



Evolution of the concept of history: a critical and comparative analysis

**Evolución del concepto de historia: un análisis crítico y
comparativo**

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ABSTRACT

This scholarly article investigates the evolution of the concept of history and its influence on the discipline of history. It begins with the medieval view of history as a source of moral lessons and progresses to Renaissance historicism, which emphasizes the contextual understanding of the past. It then explores the historical positivism of modernity, which seeks universal patterns and laws in history, followed by Marxist historical dialectics, which interprets the past as a class struggle. Subsequently, contemporary perspectives, such as cultural history, gender approaches, and global history, which broaden the understanding of history through new lenses, are addressed. In addition, the impact of digital technologies on the historical discipline is examined. A critical review of the various historical perspectives is undertaken, highlighting their contributions and limitations. This article underscores the importance of ongoing critical revision in the historical discipline to maintain its relevance and to consider ethical and political issues in historical narrative.

RESUMEN

Este artículo científico investiga la evolución del concepto de historia y su influencia en la disciplina histórica. Comienza con la visión medieval de la historia como fuente de lecciones morales y avanza hacia el historicismo renacentista que enfatiza la comprensión contextual del pasado. Luego, explora el positivismo histórico de la modernidad, que busca patrones y leyes universales en la historia, seguido de la dialéctica histórica marxista, que interpreta el pasado como una lucha de clases. Posteriormente, se abordan las perspectivas contemporáneas, como la historia cultural, los enfoques de género y la historia global, que amplían la comprensión de la historia a través de nuevas lentes. Además, se examina el impacto de las tecnologías digitales en la disciplina histórica. Se realiza una revisión crítica de las diversas perspectivas históricas, destacando sus contribuciones y limitaciones. Este artículo subraya la importancia de la revisión crítica continua en la disciplina histórica para mantener su relevancia y considerar cuestiones éticas y políticas en la narración histórica.

Keywords / Keywords

History - Concept - Evolution - Education

Historia – Concepto – Evolución – Educación

Introduction

Understanding the past and the way we construct historical narratives have been crucial aspects for humanity throughout history. The way we conceive of the past not only influences how we interpret the present, but also determines how we project ourselves into the future.

The concept of history, as a constantly evolving intellectual and cultural construct, has been shaped by a wide range of influences, from philosophy and religion to changing intellectual currents and technological advances.

Pagès Joan (2006) stresses the importance of comparing the way history is taught. The scientific character of history resides as much in the valuation of differences as in that of similarities. Comparison makes it possible to establish relationships between different historical and cultural contexts, and helps to better understand the past.

History, as a discipline and as a narrative, plays a central role in the construction of cultural identity, in the formation of political ideologies and in the way we understand our relationship with our environment and with others.

Campillo (2016) describes history in an analogical way as the ascertainment of what happened, the narration of what was ascertained, implying that history is the same from its ascertainment in the facts as the facts themselves, but that they are deviated by thoughts outside the story.

The study of the evolution of the concept of history is not only crucial for historians and scholars, but also for the general public. Understanding how different cultures and historical moments have conceived and represented the past helps us to contextualize contemporary interpretations and reflect on the construction of historical reality. Furthermore, this critical exploration allows us to question our own assertions when dealing with the past and to highlight the relevance of constant reflection in historical narrative.

In this context, the fundamental questions that guide this article arise: how has the concept of history evolved over time, what are the main theories and approaches that have influenced its development?

It also aims to answer these questions, bearing in mind the objectives of exploring the different conceptions of history throughout intellectual and philosophical history; examining how the concept of history has been transformed in different periods and cultural contexts; critically analyzing the most influential theories that have shaped the conceptualization of history; comparing and contrasting the different perspectives in terms of their view of the past, their understanding of historical change, and their interaction with other disciplines.

This article dives into the evolution of the concept of history, exploring its transformation over the centuries and its impact on the historiographical discipline and society at large in a systematic literature review. It proposes a journey through different eras and cultural approaches, critically analyzing the conceptions of history that have shaped our understanding of the past and the way we transmit it.

