Preface

p. v, ¶ 1, last line – “...history as an interpretive discipline...”

p. v, ¶ 2, line 3 – “Each issue has an introduction, which sets the stage for the debate that follows in the pro and con sections and provides historical and methodological background to the problem that the issue examines. Each issue concludes with a postscript, which ties the readings together, briefly mentions alternative interpretations, and supplies detailed suggestions for further reading for the student... Also, Internet site addresses (URLs) which should provide useful starting points for further research, have been provide on the On the Internet page...”

Introduction

p. xvi, ¶ 1, line 1 – “In a pluralistic society such as ours, the study of history is bound to be a complex process. How an event is interpreted depends not only on the existing evidence but also on the perspective of the interpreter. Consequently, understanding history presupposes the evaluation of information, a task that often leads to conflicting conclusions. An understanding of history of history... requires the acceptance of the idea of historical relativism.”

p. xvi – the term neoconservative and progressive do not apply exactly to the same terms as used in contemporary politics.

p. xvii, ¶2, whole ¶ – “Progressive, consensus, and New Left history is still being written. The most...”

p. xvii, ¶3, line 5 – “On the other hand, historians know more about the American past than any other time in history. They dare to ask new questions or ones that previously were considered to be germane only to scholars in other social sciences.”