AP Themes in this Chapter

1. **Peopling**: When people change borders or borders change over people.
   I. Prior to European incursion ca. 1500, natives to the Americas had very diverse cultures
   II. European incursion changed these cultures irrevocably, AND also changed the rest of the world, especially Europe at first.
   III. The state of Africa ca. 1500

2. **Environment and Geography**
   I. How the geography of the America’s made technology less important in North America and central Africa
   II. How the geography of Europe led to exploration
1. Comparison and Contextualization
   I. Comparing various American cultures
   II. Comparing European cultures (ex: Protestant vs. Catholic)
   III. Comparing African cultures
   IV. Comparing American, African and European cultures
   V. Contextualization. How was early colonization of the Americas a part of larger regional, national, and global processes?

1. Continuity and Change over Time
   I. What changed, what stayed the same for European settlers in the New world. Did they retain their old ways????
   II. What changed, what stayed the same for natives after first contact????
   III. What changed, what stayed the same for African cultures due to European expansion of trade, especially the slave trade????
Things to consider

What constitutes culture?
What constitutes a “civilization”?
Why was Europe struggling so much in 1200 CE?
What caused it’s sudden leap forward by 1600? (Renaissance, Enlightenment, Humanism, Scientific Revolution, etc.)
What caused the “Age of Discovery”?

Pre-Columbian Era 10,000 BCE -1491 CE

• Scholars estimate that human migration into the Americas over the Bering Strait occurred approximately 11,000 years ago

• The large amount of habitable territory and natural resources meant early migrant society was sustainable longer and the need for complex societies came much later compared to the Old World.

• Major regions of focus:
  1. Meso-American: the Aztecs, Inca, Mayans and Olmec
  2. The Southwest: Pueblo, Anasazi, Hopi
  3. Mississippian: Cahokia
  4. Eastern Woodlands: Iroquois, Algonquian, 5-Civilized Tribes
1. Meso-American: the Aztecs, Inca, Mayans and Olmec

- Great diversity among Native American tribes
- Begin to farm as early as 5000 B.C.
- The first truly complex society were the Olmec est. 1500 B.C.E.
- Region was home to the most advanced civilizations in Mexico and Central America
- Tribes of eastern North America were less technologically accomplished
- Aztecs were the most populous of the pre-Columbian Empires
  - Capital of the empire, Tenochtitlan was over 200,000
2. Arid Southwest: Pueblo, Anasazi, Hopi
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- Regularly exposed to drought conditions.
- Structures maximized local resources will providing a well-insulated structure from heat.

3. Mississippian: Cahokia Mound

- Cahokia Mounds are home to a major pre-Columbian city located near present-day St. Louis.
- More than eighty mounds, spanning two thousand acres were built along the Mississippi River making this the largest and one of the wealthiest trade cities of the New World.
4: Eastern Woodlands: Iroquois, Algonquian, Five Civilized Tribes

- Algonquian-speaking people inhabited the area from Maine to North Carolina
- Iroquois enemies around the Great lakes
- Significance of Kinship and Reciprocity
- “Manitou” and other Spiritual Values
- Warfare as ritual to restore order, but often led to very bloody internecine warfare.
Eastern woodland village, 1585
The Other Immigrants

- All regions were affected by European contact and the Columbian Exchange(s)
- Transitional phase with periodic contact during the 15th and early 16th centuries
- No sudden invasion, rather a slow infiltration of men and microbes

Rats and ships are synonymous
- Dogs (for companionship) and pigs (for food) were common passengers on early voyages
- Rats, dogs and pigs wreaked havoc on many island ecosystems
- Horses were reintroduced to the Americas by the Spanish and were utilized by Indians far outside the zone of immediate contact
- The most significant travelers were microscopic

Results of European Contact

- Initial phase of mutual dependence
- Upsets balance between Native American tribes
- Epidemiological disaster
  --America = “widowed land”
  “Biological genocide” Alfred Crosby
- Inherent differences in value systems and land use patterns
- New agriculture results in a population boom in Old World
- Some inter-marriage, mostly with Spanish (mestizos)
- Excess silver and gold cause inflation in Spanish economy
Locations of Major Indian Groups and Culture Areas in the 1600s
The term “Columbian Exchange” refers to the exchange of biological commodities and ideas between the Old World and the New World as a result of the European voyages of exploration that started with Christopher Columbus.