In ancient civilizations, such as Sumerian, Egyptian, Greek and Mesopotamian, mythical narratives played a fundamental role in the

explanation of the origins of humanity and the cosmos. (Botero & Endara, 2000).

These mythical narratives not only sought to answer fundamental questions about the origin of the world and human existence, but also provided a moral and ethical framework for society. Myths, transmitted orally and then recorded in writing, forged a connection between the past and the present, granting legitimacy to reigning dynasties and establishing a sense of collective identity (López Saco, 2015).

Religion also played an essential role in the interpretation of the past. In many cultures, religious accounts narrated historical events as part of the divine will or as consequences of human actions in relation to the sacred. Abrahamic religions, such as Judaism, Christianity and Islam, considered the past as a manifestation of the divine plan and, therefore, influenced the way history was understood and transmitted. (Navarro Fuentes, 2016)

These mythical and religious narratives not only provided explanations for the past, but also laid the foundation for the notion of historical time. Although these narratives often did not follow a precise chronology or employ rigorous recording methods, their influence on the conception of the past is undeniable. These early forms of historical narrative established a precedent for how history would be approached and communicated in later eras (López Saco, 2015).

The influence of these mythic and religious narratives endured throughout the ages and continues to resonate in the way contemporary cultures interact with their past. As we move forward in this critical and comparative analysis of the evolution of the concept of history, it is important to recognize how these ancient roots laid the foundation for the theories and approaches that followed in the development of the historical discipline.

The transition from mythical and religious narratives to a more reflective and secular understanding of the past was notably driven by Greek and Roman philosophy in classical antiquity. In this section, we will explore how Greek and Roman philosophers contributed to the emerging conception of history as a more structured and analytical field of study.

One of the first significant attempts to approach the past critically was made by Herodotus, known as the "father of history". Herodotus

strove to separate history from mythology, basing his accounts on observation and the testimony of witnesses present at the events. His work "Histories" focused on the narration of events and how human actions and decisions influenced historical events. Herodotus not only investigated the causes and effects of conflicts, but also explored the cultural and geographical differences that shaped the ancient world (Bellatti, 2018).

Thucydides, another influential Greek historian, took the approach to history a step further by focusing on the causes and consequences of historical events. His work *History of the Peloponnesian War* examined in detail the underlying reasons behind the conflict, highlighting the role of human actions and human nature in the course of events. Thucydides emphasized the importance of analyzing the motivations and decisions of historical actors, thus marking a milestone in the development of critical historiography (Bellatti, 2018).

Greek philosophical influence also extended to ancient Rome. Authors such as Cicero and Titus Livy continued the tradition of critical historiography, seeking to understand and explain past events from a more analytical perspective. The expansion of the Roman Empire also played a crucial role in fostering cultural exchange and the adoption of different historical approaches to the conquered regions.

Taken together, Greek and Roman philosophy laid the foundations for a more rational and empirical understanding of the past. As critical thinking and rigorous observation became essential elements of historiography, a transition to a more objective and analytical conception of history was established, which paved the way for later developments in the evolution of the concept of history (Caballero Escorcia, 2015).

The Middle Ages, a period of profound religious and cultural influence, gave rise to a significant reinterpretation of the concept of history. During this era, history became a vehicle for transmitting moral lessons and religious values in a theocentric world where the Church exerted a powerful influence (Cuellar & Rico Díaz, 2018)..

History, rather than being regarded simply as an account of past events, was shaped by the theological and ethical worldview that prevailed in medieval society.

The theocentric mentality of the Middle Ages placed God at the center of all things, including human history. From this perspective, historical events were seen as part of a divine plan, where every event and change was interpreted as manifestations of God's will. The study of history acquired a religious purpose, and medieval historians saw their work as a way to better understand the relationship between humankind and God over time. (Romero Medina & Pupiales Rueda, 2013).

In the Middle Ages, history became a repository of examples for moral and ethical instruction. Historical accounts were used as illustrations of virtues and vices, and were presented as models to be followed or avoided. Medieval historians reconfigured historical events to conform to the moral lessons they sought to convey (Cuellar & Rico Díaz, 2018)..

