

new history of capitalism

New History of Capitalism: Unpacking the Complex Evolution of an Economic System

new history of capitalism has emerged as a vibrant and transformative field of study over the past few decades, reshaping how scholars, economists, and historians perceive capitalism's development. Unlike traditional economic histories that often focused narrowly on markets, profits, and industrial growth, the new history of capitalism dives deeply into the social, cultural, and political dynamics that have interacted with economic systems throughout history. This approach offers a richer, more nuanced understanding of capitalism—not just as an abstract system of trade and finance, but as a lived reality shaped by race, labor, gender, and power.

Understanding this fresh perspective is crucial for anyone interested in the forces that have shaped modern economies and societies. So, let's explore the new history of capitalism, its key themes, and why it matters so much for interpreting the world today.

The Emergence of the New History of Capitalism

The traditional narratives about capitalism often celebrated the rise of free markets, industrial innovation, and the expansion of global trade as the engines of progress. However, scholars increasingly recognized that such accounts overlooked critical aspects—especially the role of marginalized groups and the darker side of economic expansion. The new history of capitalism emerged as a corrective to these blind spots.

Rather than viewing capitalism solely through the lens of economic growth or market efficiency, this new approach considers how capitalism has been intertwined with social hierarchies, coercive labor systems, and political power. It asks questions like: How did slavery and colonialism contribute to capitalist development? What roles did race and gender play in shaping labor relations? How did state policies influence economic inequalities?

This interdisciplinary inquiry brings together historians, sociologists, economists, and anthropologists, allowing a fuller picture of capitalism's evolution to come into focus.

Key Contributors and Influential Works

Several pioneering scholars have shaped the new history of capitalism. Historians like Sven Beckert and Seth Rockman have explored how slavery and forced labor underpinned the growth of American capitalism. Beckert's book *Empire of Cotton* is a landmark study revealing how the global cotton industry was central to capitalism's expansion and how it was deeply connected to imperialism and slavery.

Similarly, scholars like Tiya Miles and Walter Johnson have illuminated the ways race and labor intersect in capitalist history. Their work challenges the notion that capitalism developed in a vacuum, showing instead how it was built on racialized exploitation.

These contributions have sparked vibrant debates and inspired new research agendas, pushing the field into exciting new territories.

Core Themes in the New History of Capitalism

To grasp the depth and breadth of the new history of capitalism, it is helpful to break down some of its central themes. These themes reveal how capitalism cannot be understood simply as an economic mechanism but must be analyzed within broader social and political contexts.

Capitalism and Slavery

One of the most striking revelations of the new history of capitalism is the integral role of slavery in fueling the accumulation of capital, particularly in the Atlantic world. Contrary to earlier assumptions that slavery was a pre-capitalist relic, recent studies demonstrate how enslaved labor generated immense wealth, which in turn financed industrialization and global trade networks.

This understanding complicates the narrative of capitalism as a purely liberating force and highlights the brutal exploitation that was foundational to its rise.

Labor, Race, and Gender

Labor is at the heart of capitalism, but the new history of capitalism pays special attention to who performs that labor and under what conditions. It explores how race and gender have shaped labor markets and economic opportunities.

For example, the field investigates how Black and Indigenous peoples have been systematically excluded from economic benefits or subjected to exploitative labor. It also examines women's work—both paid and unpaid—and how capitalist economies have depended on gendered divisions of labor.

These insights challenge simplistic notions of free labor markets and reveal the social inequalities embedded in capitalist systems.

State Power and Capitalism

Another important dimension is the relationship between capitalism and government. Far from being a system that functions independently of the state, capitalism often relies heavily on state institutions to enforce property rights, regulate labor, and manage financial markets.

The new history of capitalism explores how states have actively shaped economic development, sometimes promoting growth and at other times protecting elite interests. This theme underscores the political nature of capitalism and its dependence on legal and institutional frameworks.

