

Free ebook Virtual history alternatives and counterfactuals niall ferguson (PDF)

what if britain had stayed out of the first world war what if germany had won the second how would england look if there had been no cromwell what would the world be like if communism had never collapsed and what if john f kennedy had lived in this acclaimed book leading historians from andrew roberts to michael burleigh explore what might have been if nine of the most decisive moments in modern history had never happened what if there had been no american war of independence what if hitler had invaded britain what if kennedy had lived what if russia had won the cold war niall ferguson author of the highly acclaimed the pity of war leads the charge in this historically rigorous series of separate voyages into imaginary time and provides far reaching answers to these intriguing questions ferguson s brilliant 90 page introduction doubles as a manifesto on the methodology of counterfactual history his equally masterful afterword traces the likely historical ripples that would have proceeded from the maintenance of stuart rule in england this breathtaking narrative gives us a convincing detailed alternative history of the west from the accession of james iii in 1701 to a nazi occupied england to a u s prime minister kennedy who lives to complete his term a bullet misses its target in sarajevo a would be austrian painter gets into the viennese

academy lord halifax becomes british prime minister in 1940 seemingly minor twists of fate on which world shaking events might have hinged alternative history has long been the stuff of parlour games war gaming and science fiction but over the past few decades it has become a popular stomping ground for serious historians richard j evans now turns a critical slightly jaundiced eye on the subject altered pasts examines the intellectual fallout from historical counterfactuals most importantly evans takes counterfactual history seriously looking at the insights pitfalls and intellectual implications of changing one thread in the weave of history in the pity of war niall ferguson makes a simple and provocative argument that the human atrocity known as the great war was entirely england s fault britain according to ferguson entered into war based on naïve assumptions of german aims and england s entry into the war transformed a continental conflict into a world war which they then badly mishandled necessitating american involvement the war was not inevitable ferguson argues but rather the result of the mistaken decisions of individuals who would later claim to have been in the grip of huge impersonal forces that the war was wicked horrific inhuman is memorialized in part by the poetry of men like wilfred owen and siegfried sassoon but also by cold statistics more british soldiers were killed in the first day of the battle of the somme than americans in the vietnam war indeed the total british fatalities in that single battle some 420 000 exceeds the entire american fatalities for both world wars and yet as ferguson writes while the war itself was a disastrous folly the great majority of men who fought it did so with enthusiasm ferguson vividly brings back to life this terrifying period not through dry citation

of chronological chapter and verse but through a series of brilliant chapters focusing on key ways in which we now view the first world war for anyone wanting to understand why wars are fought why men are willing to fight them and why the world is as it is today there is no sharper nor more stimulating guide than niall ferguson s the pity of war

what are counterfactuals and what is their point in many cases none at all it may be true that if kangaroos didn t have tails they would fall over but they do have tails and if they didn t they wouldn t be kangaroos or would they this is the sort of thing that can give counterfactuals a bad name as inhabitants of a la la land of the mind on the other hand counterfactuals do useful service across a broad range of disciplines in both the sciences and the humanities including philosophy history cosmology biology cognitive psychology jurisprudence economics art history literary theory they are also richly albeit sometimes treacherously present in the everyday human realm of how our lives are both imagined and lived in the crossroads scenario of decision making the place of regret in retrospective assessments of paths taken and not taken and at the outer limit as the wish not to have been born christopher prendergast take us on a dizzying exploratory journey through some of these intellectual and human landscapes mobilizing a wide range of reference from antiquity to the present and sustained by the belief that whether as help or hindrance and with many variations across cultures counterfactual thinking and imagining are fundamental to what it is to be human in this study jennifer riddle harding presents a cognitive analysis of

three figures of speech that have readily identifiable forms similes puns and counterfactuals harding argues that when deployed in literary narrative these forms have narrative functions such as the depiction of conscious experiences allegorical meanings and alternative plots uniquely developed by these more visible figures of speech metaphors by contrast are often invisible in the formal structure of a text with a solid cognitive grounding harding s approach emphasizes the relationship between figurative forms and narrative effects harding demonstrates the literary functions of previously neglected figures of speech and the potential for a unified approach to a topic that crosses cognitive disciplines her work has implications for the rhetorical approach to figures of speech for cognitive disciplines and for the studies of literature rhetoric and narrative

