

## Article Review

This assignment asks you to look at an article about slavery in the west before 1500 from a peer-reviewed journal. The following journals would be good sources for articles (available if you browse by title on JSTOR; some journals have only older issues available on JSTOR):

American Historical Review  
Classical Review  
Economic History Review  
English Historical Review  
French Historical Studies  
Historical Journal  
Jewish History  
Journal of Economic History  
Journal of Hellenic Studies  
Journal of Interdisciplinary History  
Journal of Military History  
Journal of Roman Studies  
Journal of the History of Ideas  
Journal of the Warburg and Courtland Institute  
Past and Present  
Social History  
Speculum  
Traditio

(All articles on JSTOR are peer-reviewed-though remember that not everything on JSTOR is an article; if you want to review an article from another journal or are not sure if what you are trying to review is an article, please contact the instructor.)

Number your answers to the following questions:

1. Provide a full and correct bibliographic citation of the article you will be analyzing using the Chicago Manual of Style format. Note that the article should be a peer-reviewed article published between 1975 and 1995 (more recent articles may not work as well, as you will see when you get to question 7).
3. Identify and summarize the author's thesis. You may quote the thesis statement if you find a single sentence that sums it up, but you still need to summarize it in your own words.
4. Summarize the arguments used by the author to support the thesis.
5. Discuss the most important primary sources used in the article. What are the primary sources used? What type of analysis did the author do of the primary sources? Did the

author look closely at a small number of primary source evidence? Or did the author take examples from a wide range of sources? Something in between (explain)?

6. Discuss the secondary sources used by the author. Did the author include only sources that supported his/her argument? Or did the article also bring up secondary sources that he/she wanted to challenge or refute? Did the author try to resolve disagreements between secondary sources? How recent are the sources relative to the article's publication date?

7. Try to judge the place of the article in scholarship. JSTOR lets you check to see if other sources have cited the article and also if this author has written any other articles or reviews. Note that there is frequently a time lag between articles being written and being published, so you might not find a citation of an article (even an influential or controversial one) until two or three years after publication (and JSTOR usually only carries articles that are a few years old). From what you can tell, how have other scholars regarded the article? (For example, have they largely ignored it? Praised it effusively? Cited it favorably? Criticized it? Cited it as if were correct and not worth arguing about?) Have there been many other articles published on related topics? Has this author published other articles on this general area?

8. Write a short paragraph (5 or 6 sentences) indicating how valuable (or not) you think that the article is as a piece of scholarship. (Rate the article as if you expect someone with a certain degree of background will be reading your rating. In other words, DO NOT make this a paragraph about your background or interests.)