

# Using Historical Reasoning Process to Develop Effective Historical Arguments: CONTINUITY AND CHANGE OVER TIME (CCOT)

Reasoning Process Skill #3

## **Students should be able to:**

- Describe patterns of continuity and/or change over time (CCOT).
- Explain patterns of continuity and/or change over time.
- Explain the relative historical significance of specific historical developments in relation to a larger pattern of continuity and/or change over time.

## **Underlying Questions:**

- What has changed within a specific time period? Why?
- What has remained the same within a specific time period? Why?
- What can explain why some things have changed and others have not? So what?
- How are continuity and change represented in different types of sources; for example, in graphs, charts, political cartoons, and texts? What might be the reasons behind different depictions of continuity and change?

## **Why are the questions significant for analysis?**

- **Both change and continuity are important to historians.**
  - In moments of tremendous change i.e. the fall of the Roman Empire, many social and family attitudes will stay the same while political structures will dramatically shift.
- Some of the most interesting questions that historians investigate ask why, at the same moment in history, some things change while others do not.