**Exploration, Discovery and Settlement (1492-1700)**

1. Introduction
   1. Pre-Columbian period
      1. Original exploration thousands of years before Columbus
      2. 1st people to settle North America arrived as much as 40,000 years ago
         1. Crossed over on a land bridge that connected Siberia and Alaska
            * Bering Strait land bridge
      3. Migrated and settled from the Arctic Circle to South America
      4. 100’s of tribes formed
         1. Spoke different languages
         2. Developed and practiced different cultures
      5. By 1490 between 50 to 75 million were settled in the Americas
   2. Culture of North America
      1. Most settlements were small (usually under 300 people)
      2. Men were warriors and hunters
      3. Women grew crops such as corn, beans and tobacco
      4. Over time larger societies developed
         1. Led to larger settlements (1,000+ people)
         2. Developed complex cultures
      5. In the northeast (New York) the Iroquois tribes formed a political confederacy
         1. League of the Iroquois
   3. Culture of Central and South America
      1. Most Native Americans were located in Central and South America
      2. Three major Native American cultures arose and developed complex civilizations
         1. Mayans- located in Central America
         2. Aztecs- located in central Mexico
            * Major city, Tenochtitlan, located at modern day Mexico City
         3. Inca- located in Peru
2. The European Arrival
   1. Improvement in European technology
      1. Renaissance
         1. Brought in a period of artistic and scientific creation and discovery
      2. Increase in scientific knowledge and technical change
         1. Use of gun powder and the compass
      3. Major improvements made in ship building and map making
         1. Made open-sea voyages possible
   2. Religious Conflict and Motives
      1. Period of intense religious conflict and persecution
      2. Roman Catholicism had previously been the dominant religion throughout Europe
         1. Was being challenged by Islam and the Protestant Reformation
      3. In 1492 the Catholics defeated the Muslims in Spain
         1. Increased many Europeans belief in the superiority of the Catholic faith
      4. Protestant Reformation
         1. Rebellion against the Catholic church in Northern Europe
         2. Led by Martin Luther
      5. Conflict between the Catholics and Protestants led to many religious wars and conflicts
      6. Religious leaders wanted to spread their religion
         1. Caused an increase in exploration and colonization

* 1. Economic Motives
     1. Exploration grew out of competition for eastern goods
     2. Countries and explorers wanted to find a faster sea route to the far east
        1. 1st attempt by the Portuguese
        2. Voyage went around South Africa’s Cape of Good Hope
     3. Recessions caused created an increase in the number of poverty and starvation stricken people
     4. Series of crop failures caused by cold weather increased caused the danger of starvation to increase
  2. Developing Nation-States
     1. In the 1400’s monarchs began creating nation-states
        1. Monarchs needed to increase trade to increase their revenue
        2. Monarchs also need the church to justify their conquest
  3. Early Explorations
     1. Columbus
        1. His ambitions were shaped by changing political, economic and social beliefs
        2. Columbus’ voyage was funded by Ferdinand and Isabella of Spain
        3. He landed in the Bahamas on October 12, 1492
           + Thought he had landed in India
        4. Columbus died in 1506 thinking he had discovered a route to the far east
        5. Hero or villain?
        6. His voyage brought about, for the first time in history, permanent interaction between Europeans and Native Americans
     2. Columbian Exchange
        1. Exchange of goods, culture and diseases between the Europeans and Native Americans
        2. Native Americans gave the Europeans:
           + Corn, Beans and Squash
           + Tobacco
        3. Europeans gave the Native Americans:
           + Livestock
           + Coffee and sugar cane
           + Iron and guns
           + Disease (Smallpox, malaria and influenza)
        4. Due to their exposure to new diseases nearly 90% of Native Americans died
  4. Dividing the “New World”
     1. Portugal and Spain led claims to the “New World” first
        1. Treaty of Tordesillas
           + Signed by the Pope
           + Gave on half of the “New World” to Spain and the other half to Portugal
           + Mostly in Central and South America
     2. The rest of Europe soon followed Columbus’ route to the “New World”
        1. England claimed territory and tried to establish colonies
           + Sir Walter Raleigh- “The Lost Colony”
        2. France also laid claims to land in the “New World”
           + Great Lakes and the Mississippi River
        3. The Dutch laid claims to the land around New York and the Hudson River
           + New Amsterdam, later renamed New York

1. Early English Settlements
   1. Intro
      1. In the early 1600’s England was in a position to colonize North America
      2. In 1588 they defeated the Spanish Armada and became a major naval power
      3. Large population and bad economic times led to mass amounts of poor and homeless people
         1. People were looking for new ways to find jobs
      4. England created a practical way to finance their colonization called Joint Stock Companies

