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History

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## Lecture 0 Notes: What is History?

### Note-taking During a Lecture:

- Include a title
- Jot key terms/ideas for reference
- Listen, don't copy the slide
- Synthesize what is said --> what is important
- Use abbreviations/short hand
- Lists and indentations to organize
- Ask questions!

### What is History?:

- Inquiry into the past
  - Understanding people/societies/groups
  - Factors that make up our world
  - Understanding decisions

### Historiography:

- History of *how history* has been written
- Reflects present-day concerns
  - Ancient Korea/China
  - 17th/18th century Europe
  - 70s --> ethnic, cultural studies, ~~present-day concerns~~, fairly new

### The How of History:

- Facts & interpretation
- Defining what 'facts' really are
  - Example: Sir Walter Raleigh established English colony, came from interpretation of documents + records
- Complicating factors
  - Intentional change, error, damage, meaning

### Methodology: Empiricism:

- Evidence-based observation

- Draw hypothesis
  - Hypothesis becomes Theory of Events
  - Things can change theory of events
    - New evidence
    - Okay with *uncertainty*
    - Debate
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