Why the New History of Capitalism Matters Today

Understanding the new history of capitalism is not just an academic exercise—it has profound implications for how we think about economic justice, policy, and the future of global economies.

Reassessing Economic Inequality

By highlighting the historical roots of inequality, including the exploitation of marginalized groups, the new history of capitalism provides a critical perspective on contemporary economic disparities. It helps explain why wealth and opportunity remain unevenly distributed and challenges narratives that attribute inequality solely to individual merit or market forces.

This awareness can inform policies aimed at addressing systemic inequities and promoting more inclusive economic growth.

Informing Debates on Reparations and Social Justice

The recognition of slavery and racial exploitation as foundational to capitalist wealth has fueled discussions about reparations and social justice. The new history of capitalism supplies the historical evidence needed to support these debates, demonstrating that contemporary inequalities are not accidental but deeply rooted in economic history.

Rethinking Economic Models and Education

Incorporating the new history of capitalism into economic education encourages a more holistic understanding of markets and economies. It promotes critical thinking about how historical power dynamics influence economic outcomes and opens up space for imagining alternative economic arrangements.

How to Engage with the New History of Capitalism

For readers intrigued by this fresh perspective, there are several ways to deepen your understanding.

- **Read foundational books and articles:** Starting with works by Sven Beckert, Seth Rockman, and related scholars can provide a strong grounding.
- **Follow academic journals and public lectures:** Many universities and research centers now host talks and publish accessible articles on these topics.
- **Participate in discussions and forums:** Engaging with communities interested in economic history can broaden your perspective and introduce you to diverse viewpoints.

- **Reflect on contemporary issues:** Apply insights from the new history of capitalism to understand current economic debates, such as labor rights, globalization, and racial justice.

By exploring this field, you gain a richer understanding of capitalism—not just as an economic system but as a complex, evolving force shaped by human struggles, power relations, and cultural shifts.

The new history of capitalism continues to unfold as scholars uncover more stories and connections that challenge conventional wisdom. It invites us all to reconsider the past and rethink the future of economic life in a way that is more inclusive, honest, and insightful.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the 'new history of capitalism' movement?

The 'new history of capitalism' is an interdisciplinary approach that examines capitalism not only as an economic system but also through its social, cultural, and political impacts, emphasizing issues like race, gender, and labor.

How does the new history of capitalism differ from traditional economic history?

Unlike traditional economic history, which focuses mainly on economic data and market mechanisms, the new history of capitalism incorporates social, cultural, and political contexts, exploring how capitalism shapes and is shaped by human experiences and power relations.

Who are some leading scholars in the new history of capitalism?

Prominent scholars include Sven Beckert, who authored 'Empire of Cotton,' and Heather Boushey, who explores labor and inequality; others like Caitlin Rosenthal and Edward Baptist have also contributed significantly.

What role does slavery play in the new history of capitalism?

The new history of capitalism highlights slavery as a foundational element of capitalist development, demonstrating how enslaved labor and racial exploitation were integral to the growth of global capitalism.

How does the new history of capitalism address issues of race and capitalism?

It critically examines how racial hierarchies and racialized labor systems have been essential to capitalist economies, revealing how capitalism perpetuates and depends on racial inequalities.

What is the significance of labor in the new history of capitalism?

Labor is central to the new history of capitalism, with scholars analyzing how workers' experiences, resistances, and labor relations shape and are shaped by capitalist systems.

How does the new history of capitalism incorporate gender analysis?

The movement explores how capitalism affects and is affected by gender roles, labor divisions, and inequalities, revealing the gendered dimensions of economic systems and practices.

In what ways does the new history of capitalism impact contemporary economic debates?

By providing historical context on inequality, exploitation, and systemic biases, the new history of capitalism informs discussions about economic justice, policy reform, and the consequences of capitalism today.

What methodologies are commonly used in the new history of capitalism?

Scholars use a mix of archival research, cultural analysis, economic data interpretation, and interdisciplinary approaches drawing from history, sociology, anthropology, and economics.