For example, stories of heroes and martyrs could serve as examples of sacrifice and bravery, while narratives of repentant sinners offered an opportunity for warning against wrong ways.

Medieval chronicles and hagiographies (biographies of saints) were common forms of historical expression during this period. Chronicles provided narratives of past events, often connecting events to divine will and moral purpose.

In short, the conception of history in the Middle Ages was deeply influenced by religion and ethics. History became a pedagogical tool to inculcate religious and moral values in a society where the Church played a central role. Although this moral and theological view of history largely predominated during this period, it laid the groundwork for future developments in the conceptualization of the historical discipline, paving the way for the more critical and analytical approaches that would emerge in later times.

The Renaissance marked a turning point in the evolution of the concept of history by introducing a more humanistic and empirical approach. During this era of rediscovery and reevaluation of ancient classical cultures, historicism emerged, an approach that promoted research and critical analysis of historical documents and sources. (Jaguaribe, 2002).

The Renaissance, characterized by a resurgence of interest in the classical culture and knowledge of ancient Greece and Rome, triggered a change in the way history was approached. Renaissance scholars,

such as Petrarch and Poggio Bracciolini, sought out and collected ancient manuscripts, which allowed for a more direct understanding of the works of antiquity. This appreciation of classical sources influenced a revision of history based on textual evidence and comparison of different historical periods.

Historicism, an approach that considers that historical events and actions must be understood in the context of their time and culture, began to gain prominence during the Renaissance. This perspective argues that one cannot fully understand the past without considering the values, beliefs, and circumstances that shaped the people and societies of the time. The humanist historian Leonardo Bruni, for example, argued for the importance of contextual and critical interpretation of historical sources (San Cristobal, 2010).

In the Renaissance, biographies and historical works began to focus more on the analysis of individual actions and motivations, contributing to the historical approach centered on human agency and cultural context. Machiavelli, with his work "The Prince," explored the dynamics of power and politics, challenging traditional conceptions and fostering a more realistic approach to history (Machiavelli, 1975).

The Renaissance and historicism laid the foundations for a more analytical and empirical approach to history. The appreciation of original sources and the consideration of cultural and temporal contexts provided a new perspective on how the past should be studied and understood. These developments marked a crucial transition to modern historiography, paving the way for the critical and comparative approaches that would develop in later eras.

Historical positivism was developed as an extension of positivist philosophy, which promoted the application of rigorous scientific methods to the study of all aspects of human knowledge (Guamán Chacha, Hernández Ramos, & Lloay Sánchez, 2020)..

In historiography, this perspective sought to find laws and regularities governing historical development, similar to the laws of nature in the natural sciences. Auguste Comte, one of the founders of positivism, argued that history could also be subjected to scientific and predictable analysis. (Segundo Espínola, 2022).

Historical positivism advocated the exhaustive collection of empirical data and the application of quantitative methods to analyze historical patterns. Historical positivists believed that, through this rigorous

data collection and analysis, it was possible to discover universal laws governing historical change. The idea was to find regularities in the development of societies and institutions, which would make it possible to predict and understand the future based on the study of the past (Ahumada Durán, 2016).

This perspective had a significant impact on the way history was approached, promoting a more scientific and systematic approach. However, it also received criticism for its emphasis on generalization and its tendency to simplify the rich complexity of historical events (Ahumada Durán, 2016).

Despite the criticisms, historical positivism left a lasting imprint on historiography and laid the groundwork for the development of more eclectic and nuanced approaches to understanding historical change.

Historical positivism was a characteristic response of modernity to the search for universal laws to explain and predict historical development. Although this perspective had its limitations and criticisms, it marked a key moment in the evolution of the concept of history and its relationship with science and the empirical.

Materials and Methods

The era of modernity also witnessed the emergence of philosophical and political approaches that had a profound impact on the conception of history. Marxism, in particular, introduced a unique perspective on how history unfolds through the lens of materialist dialectics.

