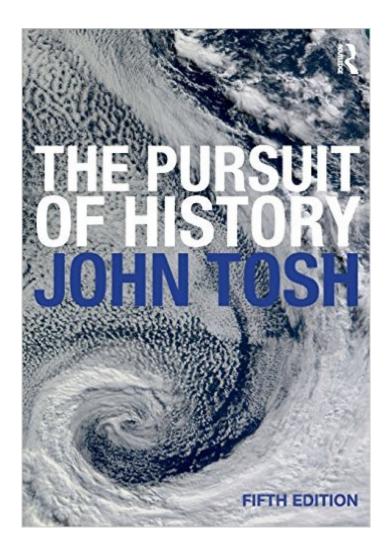
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# The Pursuit Of History





## Synopsis

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 364 pages Publisher: Routledge; 5 edition (December 15, 2009) Language: English ISBN-10: 0582894123 ISBN-13: 978-0582894129 Product Dimensions: 6.6 × 0.8 × 9.3 inches Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (13 customer reviews) Best Sellers Rank: #268,204 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #124 in Books > History > Historical Study & Educational Resources > Study & Teaching #215 in Books > History > Historical Study & Educational Resources > Historiography #982 in Books > Textbooks > Humanities > History > Europe

### **Customer Reviews**

John Tosh's, The Pursuit of History is a good introduction for both advanced undergraduate students and graduate students wishing to gain a global view of history as a profession and the

diverse methods used in the field. In its fifth edition, Tosh expands the present historiography and details the impact past works have had on the thoughts and methods of today. Covering the historiography from the professionalization of the field in the 1880s through the Annales school of thought, Marxist theory and postmodernism, Tosh is able to touch upon the origins of each style and introduce the social histories of the 1960s and 1970s and the postcolonialist writing of the 1990s. As a historian's history. Tosh contributes to a global view of the study of history and asks if it is a science or a craft. The Pursuit of History is divided into eleven chapters. The first three chapters covered oral histories and the didactic approach for studying history "for its own sake." By introducing different methodologies in the interpretation of history and its purpose, Tosh was able to approach the topic of mapping the field in chapter three. He divided the field into political, social, economic, religious, world, global, local, and microhistory. As a justification for all the diverse subfields he stated, "[e]very work of history strike some kind of balance between the individual and society, between the material and the mental, and between the local and the global" (p. 84). These chapters shed light onto the function and rationale of the professional historian and the contributions the field offers. Chapters four through six described the process in which information is attained. Sources were the focus as they led to the type of interpretation the historian used to bring out their content.

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