

## History in the Humanities and Social Sciences

This interdisciplinary volume explores the relationship between history and a range of disciplines in the humanities and social sciences: economics, political science, political theory, international relations, sociology, philosophy, law, literature and anthropology. The relevance of historical approaches within these disciplines has shifted over the centuries. Many of them, like law and economics, originally depended on self-consciously historical procedures. These included the marshalling of evidence from past experience, philological techniques and source criticism. Between the late nineteenth and the middle of the twentieth centuries, the influence of new methods of research, many indebted to models favoured by the natural sciences, such as statistical, analytical or empirical approaches, secured an expanding intellectual authority while the hegemony of historical methods declined in relative terms. In the aftermath of this change, the essays collected in *History in the Humanities and Social Sciences* reflect from a variety of angles on the relevance of historical concerns to representative disciplines as they are configured today.

Richard Bourke is Professor of the History of Political Thought and a Fellow of King's College at the University of Cambridge. He has published widely in the History of Political Ideas and Intellectual History, including *Empire and Revolution: The Political Life of Edmund Burke* (2015) and, as co-editor, *The Political Thought of the Irish Revolution* (Cambridge, 2022).

Quentin Skinner is Emeritus Professor of Humanities at Queen Mary University of London. He was at the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton between 1974 and 1979, and was Regius Professor of History at the University of Cambridge 1996–2008. He is the author of numerous books on Renaissance and Modern Intellectual History, most recently *From Humanism to Hobbes: Studies in Rhetoric and Politics* (Cambridge, 2018).

Cambridge University Press & Assessment  
978-1-009-23104-6 — History in the Humanities and Social Sciences  
Edited by Richard Bourke , Quentin Skinner  
Frontmatter  
[More Information](#)

---

# History in the Humanities and Social Sciences

---

*Edited by*

**Richard Bourke**

*University of Cambridge*

**Quentin Skinner**

*Queen Mary University of London*



**CAMBRIDGE**  
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press & Assessment  
978-1-009-23104-6 — History in the Humanities and Social Sciences  
Edited by Richard Bourke, Quentin Skinner  
Frontmatter  
[More Information](#)



**CAMBRIDGE**  
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8EA, United Kingdom  
One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA  
477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia  
314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre,  
New Delhi – 110025, India  
103 Penang Road, #05–06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

Cambridge University Press is part of Cambridge University Press & Assessment,  
a department of the University of Cambridge.

We share the University's mission to contribute to society through the pursuit of  
education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

[www.cambridge.org](http://www.cambridge.org)  
Information on this title: [www.cambridge.org/9781009231046](http://www.cambridge.org/9781009231046)

DOI: 10.1017/9781009231053

© Cambridge University Press 2023

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception and to the provisions  
of relevant collective licensing agreements, no reproduction of any part may take  
place without the written permission of Cambridge University Press & Assessment.

First published 2023

*A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library.*

*Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data*

Names: Bourke, Richard, author, editor. | Skinner, Quentin, author, editor.  
Title: History in the humanities and social sciences / edited by Richard Bourke,  
University of Cambridge, Quentin Skinner, Queen Mary University of London.  
Description: Cambridge ; New York : Cambridge University Press, 2023. |  
Includes bibliographical references and index.

Identifiers: LCCN 2022024928 | ISBN 9781009231046 (hardback) |  
ISBN 9781009231053 (ebook)

Subjects: LCSH: History – Philosophy. | History – Study and teaching. |  
Humanities – Study and teaching. | Social sciences – Study and teaching. |  
Social sciences and history. | BISAC: POLITICAL SCIENCE / History &  
Theory

Classification: LCC D16.9 .H567 2023 | DDC 901–dc23/eng/20220720  
LC record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2022024928>

ISBN 978-1-009-23104-6 Hardback  
ISBN 978-1-009-23100-8 Paperback

Cambridge University Press & Assessment has no responsibility for the persistence  
or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this  
publication and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will  
remain, accurate or appropriate.