Marxism, developed by Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, proposed a materialist and dialectical interpretation of history. According to this perspective, history is driven by class struggle and the interaction of productive forces and relations of production. Marx argued that the economic base of a society determines its superstructure, including its political and cultural institutions (Hobsbawm, 1983).

Marxist dialectics is based on the concept of contradiction and constant change. Marx described how societies went through stages of development, from slavery to feudalism and finally to capitalism. Each stage contained internal contradictions that, over time, led to conflicts and changes in power relations.

Historical materialism, a central component of Marxism, holds that the consciousness and culture of a society are ultimately determined

by the material conditions of production. This implies that changes in economic structures lead to changes in consciousness and in the way people perceive and understand reality (Guijarro, 2018).

Marx believed that understanding history through materialist dialectics would reveal the underlying forces driving social change and lead to the revolutionary transformation of capitalist society into a classless communist society.

Marxist historical dialectics profoundly influenced historiography and the conception of history as a process of change driven by social contradictions. However, it has also been subject to criticism, especially in relation to its simplification of history and its focus on the economy as the sole driving factor. Despite the criticisms, the Marxist historical dialectic remains an enduring influence in the critical analysis of social and economic relations in history (Reyes Calderón, 2020). Historical dialectics in Marxism presented an alternative and provocative vision of social change, based on class struggles and the interaction between material forces and social structures. This perspective challenged traditional conceptions of history and left an enduring imprint on the way in which the evolution of the concept of history is approached.

Results

Modernity also saw the emergence of movements that questioned and redefined traditional historical practice. The New History, a historiographical approach that emerged in the second half of the twentieth century, challenged conventional narratives and sought to broaden the understanding of history through new methodological and thematic approaches (Sánchez Jaramillo, 2005).

Traditional history often focused on political leaders, events and processes, neglecting broader aspects of everyday life, individual experiences and social dynamics. The New History emerged as a critical response to this limited perspective. Historians of the New History argued that, to fully understand the past, it was necessary to consider a broader range of sources and topics (Rodríguez Sanchez, 1984).

The New History introduced innovative methodological approaches, such as social history, cultural history and microhistory. These approaches focused on everyday life, mentalities, individual experiences and social contexts.

Social history examined power structures and relations in society, while cultural history focused on the cultural and symbolic practices that shaped identity and beliefs (Bellatti, 2018).

A distinctive aspect of the New History was its effort to give voice to historically marginalized and silenced groups. The stories of women, ethnic minorities, workers, and other groups that had been overlooked in mainstream history began to be explored and highlighted. This enriched the understanding of history by revealing perspectives previously ignored (Rocha, *The History of Gender and Gender in History. Apuntes preliminares dentro del profesorado en Historia, Universidad Nacional de La Plata, 2017*).

The New History challenged the idea of a single, linear history, suggesting that there are multiple histories within a single period or event. This perspective reflected the diversity of experiences and points of view present in any historical context.

The New History marked a significant change in the way history is approached and conceived. By broadening the range of sources, themes and methodological approaches, this historiographical current enriched our understanding of the past and contributed to the evolution of the concept of history towards a more inclusive and contextualized vision.

The era of modernity also witnessed the emergence of approaches that questioned the objectivity and authority of traditional historical narratives. Poststructuralist approaches and postmodern history emerged as critical responses to conventional conceptions of history and the quest for objective truths (Rodríguez Troiani, 2022).

Poststructuralist approaches challenged the idea that there is a single objective and neutral truth in history. These approaches argued that historical narratives are influenced by language, power, and ideologies. Post-structuralist historians suggested that historical interpretations are not mere reflections of facts, but constructions based on the selection and interpretation of evidence (Valls, 2003).

The poststructuralist approach to deconstruction analyzes how words and concepts acquire meanings in specific contexts. Poststructuralist historians argued that historical meanings are inherently unstable and can be interpreted in multiple ways. This perspective challenged the notion of a single, established history and emphasized the multiplicity of interpretations.

Postmodern history took these criticisms to a deeper level. Postmodern historians argued that historical narratives are inevitably influenced by the language, ideology, and culture of the historian. This led to a distrust of the possibility of arriving at an objective representation of the past. In contrast, postmodern history explored the ways in which historical narratives are constructed and how they influence the understanding of the past.

