This presentation focuses on the analysis of the symbolic construction of temporal dimensions in historical national discourses. We postulate that in discourses of recent history written by historians and sociologists, the reconstruction of memories is realized, in part, through the valorative symbolic representation of the time framework. Consequently, the temporal phases are constituted from determinate valorative prosodies that have also a critical role in the construction of cohesion and coherence in discourse. In this manner, temporal phases are key constituents of the historical explanation which is constructed from determinate evaluations of Judgement, Appreciation and Affect with different levels of engagement (Appraisal Theory). The chronological dimension of time, which is usually realized in a more congruent manner, and the other instances of time, expressed mainly by nominalizations and processes, build in conjunction the symbolic representation of the time framework in the specialized discourse of history and the organization of the argument from an evaluative orientation.