Contents

<i>List of Figures</i>	<i>page</i> vii
<i>List of Contributors</i>	viii
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	ix
Introduction	1
1 Law and History, History and Law MICHAEL LOBBAN	20
2 History, Law and the Rediscovery of Social Theory SAMUEL MOYN	49
3 The Uses of History in the Study of International Politics JENNIFER PITTS	69
4 International Relations Theory and Modern International Order: The Case of Refugees MIRA SIEGELBERG	90
5 The Delphi Syndrome: Using History in the Social Sciences STATHIS N. KALYVAS AND DANIEL FEDOROWYCZ	116
6 Power in Narrative and Narratives of Power in Historical Sociology HAZEM KANDIL	141
7 History and Normativity in Political Theory: The Case of Rawls RICHARD BOURKE	165
8 Political Philosophy and the Uses of History QUENTIN SKINNER	194
9 The Relationship between Philosophy and its History SUSAN JAMES	211
	v

vi	Contents	
10	When Reason Does Not See You: Feminism at the Intersection of History and Philosophy HANNAH DAWSON	229
11	On (Lost and Found) Analytical History in Political Science IRA KATZNELSON	260
12	Making History: Poetry and <i>Prosopopoeia</i> CATHY SHRANK	286
13	Reloading the British Romantic Canon: The Historical Editing of Literary Texts PAMELA CLEMIT	306
14	Economics and History: Analysing Serfdom SHEILAGH OGILVIE	329
15	The Return of Depression Economics: Paul Krugman and the Twenty-First-Century Crisis of American Democracy ADAM TOOZE	354
16	Anthropology and the Turn to History JOEL ISAAC	379
	<i>Index</i>	408

Figures

---

14.1 Per capita GDP in different parts of Europe, <i>c.</i> 1300– <i>c.</i> 1850	<i>page</i> 343
14.2 Percentage of population in agriculture in different parts of Europe, <i>c.</i> 1400– <i>c.</i> 1800	345

Cambridge University Press & Assessment  
978-1-009-23104-6 — History in the Humanities and Social Sciences  
Edited by Richard Bourke , Quentin Skinner  
Frontmatter  
[More Information](#)

---

## Contributors

---

RICHARD BOURKE, University of Cambridge  
PAMELA CLEMIT, Queen Mary University of London  
HANNAH DAWSON, King's College London  
DANIEL FEDOROWYCZ, University of Oxford  
JOEL ISAAC, University of Chicago  
SUSAN JAMES, Birkbeck College, University of London  
STATHIS N. KALYVAS, University of Oxford  
HAZEM KANDIL, University of Cambridge  
IRA KATZNELSON, Columbia University  
MICHAEL LOBBAN, University of Oxford  
SAMUEL MOYN, Yale University  
SHEILAGH OGILVIE, University of Oxford  
JENNIFER PITTS, University of Chicago  
CATHY SHRANK, University of Sheffield  
MIRA SIEGELBERG, University of Cambridge  
QUENTIN SKINNER, Queen Mary University of London  
ADAM TOOZE, Columbia University

## Acknowledgements

---

This volume began life as a collaborative enterprise designed to investigate the role of historical consciousness in the humanities and social sciences. The editors would like to thank the United Kingdom's Arts and Humanities Research Council for the funding that enabled a series of workshops in which the contributors to this volume participated. We are naturally also indebted to the contributors for their work, and their involvement in the intellectual exchanges which helped refine the project.

We would like to thank Emma Yates at Queen Mary University of London and Allison Ksiazkiewicz at the University of Cambridge for assistance in administering the award. We are also grateful to Jesus College, King's College, and Corpus Christi College for hosting events. In addition, we would like to record our very particular thanks to Vanessa Lim for her extensive work helping to organise each of our workshops and for designing the website that advertised our activities. Thanks also to Charlotte Johann for her input in relation to the Introduction. The editors would like to express their further gratitude to Elizabeth Friend-Smith who commissioned this book on behalf of Cambridge University Press for her confidence in the venture. We are also indebted to two anonymous reviewers of the penultimate version of the typescript for their constructive comments, to Natasha Whelan for taking care of the production process, to Mary Starkey for managing the copy-editing process, and to Balaji Devadoss for overseeing the proofs.