• Introduction Notes

• World History Since 1500

• I. What is History?

• definition: “the systematic analysis of past events.”

A. What is the nature of history?

   - Historians debate

   - Interpretations

   - “Worldview” influences interpretations

   - Worldview-

B. Important historical terms:

Culture-the way of life of a specific group of people.

Civilization-a highly developed culture with one or more of the following characteristics:

• A) Cities
• B) Governments

• C) A division of labor

• D) Technical skills

• E) Intellectual achievements

• II. The Dating of Time

• Gregorian Calendar (1582)

• Pope Gregory XIII

• Year I-Birth of Jesus Christ

• B.C.-Before the birth of Christ

• A.D.-After the birth of Christ

• current terms used:

• B.C.E.-Before the Common Era

• C.E. The Common Era

• developed in the 1990s
• Decade—Ten Years

• Century—One Hundred Years

• First Century (1-99 C.E.)

• Note: The 1500s

• =The Sixteenth Century

• Era-

• III. Major Time Periods

• Ancient (Beginnings to 476 C.E.)

• Middle Ages (476-1500 C.E.)

• Modern (1500 C.E.-Present)