



World History in Brief: Major Patterns of Change and Continuity, since 1450, Volume 2, Penguin Academic Edition (8th Edition)

By Peter N. Stearns

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Review

“This is a high quality, affordable text that has very strong instructor resources.”

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“I...really appreciate the instructor's manual and the way the book highlights themes and key questions. These additional aids facilitate covering a lot of material quickly but coherently.”

-Kathleen Parrow, Black Hills State University

“Its brevity allows me to expect students will read everything, while it is still a good text despite being so brief.”

-Matthew Stanard, Berry College

“The brief version works well for a one-semester course...Stearns does not get bogged down in the details; he presents a broad overview of critical points and cultural traits.”

-Terry Reynolds, Michigan Technological University

About the Author

Peter N. Stearns is Provost and University Professor at George Mason University. He has taught previously at Harvard, the University of Chicago, Rutgers, and Carnegie Mellon; he was educated at Harvard University. He has published widely in modern social history, including the history of emotions, and in world history. Representative works in world history include *World History: A Survey*, *The Industrial Revolution in World History*, *Gender in World History*, *Consumerism in World History*, *Human Rights in World History*, and *Growing Up: The History of Childhood in Global Context*. His publications in social history include *Old Age in Preindustrial Society*, *Anxious Parents: A History of Modern American Childrearing*, *American Cool: Developing the Twentieth-Century Emotional Style*, *Fat History: Bodies and Beauty in Western Society*, *American Fear: The Causes and Consequences of High Anxiety*, *Revolutions in Sorrow: A History of American Experiences and Policies Toward Death in Global Context*, *From Alienation to Addiction: Modern American Work in Global Historical Perspective*, *Educating Global Citizens in Colleges and Universities: Challenges and Opportunities*, and *Satisfaction Not Guaranteed: Dilemmas of Progress in Modern Society*. While under Dr. Stearns's leadership, George Mason University was awarded the 2006 Andrew Heiskell Award for Innovation in International Education. He has also edited encyclopedias of world and social history, and since 1967, he has served as editor-in-chief of *The Journal of Social History*. In most of his research and writing, Dr. Stearns pursues three main goals. First, as a social historian, he is eager to explore aspects of the human experience that are not generally thought of in historical terms, and with attention to ordinary people as well as elites. Second, he seeks to use an understanding of historical change and continuity to explore patterns of behavior and social issues. Finally, he is concerned with connecting new historical research with wider audiences, including of course classrooms. Dr. Stearns is also eager to promote comparative analysis and the assessment of modern global forces—for their own sake and as they illuminate the American experience and impact.

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