many accounts of british development since 1945 have attempted to discover why britain experienced slower rates of economic growth than other western european countries in many cases the explanation for this phenomenon has been attributed to the high level of defence spending that successive british post war governments adhered to yet is it fair to assume that britain s relative economic decline could have been prevented if policy makers had not spent so much on defence examining aspects of the political economy and economic impact of british defence expenditure in the period of the first cold war 1945 1955 this book challenges these widespread assumptions looking in detail at the link between defence spending and

economic decline in contrast to earlier studies till geiger not only analyses the british effort within the framework of anglo american relations but also places it within the wider context of european integration by reconsidering the previously accepted explanation of the economic impact of the british defence effort during the immediate post war period this book convincingly suggests that british foreign policy makers retained a large defence budget to offset a sense of increased national vulnerability brought about by a reduction in britain s economic strength due to her war effort furthermore it is shown that although this level of military spending may have slightly hampered post war recovery it was not in itself responsible for the decline of the british economy provocative audacious and challenging this book rejuvenates not only the historical study of law but also the role of law schools by asking which stories we tell and which stories we forget it argues that a historical approach to law should be at the beating heart of the law school curriculum far from being archaic elitist and dull historical perspectives on law are and should be subversive comparison with the past underscores how the law and legal institutions are not fixed but are constructed that every line drawn in the law and everything the law holds as sacred is actually arbitrary and how the environment into which law students are socialised is a historical construct a subversive approach is needed to highlight question de construct and re construct the authored nature of the law revealing that legal change on a larger scale is possible far from being archaic this recasts legal history as being anarchic subversive legal history is not a type of legal history but is its defining characteristic if it is to be a central part of law school

life it describes a legal method that should not be the preserve only of specialist legal historians but rather should be part of the toolkit of all law students teachers and researchers this book will be essential reading for all who work and study in law schools proposing a radical new approach not only to the historical study of law but also to the content purpose and ambition of legal education a subversive approach can revolutionise law schools providing a more ambitious legal education which is grounded in the socio legal reality helping to ensure that today s law students are better equipped to be the professionals and citizens of tomorrow in this book michael f palo explains how a historical and theoretical examination of belgian neutrality 1839 1940 can help readers understand the behaviour of small weak democracies in the international system with contributions by thirty leading international scholars this volume offers an up to date and in depth overview of all current approaches to thucydides history this book discusses the often explosive relation between war and ideas between 1650 and 1900 how the ideas of philosophers and generals have influenced war and how war in its turn has influenced ideas this two volume set investigates the evangelical presence in america as experienced through digital media examining current evangelical ideologies regarding education politics family and government evangelical broadcasting has greatly expanded its footprint in the digital age this informative text acquaints readers with how the electronic church of today spreads its message through internet podcasts social networking religious radio programs and televised sermons how mass media forms the institution s modern identity and what the future of the industry holds

as mobile church apps christian based video games and online worship become the norm the work split into two volumes reveals the ways that the christian broadcast community affects evangelical traditions and influences american society in general volume 1 explores how electronic media shapes today s christian subculture while the second volume describes how the electronic church impacts the wider american culture analyzing what key figures in evangelical mass media are saying about today s religious political economic and social issues the set concludes by addressing criticism about religious media and the prospects of american public discourse to accomodate both secular and religious voices bringing together children s literature scholars from china and the united states this collection provides an introduction to the scope and goals of a field characterized by active but also distinctive scholarship in two countries with very different rhetorical traditions the volume s five sections highlight the differences between and overlapping concerns of chinese and american scholars as they examine children s literature with respect to cultural metaphors and motifs historical movements authorship didacticism important themes and the current status of and future directions for literature and criticism wide ranging and admirably ambitious in its encouragement of communication between scholars from two major nations representing children in chinese and u s children s literature serves as a model for examining how and why children s literature more than many literary forms circulates internationally a wide ranging study of tarantino s controversial 2009 film written by a luminous line up of international scholars in recent years controversy has surrounded the narrative turn in history and the

historical turn in fiction this book clarifies what is at stake tracing connections between historiography and life writing arguing that the challenges posed in representing the past illuminate issues which are central to all literary narrative alternate history is a genre of fiction that although connected to science fiction has its own rich history and lineage with its roots in the writings of ancient rome alternate history matured into something close to its current form in the essays and novels of the nineteenth century in more recent years a number of highly acclaimed novels have been published as alternate histories by authors ranging from bestselling science fiction writers to pulitzer prize winning literary icons the popularity of the genre is reflected in its success on television where original concepts have been developed alongside adaptations of classic texts such as philip k dick s the man in the high castle this collection of essays by both leading scholars in the field and rising stars seeks to redress an imbalance between the importance and quality of alternate history texts and the available critical scholarship on the genre the essays acknowledge the long and distinctive history of alternate history whilst also revelling in its vitality adaptability and contemporary relevance 9788472457904 txt commemorative practices are revised and rebuilt based on the spirit of the time in which they are re created historians sometimes imagine that commemoration captures history but actually commemoration creates new narratives about history that allow people to interact with the past in a way that they find meaningful as our social values change race gender religion sexuality class our commemorations do too we are what we remember the american past through

