

Historians have LOTS of useful skills

Public Speaking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • speak clearly before an audience • tell an interesting story
Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • craft an original, evidence-based argument • communicate insights to others in a concise and persuasive manner • share new research through books, articles, and other media
Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • absorb large amounts of information • select relevant information from a mass of primary source material • frame questions that lead us to identifying appropriate primary sources • organize and complete a large research project
Teaching/ Pedagogy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • generate a fruitful class discussion • deliberate over issues of politics, society, economics, and culture • foster creativity and artistic development
Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Break down and expand upon the meaning of words and sentences • pay attention to the details, nuance, and complexity of the human experience
Synthesis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bring together different kinds of evidence in order to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * explain change and continuity over time * balance the interplay between individuals and larger forces • highlight the importance of certain categories like race, gender, economics, and geography in shaping historical events
Interpretation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • understand the perspective of another person or culture • critically evaluate the usefulness, accuracy, and point of view in sources • connect one event or issue with a series of previous, current, or future events • detect patterns over a series of events that are seemingly unrelated
Causality/ Chronology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • explain the cause and effect between two related historical occurrences • understand the chronological order of events • show WHY things turned out the way they did, rather than another way
Civic Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • make the past accessible to the public • provide a well-rounded and meaningful education for students • enable participation in democratic governance and the public sphere • encourage habits of good citizenship
Critical Thinking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • offer a framework to think about how and why human actions happen • situate current dilemmas within larger forces, structures, and traditions that neither begin nor end with us • develop a skeptical outlook of the world that demands evidence • demonstrate how many analytical categories overlap (race and class) • use logic and reason to determine the strength and credibility of an argument

** Our understanding of almost every important topic benefits through knowledge of historical context*

** We do the detective work; we connect the dots; we figure out how the world really works!*