Prelim Book List: U.S. History
Read with Will Jones
Spring 2015

Colonial & Revolutionary America


Early American Republic

Clark, Christopher. “Rural America and the Transition to Capitalism,” Journal of the Early Republic 16 (Summer 1996) 223-236.


19th Century America


20th Century America (economic & political)


Cowie, Jefferson and Nick Salvatore. “The Long Exception: Rethinking the Place of the New Deal in American History,” International Labor and Working-Class History No. 74, Fall 2008, pp. 3-32


Greene, Julie. The Canal Builders: Making America’s Empire at the Panama Canal (Penguin, 2009)


20th Century America (racial/social & political)


Start studying Modern History Prelims. Learn vocabulary, terms and more with flashcards, games and other study tools.

- growing class conflict - US imperialism in Cuba - Rise of Castro and rebels - the growth of nationalism (due to dependence on the US for the economy and resentment over American involvement) - the Government's indifference to the needs of the people - Batista's Cuba (dictatorship, suspension of Constitution, abuse of power, corrupt etc).

[Answerkey]

Out of 17 MCQs on History-Culture in Prelims-2016, only 5 MCQs are â€œout of bookâ€™. Remainder things given in the (new) NCERT, NIOS, Lucent, Spectrum, Pratik Nayakâ€™s Lecture series. Hence they should form the â€œcoreâ€™ area of preparation. But from Indian History by Krishna Reddy, we find that in Vijaya Nagar empire: Land revenue varied according to nature of cultivated land. So, #1 is right. This Prelims Preparation Books will help you to crack UPSC prelims exams.

Note: Reference books are not absolutely necessary to read from exam point of view. But, if you are seeking more understanding and knowledge, and have the required time and energy, they are worth reading. For Mains Strategy and Booksâ€”Click Here. UPSC Prelims Preparation Books to Refer.

1. CURRENT AFFAIRS: Important Sources (Follow any one newspaper for news items (preferably The Hindu); one for editorial (best Indian Express); and one Business newspaper â€“ only editorials (best is Livemint).