How does the new history of capitalism view globalization?

It analyzes globalization as a process deeply intertwined with capitalist expansion, emphasizing how global trade, imperialism, and transnational labor have shaped modern capitalism's development and inequalities.

Additional Resources

New History of Capitalism: Rethinking Economic Narratives in the 21st Century

new history of capitalism has emerged as a critical scholarly movement that reexamines the origins, development, and social impacts of capitalism beyond traditional economic frameworks. Moving away from purely quantitative or market-centered analyses, this approach integrates broader social, cultural, and political contexts to understand how capitalism has shaped, and been shaped by, various human experiences over time. As academic interest grows and public discourse intensifies around economic inequality, globalization, and systemic change, the new history of capitalism offers fresh insights into the complex dynamics that have defined modern economies.

Defining the New History of Capitalism

The new history of capitalism represents a paradigm shift in historiography. Rather than treating capitalism solely as a set of economic laws or market mechanisms, it explores capitalism as a historically contingent and socially embedded phenomenon. This interdisciplinary approach blends economic history with social history, cultural studies, and political theory to provide a more nuanced understanding of capitalism's evolution.

Traditionally, economic historians focused on metrics such as GDP growth, trade volumes, and financial institutions. In contrast, the new history of capitalism emphasizes the lived experiences of workers, consumers, and marginalized communities, examining how race, gender, and class intersect with economic systems. It also interrogates the roles of slavery, colonialism, and state power in shaping capitalist development, topics often overlooked in orthodox economic narratives.

Key Features and Themes

Several core themes characterize the new history of capitalism:

- **Interconnection of Capitalism and Social Structures:** Investigates how capitalism is intertwined with social hierarchies and cultural norms rather than existing as an isolated economic mechanism.
- **Role of Inequality:** Highlights how capitalist growth has frequently depended on exploitation, including racialized labor systems and gendered divisions of labor.
- **Global Dimensions:** Explores capitalism's expansion through imperialism and global trade networks, redefining it as a worldwide phenomenon with diverse regional impacts.
- **Institutional and Political Influence:** Analyzes how government policies, legal frameworks, and political power have facilitated or constrained capitalist enterprises.

Historical Reinterpretations and Case Studies

The new history of capitalism has prompted historians to revisit familiar narratives with critical scrutiny. For example, the role of slavery in the rise of American capitalism has been a focal point. Scholars argue that profits from enslaved labor were instrumental in financing industrial growth and banking institutions. This challenges earlier views that marginalized slavery's economic significance as peripheral rather than central to capitalist expansion.

Similarly, the examination of labor markets within the new history framework reveals how capitalist economies have perpetuated racial and gender disparities. The exploitation of immigrant labor in 19th-century factories or the exclusion of women from certain economic roles underscores capitalism's uneven distribution of benefits and burdens.

Comparative Perspectives

By comparing different capitalist models — such as the laissez-faire approach in the United States, the social market economies of Western Europe, and the state-led capitalism in East Asia — the new history of capitalism highlights how contextual political and social factors shape economic outcomes. For instance, the post-World War II welfare states in Europe attempted to mitigate capitalism's harsher effects through social safety nets and labor protections, contrasting with the more market-driven American experience.

Implications for Contemporary Economic Debates

Understanding capitalism through this enriched historical lens has profound implications for current policy discussions. Recognizing the structural roots of economic inequality encourages policymakers to address systemic issues rather than merely treating symptoms. For example, debates on wealth redistribution, corporate regulation, and labor rights gain depth when informed by the historical persistence of exploitation and exclusion.

Furthermore, the globalized nature of modern capitalism, with interconnected supply chains and financial markets, reflects patterns documented by new history scholars. This perspective fosters a critical awareness of how economic shocks, such as the 2008 financial crisis or the COVID-19 pandemic, reverberate across social strata and national borders.