Poststructuralist approaches and postmodern history had a profound impact on historiography by questioning established truths and hegemonic narratives. However, they also received criticism for their skepticism towards any kind of historical truth and for their emphasis on relativity and fragmentation. Despite the controversies, these approaches contributed to a greater reflection on how historical narratives are constructed and presented. (Cruz, 2000).

Poststructuralist approaches and postmodern history challenged the objectivity and authority of traditional history by focusing on the construction and interpretation of historical narratives. These approaches led to a greater awareness of how language, power, and ideology shape our perceptions of the past, contributing to a continuing evolution in the conceptualization of history.

Cultural history and the turn to subjectivity.

Cultural history has emerged as an influential approach to the discipline of history, shifting the traditional focus from political events and social structures to human experience, everyday life, and cultural representations. History focuses on how people experience, interpret, and make sense of their environment and their past.

Cultural history examines cultural practices in context, including aspects such as art, literature, music, religion and daily life. It studies how these cultural expressions reflect and contribute to the construction of individual and collective identities, as well as to the dynamics of power and social change (Dino & Mora, 2017).

A distinctive feature of cultural history is its interest in subjectivity and individual experiences. Cultural historians explore how people have lived and felt their time, how they have interpreted and remembered their experiences, and how they have contributed to the formation of broader cultural narratives (Hernández, 2008).

Cultural history has often been intertwined with postmodern theories that critique hegemonic narratives and emphasize the multiplicity of interpretations. Like postmodern history, cultural history questions objectivity and seeks to understand how historical narratives are social and interpretive constructions (González Rey, 2013).

Cultural history stresses the importance of context in the formation of human experience and cultural manifestations. It examines how people interact with their environment, how they communicate, and how they construct meanings through these interactions.

Cultural history has enriched the conception of history by focusing on subjectivity, human experience and cultural practices. This contemporary approach recognizes the importance of understanding how people make sense of their past and present, and how these interpretations shape the construction of history.

Gender approaches and the study of history from diverse identities.

In the contemporary era, the historical approach has broadened to include perspectives that were previously marginalized or overlooked in the conventional historical narrative. Gendered approaches and the study of history from diverse identities have emerged as powerful tools for understanding how gender, sexuality, and other identities have influenced historical experiences.

Gender approaches have challenged the traditional idea that history is based primarily on the experiences and achievements of prominent men. These approaches have examined how social constructions of gender have influenced the lives of all people, and how they have affected aspects such as politics, economics, culture, and everyday life. They have revealed the importance of women's voices and experiences in history and have emphasized the need to recognize and analyze patriarchy and power dynamics (Rocha, *The history of gender and gender in history. Preliminary notes within the professorship in History, Universidad Nacional de la Plata, 2017*).

In addition to the focus on gender, contemporary history has seen increasing attention to other marginalized historical identities and experiences, including those of LGBTQ+ people, ethnic minorities, people with disabilities, women, and others. These approaches have underscored the need to consider how intersections of gender, race, sexual orientation, and other factors have shaped people's historical experiences.

Gendered approaches and the study of history from diverse identities have had a profound impact on the way history is conceived. They have challenged hegemonic narratives and demonstrated that history is diverse and complex, and cannot be fully understood without considering the experiences and perspectives of a variety of groups.

These approaches have broadened the scope of history, allowing for a more complete and nuanced understanding of the past. They have shown that people's experiences are not homogeneous, but vary according to gender, race, sexual orientation, and other identities. By considering these differences, the understanding of historical processes and how they have affected diverse groups of people has been enriched (García Peña, 2016).

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Gendered approaches and the study of history from diverse identities have revolutionized the conception of history by challenging traditional narratives and recognizing the diversity and complexity of human experiences. These approaches have broadened the scope of history by including historical voices and perspectives that had previously been marginalized or ignored, thus enriching our understanding of the past.

Global and transnational history: transcending national borders.