commemoration analyzes current trends in the study of historical memory that are particularly relevant to our own present our biases our politics our contextual moment and strive to name forgotten overlooked and denied pasts in traditional histories race gender and sexuality for example raise questions about our most treasured myths where were the slaves at jamestowne how do women or lesbians protect and preserve their own histories when no one else wants to write them our current social climate allows us to question authority and especially the authoritative definitions of nation patriotism and heroism and belonging how do we uncommemorate things that were miscommemorated in the past how do we repair the damage done by past commemorations the chapters in this book contributed by eighteen emerging and established scholars examine these modern questions that entirely reimagine the landscape of commemoration as it has been practiced and studied before this volume brings together leading historians and international relations scholars to debate the causes of the first world war could world war i have been averted if franz ferdinand and his wife hadn t been murdered by serbian nationalists in 1914 what if ronald reagan had been killed by hinckley s bullet would the cold war have ended as it did in forbidden fruit richard ned lebow develops protocols for conducting robust counterfactual thought experiments and uses them to probe the causes and contingency of transformative

international developments like world war i and the end of the cold war he uses experiments surveys and a short story to explore why policymakers historians and international relations scholars are so resistant to the contingency and indeterminism inherent in open ended nonlinear systems most controversially lebow argues that the difference between counterfactual and so called factual arguments is misleading as both can be evidence rich and logically persuasive a must read for social scientists forbidden fruit also examines the binary between fact and fiction and the use of counterfactuals in fictional works like philip roth s the plot against america to understand complex causation and its implications for who we are and what we think makes the social world work 1949

more than any other event the first world war made the twentieth century this book aimed to appeal not only to students but also to the general reader talks about many of the myths surrounding the war

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Virtual History 2011-06-02

what if britain had stayed out of the first world war what if germany had won the second how would england look if there had been no cromwell what would the world be like if communism had never collapsed and what if john f kennedy had lived in this acclaimed book leading historians from andrew roberts to michael burleigh explore what might have been if nine of the most decisive moments in modern history had never happened

Virtual History: Alternatives And Counterfactuals 2000-09-01

what if there had been no american war of independence what if hitler had invaded britain what if kennedy had lived what if russia had won the cold war niall ferguson author of the highly acclaimed the pity of war leads the charge in this historically rigorous series of separate voyages into imaginary time and provides far reaching answers to these intriguing questions ferguson s brilliant 90 page introduction doubles as a manifesto on the methodology of counterfactual history his equally masterful afterword traces the likely historical ripples that would have proceeded from the maintenance of stuart rule in england this breathtaking narrative gives us a convincing detailed alternative history of the west from

the accession of james iii in 1701 to a nazi occupied england to a u s prime minister kennedy who lives to complete his term

Altered Pasts 2014-03-27

a bullet misses its target in sarajevo a would be austrian painter gets into the viennese academy lord halifax becomes british prime minister in 1940 seemingly minor twists of fate on which world shaking events might have hinged alternative history has long been the stuff of parlour games war gaming and science fiction but over the past few decades it has become a popular stomping ground for serious historians richard j evans now turns a critical slightly jaundiced eye on the subject altered pasts examines the intellectual fallout from historical counterfactuals most importantly evans takes counterfactual history seriously looking at the insights pitfalls and intellectual implications of changing one thread in the weave of history

The Pity Of War 1999-04-08

in the pity of war niall ferguson makes a simple and provocative argument that the human atrocity known as the great war was entirely england s fault britain according to ferguson entered into war based on naïve assumptions of german aims and england s entry into the

war transformed a continental conflict into a world war which they then badly mishandled necessitating american involvement the war was not inevitable ferguson argues but rather the result of the mistaken decisions of individuals who would later claim to have been in the grip of huge impersonal forces that the war was wicked horrific inhuman is memorialized in part by the poetry of men like wilfred owen and siegfried sassoon but also by cold statistics more british soldiers were killed in the first day of the battle of the somme than americans in the vietnam war indeed the total british fatalities in that single battle some 420 000 exceeds the entire american fatalities for both world wars and yet as ferguson writes while the war itself was a disastrous folly the great majority of men who fought it did so with enthusiasm ferguson vividly brings back to life this terrifying period not through dry citation of chronological chapter and verse but through a series of brilliant chapters focusing on key ways in which we now view the first world war for anyone wanting to understand why wars are fought why men are willing to fight them and why the world is as it is today there is no sharper nor more stimulating guide than niall ferguson s the pity of war