Challenges and Critiques

While widely influential, the new history of capitalism also faces critiques. Some argue that its focus on social justice and inequality risks overshadowing the innovative and adaptive capacities of capitalist economies. Others caution against over-politicizing historical analysis at the expense of empirical rigor.

Additionally, balancing macroeconomic trends with micro-level social experiences remains a methodological challenge. The integration of diverse sources—from corporate archives to oral histories—demands interdisciplinary collaboration and nuanced interpretation.

Future Directions in Research

The evolving discourse around the new history of capitalism continues to expand, embracing new methodologies such as digital humanities and data analytics to uncover previously inaccessible archives. Emerging fields like environmental history intersect with capitalist studies to explore how economic growth has impacted ecological systems.

Moreover, increasing attention is being paid to capitalism's relationship with technology and innovation, particularly in the digital era. Understanding how automation, artificial intelligence, and platform economies reshape labor and capital dynamics is a critical frontier for historians and economists alike.

In summary, the new history of capitalism offers a comprehensive and critical framework that challenges simplified economic narratives. By situating capitalism within broader social, political, and cultural contexts, this approach enriches our understanding of past and present economic realities, fostering more informed discussions about the future of global economies.

New History Of Capitalism

new history of capitalism: American Capitalism Sven Beckert, Christine Desan, 2018-02-06
The United States has long epitomized capitalism. From its enterprising shopkeepers, wildcat banks, violent slave plantations, huge industrial working class, and raucous commodities trade to its world-spanning multinationals, its massive factories, and the centripetal power of New York in the world of finance, America has come to symbolize capitalism for two centuries and more. But an understanding of the history of American capitalism is as elusive as it is urgent. What does it mean to make capitalism a subject of historical inquiry? What is its potential across multiple disciplines, alongside different methodologies, and in a range of geographic and chronological settings? And how does a focus on capitalism change our understanding of American history? *American Capitalism* presents a sampling of cutting-edge research from prominent scholars. These broad-minded and rigorous essays venture new angles on finance, debt, and credit; women's rights; slavery and political economy; the racialization of capitalism; labor beyond industrial wage workers; and the production of knowledge, including the idea of the economy, among other topics. Together, the essays suggest emerging themes in the field: a fascination with capitalism as it is made by political authority, how it is claimed and contested by participants, how it spreads across the globe, and how it can be reconceptualized without being universalized. A major statement for a wide-open field, this book demonstrates the breadth and scope of the work that the history of capitalism can provoke.

new history of capitalism: The New History of Capitalism and the Methodologies of Economic History Vincent Geloso, Judge Glock, 2020 The rise of the "New History of Capitalism" as a subfield of historical studies has magnified differences between economists and historians which started to grow during the 1970s. We describe what is and what is not new about the "New History of Capitalism," and explain how the different methodologies of economists and historians often causes confusion about their fields' respective advantages and disadvantages. Yet we also emphasize that these different methodologies allow ample room for collaboration between the disciplines.

new history of capitalism: *The Oxford Handbook of Legal History* Markus D. Dubber, Christopher Tomlins, 2018-07-26 Some of the most exciting and innovative legal scholarship has been driven by historical curiosity. Legal history today comes in a fascinating array of shapes and sizes, from microhistory to global intellectual history. Legal history has expanded beyond traditional parochial boundaries to become increasingly international and comparative in scope and orientation. Drawing on scholarship from around the world, and representing a variety of methodological approaches, areas of expertise, and research agendas, this timely compendium takes stock of legal history and methodology and reflects on the various modes of the historical analysis of law, past, present, and future. Part I explores the relationship between legal history and other disciplinary perspectives including economic, philosophical, comparative, literary, and rhetorical analysis of law. Part II considers various approaches to legal history, including legal history as doctrinal, intellectual, or social history. Part III focuses on the interrelation between legal history and jurisprudence by investigating the role and conception of historical inquiry in various models, schools, and movements of legal thought. Part IV traces the place and pursuit of historical analysis in various legal systems and traditions across time, cultures, and space. Finally, Part V narrows the Handbooks focus to explore several examples of legal history in action, including its use in various legal doctrinal contexts.

