

# History as a Discipline

## What's the **BIG** deal?

- History textbooks have features that enable the reader to find information (such as a table of contents, index, and glossary) and are organized into parts (units, chapters, and sections) which, when understood, can be used as a tool for learning.
- While both scientists and historians address problems and use evidence, they differ in the types of problems they address and the types and ways they use evidence.
- The discipline of history is based on investigating problems and using evidence to support accounts of the past.
- When historians select events of the past and interpret their meaning they sometimes create conflicting accounts of the same historical event, which textbooks often conceal.
- Since textbooks are limited in how they identify historical problems and use evidence, they can limit our understanding of the past.