Week 1

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Author Note

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History and mankind are interrelated. Any attempt to explore human history, inevitably provide insight to history. In Greek language, the word *history* stands for “learning through inquiry”. Since the world has seen many generations of humans, which have defined history by their own manner. However, a more broad and conceptualized definition of history have been presented by the American Historical Association. According to them history is an unalienable process which dates back to human evolution. William have defined history as an unstoppable process, in which people struggle to understand the past and present (Williams 2007, 19).

As history is dependent and related to process of human evolution and people are the reason of historical progression, therefore, the definition of history is ever changing. The ever changing nature of human process as well, makes the history variable (Davidson, Lytle, and Davidson 1982a). The story of Silas Deane is complex in nature because Silas Deane experienced many incidents in life and some of them lead it to his untimely death. These incidents are a source of defining history in a complex manner (Davidson, Lytle, and Davidson 1982b, 28).

History is considered a craft since it is dependent upon human interference. Traditionally, it had been a norm that humans (specially the victors) write history, in the ways which suits their future ambitions, therefore, it is considered a craft. A good historian must have an exceptional analytical skills, writing skills and research related skills. Perspective matters in understanding history since it differ with that of the masses. There are always differing views of people and the rulers, therefore, any historian must follow the perspectives, which he thinks largely exists. The question of historical truth comes into play in Pocahontas and John Smith in the Virginia Colony because there are different times when they both arrived in the American colonies (Davidson, Lytle, and Davidson 1982b, 51).

# References:

Davidson, James West, Mark H. Lytle, and James W. Davidson. 1982a. *After the Fact: The Art of Historical Detection*. Knopf New York.

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Williams, Robert C. 2007. “The Historian’s Toolbox.” *A Student’s Guide to the Theory*.