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to be human

Similes, Puns and Counterfactuals in Literary Narrative **2017-04-21**

in this study jennifer riddle harding presents a cognitive analysis of three figures of speech that have readily identifiable forms similes puns and counterfactuals harding argues that when deployed in literary narrative these forms have narrative functions such as the depiction of conscious experiences allegorical meanings and alternative plots uniquely developed by these more visible figures of speech metaphors by contrast are often invisible in the formal structure of a text with a solid cognitive grounding harding s approach emphasizes the relationship between figurative forms and narrative effects harding demonstrates the literary functions of previously neglected figures of speech and the potential for a unified approach to a topic that crosses cognitive disciplines her work has implications for the rhetorical approach to figures of speech for cognitive disciplines and for the studies of literature rhetoric and narrative

21st Century? 2011-12

2011年6月4日 21世纪 2011-12

Britain and the Economic Problem of the Cold War **2017-07-05**

many accounts of british development since 1945 have attempted to discover why britain experienced slower rates of economic growth than other western european countries in many cases the explanation for this phenomenon has been attributed to the high level of defence spending that successive british post war governments adhered to yet is it fair to assume that britain s relative economic decline could have been prevented if policy makers had not spent so much on defence examining aspects of the political economy and economic impact of british defence expenditure in the period of the first cold war 1945 1955 this book challenges these widespread assumptions looking in detail at the link between defence spending and economic decline in contrast to earlier studies till geiger not only analyses the british effort within the framework of anglo american relations but also places it within the

wider context of european integration by reconsidering the previously accepted explanation of the economic impact of the british defence effort during the immediate post war period this book convincingly suggests that british foreign policy makers retained a large defence budget to offset a sense of increased national vulnerability brought about by a reduction in britain s economic strength due to her war effort furthermore it is shown that although this level of military spending may have slightly hampered post war recovery it was not in itself responsible for the decline of the british economy

Subversive Legal History 2021-07-29

provocative audacious and challenging this book rejuvenates not only the historical study of law but also the role of law schools by asking which stories we tell and which stories we forget it argues that a historical approach to law should be at the beating heart of the law school curriculum far from being archaic elitist and dull historical perspectives on law are and should be subversive comparison with the past underscores how the law and legal institutions are not fixed but are constructed that every line drawn in the law and everything the law holds as sacred is actually arbitrary and how the environment into which law students are socialised is a historical construct a subversive approach is needed to highlight question de construct and re construct the authored nature of the law revealing that legal change on a larger scale is possible far from being archaic this recasts legal history as being anarchic

subversive legal history is not a type of legal history but is its defining characteristic if it is to be a central part of law school life it describes a legal method that should not be the preserve only of specialist legal historians but rather should be part of the toolkit of all law students teachers and researchers this book will be essential reading for all who work and study in law schools proposing a radical new approach not only to the historical study of law but also to the content purpose and ambition of legal education a subversive approach can revolutionise law schools providing a more ambitious legal education which is grounded in the socio legal reality helping to ensure that today s law students are better equipped to be the professionals and citizens of tomorrow

Neutrality as a Policy Choice for Small/Weak Democracies 2019-07-08

in this book michael f palo explains how a historical and theoretical examination of belgian neutrality 1839 1940 can help readers understand the behaviour of small weak democracies in the international system

Brill's Companion to Thucydides 2006-09-30

with contributions by thirty leading international scholars this volume offers an up to date and in depth overview of all current approaches to thucydides history

Concepts of War, 1650-1900 2023-02-17

this book discusses the often explosive relation between war and ideas between 1650 and 1900 how the ideas of philosophers and generals have influenced war and how war in its turn has influenced ideas