new history of capitalism: Slavery's Capitalism Sven Beckert, Seth Rockman, 2016-09-05

Slavery's Capitalism explores the role of slavery in the development of the U.S. economy during the first decades of the nineteenth century. It tells the history of slavery as a story of national, even global, economic importance and investigates the role of enslaved Americans in the building of the modern world.

new history of capitalism: Capitalism's Hidden Worlds Kenneth Lipartito, Lisa Jacobson, 2020-01-24

A dynamic social history of shadow capitalism spanning the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Observers see free markets, the relentless pursuit of profit, and the unremitting drive to commodify everything as capitalism's defining characteristics. These most visible economic features, however, obscure a range of other less evident, often unmeasured activities that occur on the margins and in the concealed corners of the formal economy. The range of practices in this large and diverse hidden realm encompasses traders in recycled materials and the architects of junk bonds and shadow banking. It includes the black and semi-licit markets that allow wealthy elites to avoid taxes and the unmeasured domestic and emotional labor of homemakers and home care workers. By some estimates, the unmeasured economic activity that occurs within the household, informal market, and underground economy amounts to a substantial portion of all economic activity in the world, as much as 30 percent in some countries. *Capitalism's Hidden Worlds* sheds new light on this shadowy economic landscape by reexamining how we think about the market. In particular, it scrutinizes the missed connections between the official, visible realm of exchange and the uncounted and invisible sectors that border it. While some hidden markets emerged in opposition to the formal economy, much of the obscured economy described in this volume operates as the other side of the legitimate, state-sanctioned marketplace. A variety of historical actors—from fortune tellers and forgers to tax lawyers and black market consumers—have constructed this unseen world in tandem with the observable public world of transactions. Others, such as feminist development economists and government regulators, have worked to bring the darkened corners of the economy to light. The essays in *Capitalism's Hidden Worlds* explore how the capitalist marketplace sustains itself, how it acquires legitimacy and even prestige, and how the marginalized and the dispossessed find ways to make ends meet. Contributors: Bruce Baker, Eileen Boris, Eli Cook, Hannah Frydman, James Hollis, Owen Hyman, Anna Kushkova, Christopher McKenna, Kenneth Mouré, Philip Scranton, Bryan Turo.

new history of capitalism: *A Companion to American Women's History* Nancy A. Hewitt, Anne M. Valk, 2021-02-08

The most important collection of essays on American Women's History. This collection incorporates the most influential and groundbreaking scholarship in the area of American women's history, featuring twenty-three original essays on critical themes and topics. It assesses the past thirty years of scholarship, capturing the ways that women's historians confront issues of race, class, gender, and sexuality. This second edition updates essays related to Indigenous women, slavery, the American Revolution, Civil War, the West, activism, labor, popular culture, civil rights, and feminism. It also includes a discussion of laws, capitalism, gender identity and transgender experience, welfare, reproductive politics, oral history, as well as an exploration of the perspectives of free Blacks and migrants and refugees. Spanning from the 15th through the 21st centuries, chapters show how historians of women, gender, and sexuality have challenged established chronologies and advanced new understandings of America's political, economic, intellectual and social history. This edition also features a new essay on the history of women's suffrage to coincide with the 100th anniversary of passage of the 19th Amendment, as well as a new article that carries issues of women, gender and sexuality into the 21st century. Includes twenty-three original essays by leading scholars in American women's, gender and sexuality history. Highlights the most recent scholarship on the key debates and future directions of this popular and contemporary field. Substantially updates the first edition with new authors and topics that represent the expanding fields of women, gender, and sexuality. Engages issues of race, ethnicity, region, and class as they shape and are shaped by women's and gender history. Covers the breadth of American Women's history, including Native women, colonial law and religion, slavery and freedom, women's activism, work and welfare, culture and capitalism, the state, feminism, digital and oral history, and more. A