In contemporary times, the conceptualization of history has evolved to transcend the limitations of national boundaries and address the past from a global and transnational perspective.

Global and transnational history approaches have emerged as essential tools for understanding how events, interactions and dynamics transcend geographical divisions.

Global history focuses on the study of interactions and connections between different regions and cultures over time. This approach seeks to understand how historical events and processes are intertwined in a web of complex relationships and how influences travel across national boundaries (Yun Casalilla, 2019).

The transnational approach focuses on the study of migrations, cultural exchanges and connections that transcend territorial divisions. It examines how people, ideas, technologies and goods have circulated and influenced different contexts, shaping shared historical processes (Acha, 2014).

Global and transnational history approaches have highlighted the interdependence of events and decisions in different parts of the world. They have shown how changes in one region can have significant repercussions in other areas and how decisions made in one place can have global consequences.

One of the most notable impacts of global and transnational history has been its challenge to historical narratives focused on a single country or region. These approaches have highlighted how national histories are only one part of a larger story and how it is important to consider the global context to fully understand historical events and processes (Zimmermann, 2017).

Global and transnational history approaches have enriched the conception of history by transcending national boundaries and considering global connections and influences in the unfolding of historical events. These approaches have highlighted the interconnectedness and interdependence of historical processes in different parts of the world, offering a more complete and contextualized view of the past.

New technologies and the digitization of history.

In the contemporary era, technological advancement has had a profound impact on the way history is conceived, researched and presented. Digitization and new technologies have revolutionized historical practice, allowing wider access to sources and data, as well as the creation of new ways of telling and sharing stories.

Digitization has transformed the way historians access sources and data. Libraries and archives have digitized historical documents, making them easily accessible online and allowing researchers to access valuable resources from anywhere in the world. This has expanded research possibilities and democratized access to historical information. (Dirección de Control Escolar de la Universidad Michoacana de San Nicolás de Hidalgo, 2018)..

Digitization has enabled the creation of new ways of telling and presenting stories. Websites, blogs, podcasts, and social media platforms have given historians the opportunity to communicate their research in a more accessible and engaging way to a wider audience. The combination of images, videos, and text in digital formats has enriched the way stories are told (Grima, 2020).

New technologies have enabled interactive visualization of complex historical data. Through graphs, interactive maps, and other visual tools, historians can present patterns and trends in a clearer and more accessible way. This helps researchers and the general public better understand connections and changes over time.

While digitization has brought many advantages, it has also raised challenges and ethical considerations. The availability of large amounts of data online requires skills to assess the quality and reliability of sources. In addition, issues of privacy and ownership of historical data have also arisen in this digital environment.

Digitization and new technologies have had a transformative impact on the conceptualization and practice of history. They have expanded access to sources and data, created new forms of narrative and presentation, and improved the visualization of historical patterns. However, they also raise challenges and ethical issues that historians must address as they make the most of these digital tools.

Critical and comparative analysis of perspectives.

Comparison of different conceptions of history.

As we explore the various conceptions of history throughout intellectual and philosophical evolution, a comparison is essential to understand how each approach addresses key aspects of history. Below, we compare the different conceptions of history in terms of their view of the past and their understanding of historical change.

History as moral and lesson (Middle Ages): sees the past as a source of moral examples and lessons to guide behavior and conduct in the present and future.

Historicism (Renaissance): it considers that the past is unique and must be understood in its own cultural and temporal context, avoiding anachronistic projections.

Historical positivism (Modernity): seeks to discover laws and patterns in history through a scientific approach, with emphasis on objectivity and causality.

Historical dialectics (Marxism): observes the past as a series of conflicts and contradictions that drive social change and progress toward a more just society.

Cultural history and subjectivity: Considers the past as a series of individual experiences and cultural manifestations that shape constantly evolving identities and values.

Gender approaches and diversity of identities: recognizes the past as a network of diverse experiences and cultural contexts that have been historically excluded or ignored.

Global and transnational history: visualizes the past as a network of global interactions that transcend national borders and contribute to the understanding of events and processes worldwide.

