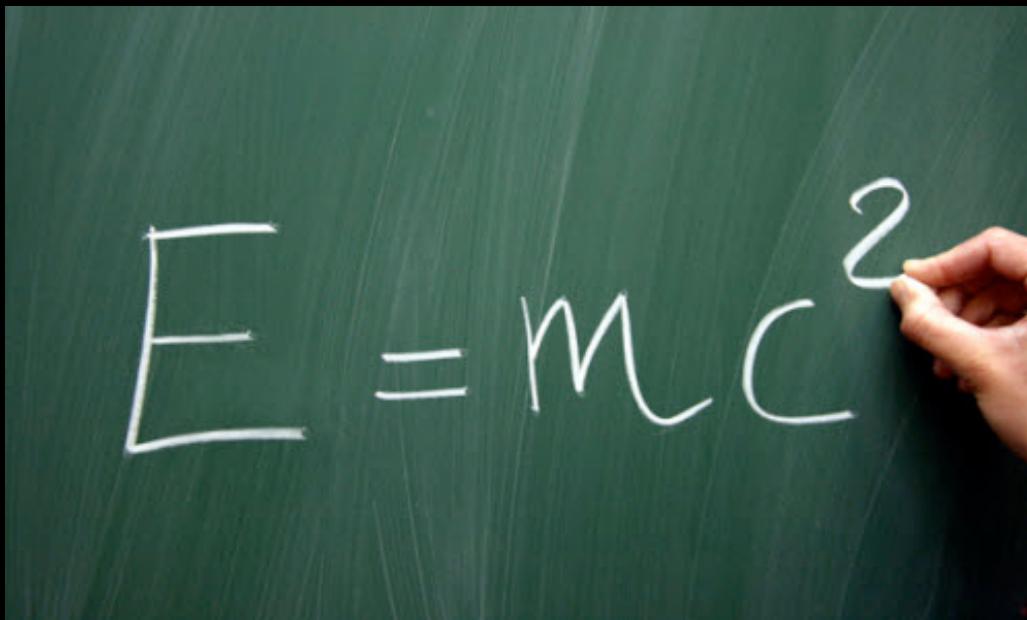
# Professionalization

- American Historical Association (1884)
- National histories



# The Last Chapter: Relativism, Pragmatism, and Progressivism

# Relativity

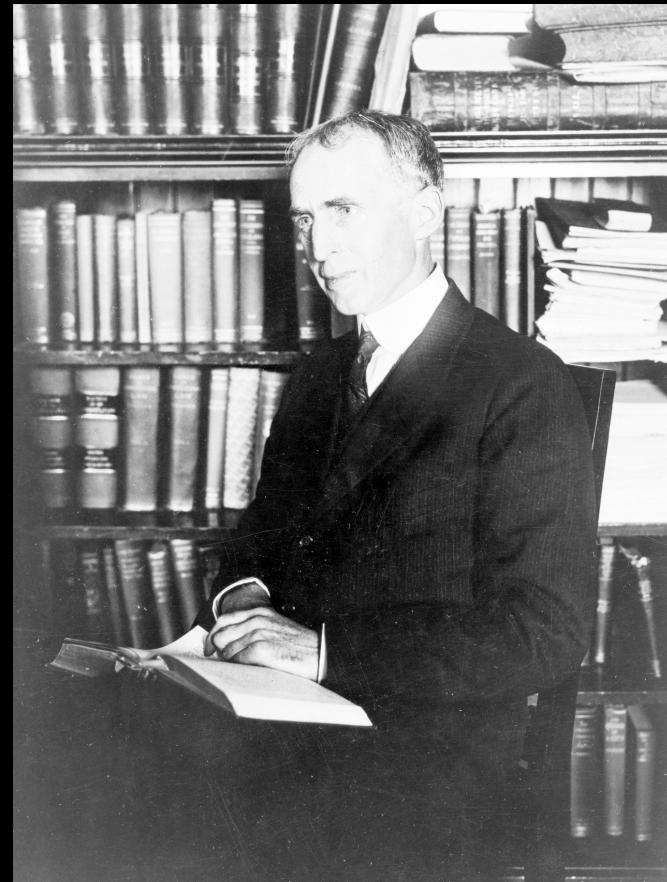




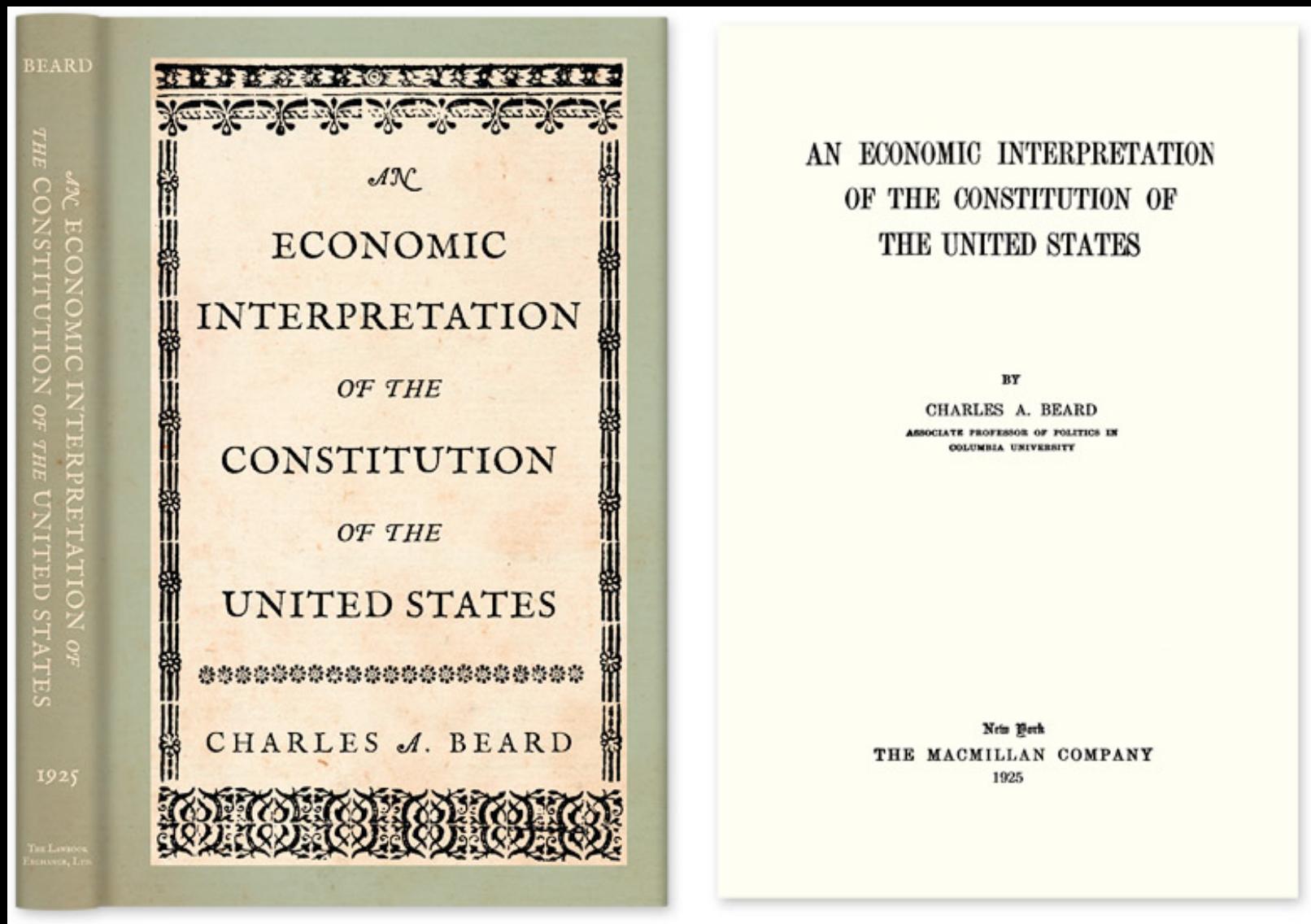
0286.

# Relativity

- Charles Beard  
(1874-1978)
- Knowledge is conditional and relative to the individual seeking it
- AHA President 1935



# Relativity



# Relativity

- Mary Ritter Beard  
(1876-1958)
- Meets Charles as a grad student @ Columbia
- *Women as a Force in History* (156)



# Back to the Consensus



We've made it!

(but to be continued...  
as it all fragments into  
cool little bits)

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