Companion to American Women's History, Second Edition is an ideal book for advanced undergraduates and graduate students studying American/U.S. women's history, history of gender and sexuality, and African American women's history. It will also appeal to scholars of these areas at all levels, as well as public historians working in museums, archives, and historic sites.

new history of capitalism: Global Economic History Tirthankar Roy, Giorgio Riello, 2024-09-05 Guiding the reader through the many guises of global economic history, this book uncovers its key issues, debates and subjects. With contributions from leading scholars around the world, it delves into the economic histories of Africa, Europe, Asia and the Americas from the 16th to the 20th centuries. From the environment to The Great Divergence, finance, consumption, trade, industrialisation, commodities and labour regimes, it demonstrates the global nature of economic history, and highlights how indispensable it is and has been. Updated throughout, this new edition boasts an expanded introduction and four new chapters on capitalism and political economy, European empires and colonialism, North Africa and the Middle East, and the North American Economy. A comprehensive introduction to global economic history, this textbook provides students with a confident grasp of the field, its key debates and essential issues.

new history of capitalism: The Unintended Reformation Brad S. Gregory, 2015-11-16 In a work as much about the present as the past, Gregory identifies the unintended consequences of the Reformation for the modern condition: a hyperpluralism of beliefs, intellectual disagreements that splinter into fractals of specialized discourse, the absence of a substantive common good, and the triumph of capitalism's driver, consumerism.

new history of capitalism: What Is Classical Liberal History? Michael J. Douma, Phillip W. Magness, 2017-12-21 Historians working in the classical liberal tradition believe that individual decision-making and individual rights matter in the making of history. History written in the classical liberal tradition emerged largely in the nineteenth century, when the field of history was first professionalized in Europe and the Americas. Professional historical research was then imbued with liberal values, which included rigorous attention to the sources, historicist suspicion of an ultimate mover, an honest and dispassionate rational outlook, and humility towards what could be known. Above all, liberals wanted to chart the history of liberty, warn against threats to liberty, and defend it in an evolving political world. They believed history was real, and that it had lessons to teach, but that these lessons could not provide sufficient knowledge to predict the future or reorganize society around a central plan. This book demonstrates how the classical liberal tradition in historical writing persists to this day, but how it is often neglected and due for renewal. The book contrasts the classical liberal view on history with conservative, progressive, Marxist, and post-modern views. Each of the eleven chapters address a different historical topic, from the development of classical liberalism in nineteenth century America to the the history of civil liberties and civil rights that stemmed from this tradition. Authors give particular attention to the importance of social and economic analysis. Each contributor was chosen as an expert in their field to provide a historiographical overview of their subject, and to explain what the classical liberal contribution to this historiography has been and should be. Authors then provide guidance towards possible tools of analysis and related research topics that future historians working in the classical liberal tradition could take up. The authors wish to call upon other historians to recognize the important contributions to historical understanding that have come and can be provided by the insights of classical liberalism.

new history of capitalism: Tensions of Social History Alessandro Stanziani, 2022-12-15 This book seeks to overcome the tension between 'western' and 'non-western' categories and tools in the study of global history, showing how most western approaches to the social sciences and history have developed through transnational and colonial interactions. Offering a transnational and global history of the main tools we have to understand the word and its transformations over the last three centuries, Tensions of Social History explores the construction of archives and historical memory, the making of statistics and their use in politics, the identification of social actors, and the emergence of key social theories. Providing key insights into how to write history and develop social

sciences in the global era while avoiding eurocentrism and cultural exceptionalism, this ambitious book shows how global history is made of encounters rather than confrontations between civilizations.

