Pre-Columbian Societies & Cultures

**Olmecs** - Mother Culture = 1st civilization in Mesoamerica
- Controversial Basalt Head Sculptures - African Influence

**Aztecs** - largest Ancient Mesoamerican Empire
- Refer to themselves as “Mexico”
- Tenochtitlan - Capital built on a lake
- Quetzalcoatl - the “feathered Serpent”

**Incas** - largest Ancient South American Empire
- Machu Picchu - major city constructed high in the Andes
- Quipu - form of record keeping using strings in knots

**Apaches** - Zuni word = means “Enemy”
- culture in Southern United States
- Geronimo - famous Apache Warrior
- “Wickiups” - name of traditional dwellings

Colonial Latin America

Independence Movements

**Mexico** = started off as a liberal movement lead by Father Miguel Hidalgo + Grito de Dolores 1816
= Father Hidalgo killed = Father Jose Morelos take over
= mostly a movement by the Native + Mestizo peasants
= Liberals [radical transformation and social, land & economic reform] vs Conservatives [keeping & preserving the old colonial systems]
= liberals take over after independence won + Augustin de Iturbide installed as conservative president

**South America** = started off as a movement mostly by the Criollos/creole elites
= major leaders include Somin Bolivar [liberator of Gran Colombia = Venezuela; Ecuador; Colombia; Bolivia] + Jose de San Martin [liberator of Argentina; Chile; South Peru]
Caste War in Yucatan 1847

The revolt of native Maya people of Yucatán (Mexico) against the population of European descent (called Yucatecos) in political and economic control.

Origins: Haciendas (large areas of land owned by 1 person/ 1 family) taking away land under Native Maya ‘COMMUNAL LANDS’ (land ownership as a community) = Yucatecos vs Maya

Marcus Canul= Icaiche Maya leader+ hero in Belize

** Caudillos= charm and charisma.
Mostly military leaders who were capable of maintaining order in a society that had become armed and militarized in the wars.

Cruzob Flag

Nationalism= strong belief that the interests of a particular nation state are of primary importance

European Influence= Napolean Bonaparte invades Spain in 1808 & makes his brother king

Differences= in with Mexican Independence Movement from South America Independence Movement
= Case of Mexico- was a movement lead by the liberals & involved mostly the peasants
=Case of South America- movement lead by elite criollos/creoles

Fort Barlee- Corozal Town

Fort Mundy- O-Walk Town