As historians we have found ourselves for decades in the crossroads since the space of human action was profoundly questioned by the main schools of thought during the past century and, especially, by the latest trends in postmodern theory and criticism. European history, in particular, seems to be reaching what may be the end of a long period of crisis coinciding with the terrible economic situation and the unravelling of social and political structures that are shaking the foundations of the continental order. The self-fashioning narrative of a “Western civilization” inherited from the Ancient Greeks and the very belief in “Progress” are increasingly unable to appropriately address pressing questions of race, class, gender, culture, or even post-national possibilities of socio-political organization. Culture & History Digital Journal will cover the ever wider and integrated field of studies that is emerging from the crisis of conventional discourse by exploring, among many other sites of knowledge, the space of the individual and the body, language, feelings, cultural practices and the environment.

The aim of Culture & History Digital Journal is to contribute to debates currently underway in the Humanities and Social Sciences. We are convinced that its inter and trans-disciplinary approach will ensure it a niche in current global critical practices and that the digital format and publication in English will further enrich its reach.

Focusing on studies of the past, in a dialogue with the needs of the present, putting aside interpretative models attached to chronology and classical forms of document analysis, we want not to bring in only subjects subordinate to history – recovered today by the many different approaches to its study– but also contribute to overcoming the barriers that hinder practical communication between historians due to the artificial divisions resulting from specialisation in particular fields and periods. We also hope to encourage collaboration between different areas of the social sciences so as to blur the boundaries that persist as a result of adherence to fragmented modes of doing history, compartmentalised into the major categories (social, economic, political or cultural) that are the legacy of the great historiographical battles of the 20th century.