new history of capitalism: *Between the Sheets* Hannah Frydman, 2025-07-15 *Between the Sheets* reveals a space, hidden in plain sight in Third Republican Paris, where deviant sexualities and lives could be experimented with and financed, despite republican attempts at growing and norming the population through the heterosexual family. That space was the newspaper, which was not simply a tool of normalization and a site of dominant discourse, as it has frequently been imagined. Reading between the lines, Hannah Frydman shows how, through the Belle Époque classifieds, the newspaper became a tool for living lives otherwise as information flowed from it not just vertically but also laterally, facilitating person-to-person communication. The sexual relationships, exchanges, and services enabled by this communication were far from utopian: Surviving and thriving outside of social norms often required exploiting others. Yet by attending to the lives and livelihoods enabled by the classifieds, ethical or otherwise, *Between the Sheets* demonstrates that, thanks to new innovations in media technologies, queer and nonnormative lives in this period were lived in the center as well as on the margins. It was this centrality, however, that inspired efforts to place new (moral) controls on mass cultural forms and technologies. After World War I, in an interwar moment often characterized as one of sexual liberation, the press's queerness was subjected to ever-increasing surveillance and control, with repercussions for press freedom writ large. These repercussions echo into our age of social media, with its promise of unfettered connection, which inspires repressive legislation to keep sexuality (and with it, freedom) in its crosshairs.

new history of capitalism: *Sink Or Swim* Andrew Kopec, 2025-09-30 People living in the nineteenth-century United States saw shocking upheavals in both the economy and in ideas of selfhood in a commercial society. Narratives such as Horatio Alger's rags-to-riches tales allured Americans with visions of financial success, while events such as the Panics of 1819, 1837, 1857, and 1865 threatened them with sudden and devastating financial failure. The antebellum period's "go-ahead" ethos encouraged individuals to form an identity amid this chaos by striving for financial success through risk-taking—that is, to form a capitalist self. Andrew Kopec argues that writers of this era were not immune to this business turbulence; rather, their responses to it shaped the development of American literature. By examining the public and private writings of well-known American writers—including Washington Irving, Catharine Maria Sedgwick, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Herman Melville, and Frederick Douglass—Kopec contends that, instead of anxiously retreating from the volatile market, these figures deliberately engaged with it in their writing. These writers grappled with both the limits and opportunities of capitalist selfhood and tried, in various ways, to harness the economy's energies for the benefit of the self. In making this argument, Kopec invites readers to consider how this era of American literature questioned the ideologies of capitalist identity that seem inescapable today.

new history of capitalism: *The Routledge History of Religion and Politics in the United States Since 1775* Cara Lea Burnidge, Lauren Frances Turek, 2024-12-30 Drawing together history and recent historiography, this volume offers a reference work for understanding how religion influenced politics and how politics shaped religion in the United States from the American Revolution through to the present day. The book brings together some of the most well-regarded scholars in history, religious studies, American studies, political science, and other disciplines working in this field, providing a groundbreaking transdisciplinary history of this topic. It explores the major themes and historiographical trends that animate current scholarship, ensuring that readers come away with a thorough picture of the field, how it has evolved, and where future scholars might take us. This unique approach is well suited to students and scholars of both U.S. history and religious studies and encourages interdisciplinary analysis for the fields of religion and politics.

new history of capitalism: *Thinking Otherwise* Susan A. Brewer, Richard H. Immerman, Douglas Little, 2024-10-15 *Thinking Otherwise* addresses the question of what makes a great

historian by exploring the teaching and scholarship of Walter LaFeber, widely acclaimed as the most distinguished historian of US foreign relations. This volume of essays, edited by Susan A. Brewer, Richard H. Immerman, and Douglas Little, is a testament to a scholar who published more than a dozen books during his time at Cornell University, where he delivered legendary lectures for half a century. The chapters trace LaFeber's journey as a scholar and demonstrate his enduring influence on the history of US foreign relations by linking six of his monographs to his abiding concern about the fate of the American experiment from the 18th century to the present. *Thinking Otherwise* explains and assesses the scholarship of a historian whose work became canonical in his lifetime and continues to resonate throughout public policy debates.

