

HIST 4571 / Book Review

Due in class on Monday, November 12

Write a 2-page response to the following questions, devoting about one page to each question. Make sure to follow the following requirements:

- Your text should be single-spaced
 - Use 12-pt Times Roman font
 - If you chose to quote any of the sources (which I encourage), please do not quote anything beyond 2-3 lines at the most; in other words, you should use quotes sparingly. The idea is to hear your analysis of the source material;
 - As you write the answers to the following two questions, please also, as appropriate, engage with the material from other readings in our class, especially the book *Technology Matters* by Nye.
 - You do not need to use footnotes or citations, except to refer to page numbers from either Edgerton, Misa, Nye, etc.
1. What is the basic argument that David Edgerton makes in his book *The Shock of the Old: Technology and Global History Since 1900*, specifically in relation to the history of technology? Why is this an important and useful approach, according to Edgerton? Refer to examples taken from at least two different chapters in the book. (About 1 page, 50% of grade)
 2. How is Edgerton's idea about the history of technology different from the accepted narrative of the development of technology? I would like you to use the narrative presented in Misa's *Leonardo to the Internet* to make appropriate comparisons between the dual approaches of Edgerton and Misa. Please remember to provide concrete examples from the history of technology throughout your answer. (Hint: One way to answer this question is to see if, for example, Misa had adopted Edgerton's approach to the focus on "use" rather than "innovation," what kind of different insights would be gained by that alternative approach. You can focus on a particular chapter or theme taken up by Misa or Edgerton to make appropriate comparisons). (About 1 page, 50% of grade)