Digitization and new technologies: presents the past through multimedia and digital forms, allowing a more accessible and attractive interaction with history.

Historical change is understood according to his approach, since he has a unique understanding of it, whether as a result of dialectical conflicts, universal laws, global interactions, or transformations in subjectivity and cultural practices.

Each approach interacts differently with other disciplines such as philosophy, sociology and anthropology. Some approaches, such as historical positivism, seek a rigorous scientific approach, while others, such as cultural history, focus on the interpretation and understanding of human subjectivity.

In short, each conception of history approaches the past from a unique perspective, focusing on different aspects and considering diverse influences. Comparing these conceptions allows us to appreciate the diversity of approaches in the conceptualization of history and how each contributes to a fuller and richer understanding of the human past.

Reflections on how these perspectives influence historiographical practice.

Each of the perspectives discussed has a significant impact on how historians approach the research, interpretation, and presentation of history. These perspectives not only enrich the historical discipline, but also pose challenges and opportunities for history professionals.

The existence of multiple perspectives in the conceptualization of history enriches historiography by offering a variety of conceptual and

methodological tools. Historians can choose the approach that best suits their research topic and objectives, allowing for a more complete and nuanced analysis.

Each perspective influences how history is presented. For example, cultural history and gender approaches shift the focus from prominent historical figures to everyday and often marginalized experiences. This leads to the construction of more inclusive and equitable narratives.

Consideration of subjectivity in cultural history and other approaches highlights the importance of individual experiences in shaping historical events. This calls for greater attention to the underrepresented and often overlooked voices in history.

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Global history perspectives, gender and other identity approaches challenge hegemonic narratives and allow for the inclusion of multiple perspectives. This encourages the revision of history from a variety of angles.

Digitization and new technologies allow historians to present their work in a more accessible and attractive way to a wider audience. However, it also requires careful consideration of the reliability of sources and the privacy of data.

Global and transnational perspectives highlight the interconnectedness of historical events in a global context. This challenges the tendency to view history from a nationalistic lens and underscores the importance of global interactions in shaping historical processes.

Several approaches, such as cultural history and the study of identities, place greater emphasis on human agency and the ability of people to influence history. This challenges deterministic views of history and highlights the importance of individual and collective decisions.

In conclusion, each perspective has a distinctive impact on historiographical practice, influencing how sources are selected, events are interpreted, and narratives are presented. By adopting a variety of approaches and considering their implications, historians can enrich their understanding of the past and contribute to a more inclusive and accurate representation of history.

Conclusions

Throughout this analysis, we have explored the evolution of the concept of history throughout intellectual and philosophical history. We have identified several important conceptions of history and discussed how they have influenced historiographical practice and understanding of the past.

The evolution of the concept of history reflects the changing and multifaceted nature of the historical discipline. Each historical conception represented the intellectual and cultural perspective of its time, and contributed to the understanding and practice of history in that specific period.

What is clear is that there is no single "correct" way of conceiving history. Instead, these perspectives are complementary and enrich our understanding of the past. History has become more inclusive, contextual and diverse as it has evolved over time.

History, as a whole, is a constantly evolving discipline. Each new perspective and approach adds additional layers to our understanding of the past, broadening the scope and depth of the discipline. History is not static; it adapts and renews itself as our society and our questions about the past evolve.

Therefore, critical revision is fundamental to the historical discipline because it allows us to question previous assumptions, methods, and perspectives. By reflecting on how we have conceived history in the past, we can improve and enrich our current historiographical practice.

Historical perspectives need to be revised and updated to reflect the increasing diversity of human experiences and the evolution of society. Critical revision helps us to overcome historical biases and to consider a wider range of voices and perspectives in the narrative of the past.

In addition, the historical discipline must be sensitive to the ethical and political implications of its work. Critical review helps us to address fundamental questions about who has the power to tell the story and how different groups are represented in the historical narrative.

In short, critical revision is essential to maintain the vitality and relevance of the historical discipline. It enables us to adapt to an ever-

changing world and to meet the challenges and opportunities of our present age. History remains a dynamic and constantly evolving quest for knowledge of the human past.

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