new history of capitalism: The 1619 Project Myth Phillip W. Magness, 2025-07-15 "There is no one better to pick apart the disastrous 1619 Project than Phil Magness. If every classroom that incorporated the 1619 Project into its curriculum replaced it with this book, the country would be better off." —Coleman Hughes Slavery is part of America's story—its greatest shame. But abolition is part of America's story, too. Ignoring the latter isn't just bad scholarship. It's brazen deceit. And more often than not, it's done for political reasons. But that didn't seem to bother the writers at the New York Times when they launched the 1619 Project in August 2019. Advertised as a journalistic deep dive on the history of slavery, the series promised thematic explorations on a number of topics ranging from the first slave ship's arrival in Jamestown, Virginia, in 1619, to the present day. Independent Institute Senior Fellow and David J. Theroux Chair Phillip W. Magness was intrigued. What he found, though, was something else entirely. To say he was disappointed is putting it mildly. The 1619 Project was riddled with partisan hysteria, sloppy "scholarship," blatant errors of fact and interpretation, and, above all else, an anti-capitalist ideological agenda to make the case for tearing down our free market economy. Worse still, its transformation from intellectual debate to political dogma poisoned discourse on the right and the left. Angry Twitter mobs canceled and called for the censoring of all critics. Civil discourse and rational thinking became almost impossible. Almost impossible. Thankfully, *The 1619 Project Myth* boldly sounds the alarm on the New York Times' outright ideological warfare against American history. It's the essential guide to the many lies, distortions, and propaganda peddled by the 1619 Project and its defenders. Magness' writing is cool, calm, collected, and firm. An acclaimed academic and historian in his own right, he debunks and dismantles every myth and blunder of the 1619 Project, including: how the 1619 Project's creator Nikole Hannah-Jones twisted history into shallow political propaganda (just in time for election season); why the Project's activist defenders rely on sneering derision instead of historical facts; why capitalism is not racist ... and, in fact, helped free the slaves; why reparations are a moral and logistical dead end; how the American Historical Association fumbled a chance to protect its institutional integrity and defend real scholarship; how Hannah-Jones responded to her critics by ignoring their corrections and making her message even more partisan, political, and anti-capitalist; and so much more... In these pages, Magness delivers a long-overdue rebuke to "scholars" who treat history as a political weapon. History isn't a tool for scoring points. It's a long, complicated, and morally nuanced story that demands humility, intelligence, and moral courage from every scholar who dares plumb its depths. This is a must-read book on slavery, freedom, and the true American story.

new history of capitalism: Handbook Global History of Work Karin Hofmeester, Marcel van der Linden, 2017-11-20 Coffee from East Africa, wine from California, chocolate from the Ivory Coast - all those every day products are based on labour, often produced under appalling conditions, but always involving the combination of various work processes we are often not aware of. What is the day-to-day reality for workers in various parts of the world, and how was it in the past? How do they work today, and how did they work in the past? These and many other questions comprise the field of the global history of work - a young discipline that is introduced with this handbook. In 8 thematic chapters, this book discusses these aspects of work in a global and long term perspective, paying attention to several kinds of work. Convict labour, slave and wage labour, labour migration, and workers of the textile industry, but also workers' organisation, strikes, and motivations for work

are part of this first handbook of global labour history, written by the most renowned scholars of the profession.

new history of capitalism: *The Routledge History of Twentieth-Century United States* Jerald Podair, Darren Dochuk, 2018-05-02 The Routledge History of the Twentieth-Century United States is a comprehensive introduction to the most important trends and developments in the study of modern United States history. Driven by interdisciplinary scholarship, the thirty-four original chapters underscore the vast range of identities, perspectives and tensions that contributed to the growth and contested meanings of the United States in the twentieth century. The chronological and topical breadth of the collection highlights critical political and economic developments of the century while also drawing attention to relatively recent areas of research, including borderlands, technology and disability studies. Dynamic and flexible in its possible applications, The Routledge History of the Twentieth-Century United States offers an exciting new resource for the study of modern American history.

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