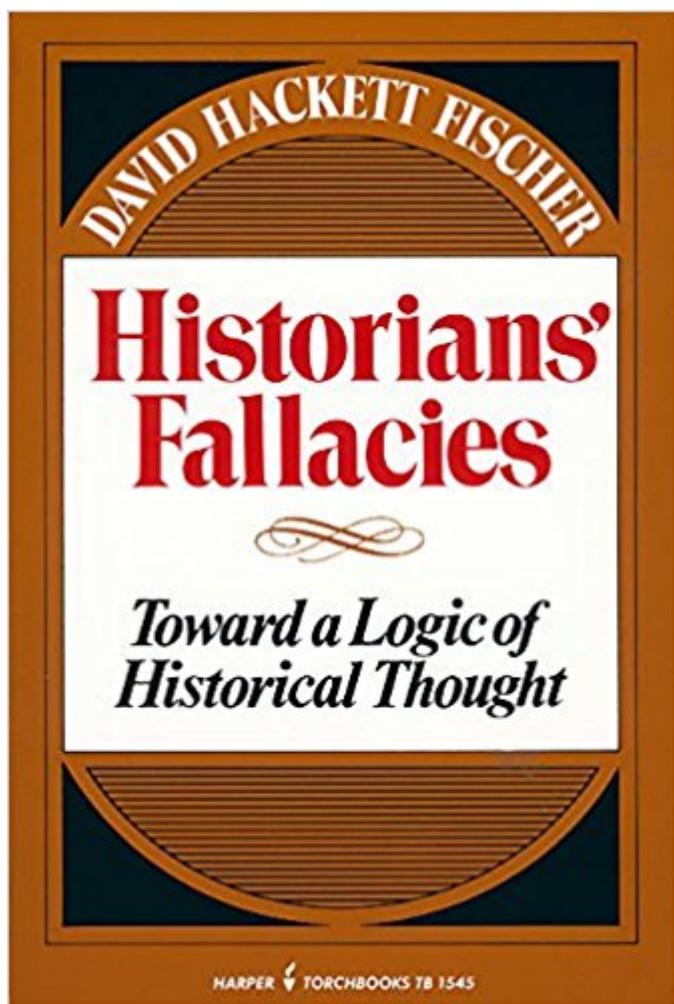


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# Historians' Fallacies : Toward A Logic Of Historical Thought



## **Synopsis**

"If one laughs when David Hackett Fischer sits down to play, one will stay to cheer. His book must be read three times: the first in anger, the second in laughter, the third in respect....The wisdom is expressed with a certain ruthlessness. Scarcely a major historian escapes unscathed. Ten thousand members of the American Historical Association will rush to the index and breathe a little easier to find their names absent.

## **Book Information**

Perfect Paperback: 338 pages

Publisher: Harper & Row, Publishers; 1st edition (1970)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0060904984

ISBN-13: 978-0061315459

ASIN: 0061315451

Product Dimensions: 5.3 x 0.8 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 37 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #86,179 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #65 in Books > Reference > Encyclopedias & Subject Guides > History #75 in Books > History > Historical Study & Educational Resources > Historiography #85 in Books > History > Historical Study & Educational Resources > Reference

## **Customer Reviews**

"An important book...in terms of helping an entire generation of scholars who profess to have lost confidence in being historians."--New York Times Book Review"

Fischer's irreverent look at the historical profession is still almost as fresh as when it was published nearly a half-century ago. For teachers interested in fostering student learning about historical investigation, this is still one of the best places to start.

I was recently introduced to the author's "Washington's Crossing." Quite impressed and informed, I read his book on Paul Revere's ride. Now I'm eating him up. Since "fallacies" was written 35 years ago, and his Washington book just recently, Professor Fischer seems to have been able to practice what he preached. This book reminds me of Mortimer Adler's "How to Read a Book" (the

original--not the van Doren amplification; or Alfred North Whitehead's "Modes of Thought" or Barbara Hernstein-Smith's "Contingencies of Value." These much read books of mine seem to be called upon, every so often, to reacquaint me with the ways of encountering an event or a process. Fischer probably could have shortened the book by combining a few of his fallacies, but his ways of seeing are myriad and his way of writing clear.

Fischer is great and has identified several fallacies I commit myself all the time. The best part is that his own prose is full of exactly the kinds of fallacies he deplores.

A good quality paperback book. Fast delivery. Thanks!

As always, David brings facts to legends.

Well worth reading again to maintain a strong discipline in the history field.

Didn't realize how many things could go wrong about writing history. Amazing, and Dr. Fischer does an excellent job in covering the field. Tough going though.

Fantastic!

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