* 1. Jamestown
     1. Was established in 1607 by the Virginia Company
        1. Chartered by King James I
     2. Was the first permanent English colony in the “New World”
     3. Early Problems
        1. Located in a swamp
           + Led to outbreaks of deadly diseases
        2. Settlers came for gold and were not accustomed to manual labor
        3. Arrived too late in the year to plant crops
           + Led to a period known as ‘The Starving Time”
           + Within months only 61 of the original 500 were still alive
        4. John Smith saves Jamestown with his “No Work, No Eat” policy
     4. Tobacco also played a large role in saving Jamestown
        1. John Rolfe produced a sweet tasting tobacco and sent it back to England
        2. Tobacco became very popular in England
           + Is considered the gold the colonist never found
        3. Increase in demand for tobacco led to forced labor in the colonies
           + Indentured servants were sent by the Virginia Company
           + Indentured servants became problematic
           + In 1619 the first Africans were sent to the “New World”
     5. Jamestown becomes a royal colony
        1. Virginia Co, went bankrupt
        2. Their charter was revoked and Jamestown became a royal colony
  2. Puritan Colonies
     1. Intro
        1. Religious motivation and persecution was the major force behind the settlement of New England
        2. They wanted to escape the Catholic Church rituals used by the Anglican Church
        3. They were called puritans because of their desire to purify the Anglican Church
        4. Two colonies were created Plymouth and the Massachusetts Bay colony
           + Believed in predestination
     2. Plymouth Colony
        1. Wanted to separate from the Anglican Church
        2. Became separatist and migrated to Holland
           + Economic hardships and cultural differences caused them to leave for the “New World”
        3. In 1620 they set sail for Virginia aboard the Mayflower
           + Of the 300 passengers only 100 were pilgrims
        4. The pilgrims decided to head north which was not under royal control
        5. Experienced a tough winter in 1620-21
           + Half of the settlers died
           + Saved by local Native Americans
           + Celebrated with the 1st thanksgiving feast by English settlers
        6. Slowly developed their economy
           + Revolved around fur and lumber
        7. Led by William Bradford
     3. Massachusetts Bay Colony
        1. Calvinist were being persecuted in England by Charles I
           + For economic and political reasons
           + Began to seek a place to practice their religion
        2. Between 1630-1640 15,000 protestants moved to the New England area
           + Called “The Great Migration”
        3. Salem Witch Trials
           + Series of hearings and prosecutions against people charged with practicing witchcraft
           + Period of mass hysteria
           + Led to the death of 19 people and imprisonment of 150 more

1. Early Political Institutions
   1. Majority Rule- Plymouth
      1. Mayflower Compact
         1. Signed in 1620
         2. Represented a form of early colonial self government
         3. Established:
            * Civil government
            * Rule of law
            * Government by mutual consent
            * Will of majority
   2. Representative government- Jamestown
      1. House of Burgesses of Virginia
         1. Colonist were promised same rights they had in England
         2. Formed the House of Burgesses in 1619
         3. First legislative assembly of elected representatives in the “New World”
   3. Representative government – Massachusetts
      1. Limited, but important democratic actions
      2. All male members had the right to participate in the political process.
   4. Limited nature of colonial democracy
      1. Large part of the population were excluded from the political process
      2. Only male property owners could vote
      3. Colonial governors ruled with almost unlimited power
         1. Answered only to the king
      4. Limited rights
         1. Women and landless had very few rights
         2. Slaves, indentured servants and Native Americans had none
2. Spanish Settlements in North America
   1. Florida
      1. Spain established a permanent colony in 1565
      2. Built a fort and colony to safeguard Florida from the “evil Lutheran sect”
         1. Established at St. Augustine
            * Today it is the oldest city in North America
   2. New Mexico
      1. In 1609 Santa Fe was established as the capital of New Mexico
      2. Harsh efforts to Christianize the local Native Americans led to a revolt in 1680
         1. Pueblo Revolt
         2. Spanish were forced out
   3. Texas
      1. Settled in Texas after they were driven out of New Mexico
      2. In the 1700’s the Spanish population increased to resist French efforts to control the lower Mississippi area
   4. California
      1. Began to settle California in response to Russian settlement on the west coast
         1. San Diego-1769
         2. San Francisco-1776
3. French Settlements in North America
   1. Quebec
      1. Established in 1608
      2. Few people migrated to Quebec and of those that did nearly 2/3 returned to France
         1. Feared the long bitter winter of Quebec
   2. Fur trading industry
      1. Rather than developing a settler colony they develop an extensive fur trading industry
      2. Traded for furs with the local native tribes (Hurons)
         1. Led to wars between competing tribes
         2. Spread diseases that killed 25 to 90 percent of residents in Indian villages
      3. Fur trading system brought war and cultural devastation to the Indian peoples
   3. Louisiana
      1. Claimed by Robert de La Salle
         1. Sailed down the Mississippi River to the Gulf of Mexico
         2. Searching for furs and skins
      2. Named to honor King Louie XIV
4. European Treatment of Native Americans
   1. Each nation had their own approach for controlling and subjugating the Native Americans
      1. Spanish
         1. Conquered and intermarried
         2. Conquistadors killed enslaved and spread disease killing millions
         3. Sent missionaries to settle with the Indians in an attempt to convert them to Catholicism and gain their allegiance
      2. English
         1. Took over the land and forced the Native Americans of the coast and into the interior
         2. Nor respect for their culture, considered them “savages”
      3. French
         1. Looking for furs and converts to Catholicism tended to treat the Native Americans as economic and military allies
   2. In general all European nations saw them as inferior
      1. Exploited them for economic, political and religious gain
   3. Major long term effects
      1. The destruction of the Native American population due to disease
      2. Establishment of a permanent legacy of subjugation