It is perhaps the most globally impactful exchange in human history.
Growth of Trade in Europe

By 1500 Europeans were seeking ocean bound trade routes to Asia

European Background to Exploration

- Myth of the “West” goes all the way back to the Greeks—Atlantis
- Vikings discover Greenland around 1000 A.D.
- Columbus’ Voyage—1492
- Push Factors to explore:
  1. Social
  2. Political
  3. Religious
  4. Intellectual
  5. Technical
  6. Economic
I. Social
- Hierarchical society
- Emergence of a new “middle class”
- Increasing Social Tensions between classes ENCLOSURE movement.
- Agricultural changes leads to excess population heading toward European towns and American colonies
- PRIMOGENITURE

II. Political
- Medieval European Government
  --Decentralized and Local
- New View of Politics during the Renaissance
  --Machiavelli, The Prince
- Emergence of Centralized, Competitive Monarchies

III. Religious
- Growing SECULARISM
- Protestant Reformation
- Division Breeds Dissent
- No sense of religious toleration or separation of church and state
- Dissenters need places of refuge = colonies

IV. Intellectual
- Renaissance (Rebirth) scholars emphasized concrete experience over abstract theory and tried to observe the natural world carefully, completely, and without preconceived ideas. This spirit of impartial inquiry was more important to the future of science than any specific achievement.
  – Galileo
  – Sir Isaac Newton
  – Johannes Kepler
  – William Harvey
  – Leonardo da Vinci
  – Nicholaus Copernicus
  – Michelangelo, et. al.
V. Economic

- Increasing Secularism -- move away from “just price” theory
- Emergence of Long-Distance Trade -- breaks monopoly of the guild system
- Emergence of Middle-class capitalists -- “New rich” = lots of $, wrong blood
- Mercantilism and the role of colonies
- Joint Stock Co’s Source of capital for colonial ventures

VI. Technologically (cont)

- New Military Technology -- Emergence of gunpowder weaponry -- The Rise of the “Standing Army”
- Lots of imperial warfare—competition for
  - Power
  - Land
  - pride

Feudalism to Mercantilism:

- End of Roman “protection”
- Black death kept population low
- Stronger estates traded protection to peasants for their loyalty
  - Led to development of aristocratic states
- As the outside threats diminished a stable system of bonded labor was entrenched.
- An early form of nationalism was the natural outcome
Early World Powers:

I. Portugal

- Prince Henry the Navigator encouraged and funded exploration.
- Discovery of Brazil sailing south around tip of Africa to find India (Vasco de Gama)
- Paid for voyages through slave trade
- Dominant force in Indian Ocean
- Early Monopoly on oceanic Spice Trade

II. Spain

- Reconquista caused Spain to become:
  - Catholic protectorate
  - Most powerful monarchy
  - Earliest Nation State
- Shifted attention westward b/c
  - Italy controlled land access to riches
  - Portugal controlled African route
- Reconquista ended in 1492
- What to do with all those Conquistadores? They refuse to go to work or become merchants and bankers.
Early World Powers: III: France
• Good Climate and Soil within their colonies
• Small population (under 25,000 total)
• Religiously homogeneous and stable monarchy (at this time)
• So why leave? - Limited national interest as France was already profitable at home at not dependent on foreign markets.