The Electronic Church in the Digital Age 2015-11-10

this two volume set investigates the evangelical presence in america as experienced through digital media examining current evangelical ideologies regarding education politics family and government evangelical broadcasting has greatly expanded its footprint in the digital age this informative text acquaints readers with how the electronic church of today spreads its message through internet podcasts social networking religious radio programs and televised sermons how mass media forms the institution s modern identity and what the

future of the industry holds as mobile church apps christian based video games and online worship become the norm the work split into two volumes reveals the ways that the christian broadcast community affects evangelical traditions and influences american society in general volume 1 explores how electronic media shapes today s christian subculture while the second volume describes how the electronic church impacts the wider american culture analyzing what key figures in evangelical mass media are saying about today s religious political economic and social issues the set concludes by addressing criticism about religious media and the prospects of american public discourse to accomodate both secular and religious voices

Representing Children in Chinese and U.S. Children's Literature 2016-04-08

bringing together children s literature scholars from china and the united states this collection provides an introduction to the scope and goals of a field characterized by active but also distinctive scholarship in two countries with very different rhetorical traditions the volume s five sections highlight the differences between and overlapping concerns of chinese and american scholars as they examine children s literature with respect to cultural metaphors and motifs historical movements authorship didacticism important themes and

the current status of and future directions for literature and criticism wide ranging and admirably ambitious in its encouragement of communication between scholars from two major nations representing children in chinese and u s children s literature serves as a model for examining how and why children s literature more than many literary forms circulates internationally

Quentin Tarantino's Inglourious Basterds 2012-06-28

a wide ranging study of tarantino s controversial 2009 film written by a luminous line up of international scholars

Narrating the Past 2011-10-04

in recent years controversy has surrounded the narrative turn in history and the historical turn in fiction this book clarifies what is at stake tracing connections between historiography and life writing arguing that the challenges posed in representing the past illuminate issues which are central to all literary narrative

Sideways in Time 2019-09-30

alternate history is a genre of fiction that although connected to science fiction has its own rich history and lineage with its roots in the writings of ancient rome alternate history matured into something close to its current form in the essays and novels of the nineteenth century in more recent years a number of highly acclaimed novels have been published as alternate histories by authors ranging from bestselling science fiction writers to pulitzer prize winning literary icons the popularity of the genre is reflected in its success on television where original concepts have been developed alongside adaptations of classic texts such as philip k dick s the man in the high castle this collection of essays by both leading scholars in the field and rising stars seeks to redress an imbalance between the importance and quality of alternate history texts and the available critical scholarship on the genre the essays acknowledge the long and distinctive history of alternate history whilst also revelling in its vitality adaptability and contemporary relevance

Unmaking the West 2006

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We Are What We Remember 2013-01-16

commemorative practices are revised and rebuilt based on the spirit of the time in which they are re created historians sometimes imagine that commemoration captures history but actually commemoration creates new narratives about history that allow people to interact with the past in a way that they find meaningful as our social values change race gender religion sexuality class our commemorations do too we are what we remember the american past through commemoration analyzes current trends in the study of historical memory that are particularly relevant to our own present our biases our politics our contextual moment and strive to name forgotten overlooked and denied pasts in traditional histories race gender and sexuality for example raise questions about our most treasured myths where were the slaves at jamestowne how do women or lesbians protect and preserve their own histories when no one else wants to write them our current social climate allows us to question authority and especially the authoritative definitions of nation patriotism and heroism and belonging how do we un commemorate things that were mis commemorated in the past how do we repair the damage done by past commemorations the chapters in this book contributed by eighteen emerging and established scholars examine these modern questions that entirely reimagine the landscape of commemoration as it has been practiced and studied before

2011-01

could world war i have been averted if franz ferdinand and his wife hadn t been murdered by serbian nationalists in 1914 what if ronald reagan had been killed by hinckley s bullet would the cold war have ended as it did in forbidden fruit richard ned lebow develops protocols for conducting robust counterfactual thought experiments and uses them to probe the causes and contingency of transformative international developments like world war i and the end of the cold war he uses experiments surveys and a short story to explore why policymakers historians and international relations scholars are so resistant to the contingency and indeterminism inherent in open ended nonlinear systems most controversially lebow argues that the difference between counterfactual and so called factual arguments is misleading as both can be evidence rich and logically persuasive a must read for social scientists forbidden fruit also examines the binary between fact and fiction and the use of counterfactuals in fictional works like philip roth s the plot against america to understand complex causation and its implications for who we are and what we think makes the social world work

Historical Social Research 2009

1949

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New Statesman 1997-04

***Being of counterfactuals* 2000**

***American Book Publishing Record* 2006**

The Pity of War 1999

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Book Review Digest 2002

The Nation 1999-10

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