Early World Powers IV: Dutch/Netherlands
• Long history of trade with Russia, Norway, Sweden, etc. (but not westward)
• Financiers
• Guilds
• Strong merchant class
• Mercantilism
Early World Powers
V: Italy

- Not a country/nation state, but dozens of principalities and kingdoms that constantly squabbled for dominance of:
- Early wealth due to position b/w Arab world (supply) and Europe (growing demand)
- Controls the Vatican and therefore the Pope
- Will be the financier of Joint Stock companies, and voyages of exploration.

Factors in Exploration

- Accidental discovery.
- Desire to bypass Moslem world’s monopoly on trade (luxury?) goods.
- Disruptions of overland routes
- Intra-European rivalry.
- Curiosity.
- Rebirth of science and medicine due to contact with Muslim world (their Golden Age) led to vastly increased life span and population growth.
- End of Black Death 1350 (further Population Pressure—what do people do during GOOD times?)
- End of Reconquista
The Atlantic Slave Trade

Why African slaves?

- Roots of Slavery - existed in Eastern Europe already, but access to slaves was cut off.
  - Slave comes from the word Slav
- Africans were needed because Native Indians had died off.
- There were several advantages in using Africans:
  - They had been exposed to European diseases
  - They had experience in farming
  - They had little knowledge of the land and there were no familiar tribes
  - Africa already had an established slave trade
The Triangular Trade

- England dominated the slave trade from the 1690 until 1807.
- By 1830, there were nearly 2 million African slaves in North America.
- African merchants, with the help of local rulers, captured fellow Africans to be enslaved.
- They delivered them to the Europeans in exchange for gold, guns and other goods.
- The trade routes formed a Triangle, becoming known as the **triangular trade**.
  - Manufactured goods from Europe to Africa
  - Slaves from Africa to the Americas
  - Rum and raw materials from the Americas to Europe

The Middle Passage

- Crowded, unsanitary conditions
  - Slaves ride on planks 66” x 15”
    - only 20”– 25” of headroom
  - Males chained together in pairs
  - Kept apart from women and children
  - High mortality rates
    - 1/3 perish between capture and embarkation

- Slaves fed twice per day
  - Poor and insufficient diet
    - Vegetable pulps, stews, and fruits
    - Denied meat or fish
    - Ten people eating from one bucket
    - Unwashed hands spread disease
    - Malnutrition ~ weakness ~ depression ~ death
Slave Trade by the numbers

• Between 1500 and 1600, about 300,000 slaves were taken to the Americas.
• During the next 100 years, the number jumped to 1.5 million, and by 1870 the number was about 11 million.
• During the 1600’s, Brazil dominated the sugar market – and as it grew, so did the need for slaves.
• During the late 17th century, nearly 40% of the slaves from Africa were taken to Brazil.
• Brazil, by the end of the slave trade, had 10 times the amount of slaves than in North America.
• **The rapid collection of raw materials sent to England hastened the development of the industrial revolution in Europe.**
Protestant Reformation: 16th century

- Germany, Netherlands, England
  - Freedom from authority of Church
  - Reading Bible in common language
  - New thought and science were triggered
  - Where the industrial revolution began. Intelligence leads to questioning???

Counter Reformation

- Spain, Portugal, Italy
  - Repression of new ideas
  - Banning foreign books, education
  - Heresies punished to preserve Church
  - Inquisition against: Protestants, Jews, Muslims
  - Fell behind in technology
Why Early Leaders Declined

• Spain and Portugal very wealthy in 16th century from New World gold
  – Spent money on wars and luxuries
  – Did not have to make things: could buy them
  – Did not have to improve agriculture: could buy food
  – Eventually money ran out

• Italy was a renaissance center of trade and manufacture
  – But no colonies in New World
  – Old power structures prevented change

Growth of British Colonies

• American Colonies: settled by dissidents to start a new life
• Focus of the colonies was long term settlement - not simply economic growth.
• Britain ahead of Europe in
  – Textiles (sheep)
  – Iron
  – Coal
  – Agriculture
  – Roads
  – Freedoms