Latin American History EXAM Study Guide

Geography of Latin America
- Countries south of the USA in North, Central, south America and the Caribbean
- A group of countries in the American continent where Latin languages such as Spanish, French and Portuguese are spoken.
- The Relative location of Latin America: North: bordered by the USA; West: bordered by the eastern pacific region; East: bordered by a string of British possessions in the Atlantic region; South: bordered by Cape Horn.

-Latin American Map:

![Latin American Map](image)

Early Pre-Colombian Settlement
- Migration into America: Land Bridge Theory, Pacific Theory, Coastal Theory, Atlantic Theory.
- Pre-Columbian Latin America facts: The Economy was based on agriculture with corn being the principal crop.

The OLMEC CIVILIZATION
- Located in the tropical lowlands of south-central Mexico (roughly the modern-day states of Veracruz and Tabasco)
- Alluvial soils: A fine-grained fertile soil deposited by water flowing over flood plains or in river beds. Rivers for transportation. Surplus production led to a rise in population.
- Most Olmec were farmers and fishers. They lived in villages near rivers on the top of earthen mounds. They grew maize, beans, squash, and peppers
- OLMEC Cities La Venta, tres Zapotes, San Lorenzo

The Aztec Empire
- AZTEC ORIGIN MYTH***
- The Aztec came from Azatlan (white place- place of Herons) in the Mexico Basin. They were led by Tenoch following the orders of Huitzilopochtli, who told Tenoch to lead his people to Lake Texcoco. “When you reach your destination, you are to look for an eagle perched on a cactus, growing from a rock or cave surrounded by water.” The mythology led to the creation of Tenochtitlan.
- Tenochtitlan: An over five square mile chinampa with walls of serpent sculptures, houses of priests and nobility, Tzompantli altar (skull rack). It had three causeways linked to the mainland and wooden bridges that could be raised.
- The rise of the Aztec Empire: The Aztecs were war mercenaries that worked along with Tepanecs. However, the Aztecs broke relations and fought against Tepanecs for resources.
- The Tripple Alliance: Tenochtitlan joined with Texcoco and Tlacopan. In 1428 the alliance defeated the Tepanecs. Tenochtitlan became the center of power. By the early 1500s, the Aztec Empire stretched from the Gulf of Mexico to the Pacific Ocean.
- Building the empire: Tribute sufficed the livelihood of Tenochtitlan’s population. The god Huitzilopochtli required human blood for survival, therefore the Aztec used human sacrifice to frighten other cities.
The Aztec Declaration of war: The Aztecs asked a city to join the empire as an ally. The city had 60 days to agree. If the ruler refused the Aztecs declared war. After the city fell, the Aztecs took their captives. Cities had to pay tribute but remained independent.

The Inca

- The Inca Civilization originated in the Cusco area of Peru

- The INCA were influenced by the MOCHE and the CHIMU.
  - The Moche lived along the northern coast of Peru from about 100 c.e. to 700 c.e.
  - The Chimu kingdom in northern Peru flourished during the 1300s and 1400s.

- The Inca Origin myth: **** Inti appeared to an Inca ruler instructing him to expand the Empire. Chanacas attacked the Inca Empire. The King ran way along with his people. Yupanqui led his army against the Chanacas. Stones turned to warriors. Yupanqui took the name of Pachacuti and began to conquer other areas including the Chimu territory

- The territory of the Inca Empire:
  - First settlement in Cusco.
  - It reached from the Pacific Coast in the west to the Amazon River Basin in the east. They Conquered by: 1. Sent a missionary; 2. Military invasion; 3. Sent governors, teachers, (new tribes needed to be like the INCAS)

-Roads and Messages
  - 15,000 miles of road. Chasquis (messengers) relayed a message to up to 250 miles a day. Quipos (different colored strings) served to help memory.

Inca Social Life *************

- Inca Agriculture: Terracing and complex irrigation systems. Planted 20 types of corn and 200 types of potato (survived altitudes 15,000 feet). Lamas used for meat and transportation.

- Family life: The Inca Lived in larger clan called Aylus. Each ayllu had its own farming land and homes. They made Communal efforts= head of household governed ten households and required Mi’ita (taxes).

European greed

- Religion in Europe: The Catholic church had the pope at as its head (1492); The clergy held high power; Christianity Vrs Islam
- Crusades: A series of medieval (religious) wars 1300s-1400s to reconquer lands from the muslims; A duty to convert non-believers
- Trade
  - Marco Polo visited China in the 1200s establishing routes; Europeans bought from Arab merchants; Europeans enjoyed: spices, sugar cane, pepper, ginger, perfumes, gold
- Threats to the trade
  - Arabs only accepted gold as payment (PAYMENT- THREATENED); Heavy taxation across areas= high prices for goods; the rise of the Ottoman empire (Muslim) did not allow free trade (TRADE THREATENED)
Greed

One Ship could carry ½ year supply of goods; Can we travel east? Stories of monsters, boiling seas, edge of the world

Everything for the riches

Why explore Africa? Exploration: cut off Islam’s source of gold from the south of the Sahara. In 1482 they gained access to the Gold coast (Ghana) and later Bartolomew Dias rounded the Cape of Good Hope

Cristoforo Colombo: Genoese: 1450-51 became involved in sailing

- Buying and selling maps. He was influenced by Ptolemy who argued that the world was round
- Al-Farghani and Paolo Toscanelli calculated the distance around the equator

The Evil Missionary

Colombus was rejected by Portugal, Britain, and France but in 1492 Queen Isabella of Castille and Ferdinand of Aragon agreed to the project.

Why did the Spanish agree? ** The Canaries was a realistic staging post; Beat/ level the race with the Portuguese for trade; It would help to convert new people to Christianity

Conditions** The areas “discovered” will be property of Castile; Only Castilians can settle the are; Columbus would be the Viceroy; Columbus would receive 10% of the wealth generated

-The first Voyage; Nina, Pinta, Santa Maria; Martin and Vicente Pinzon (94 men); Sighted an island in the Bahamas area on October 11th 1992 (San Salvador); The Santa Maria was destroyed= establishing a settlement called La Navidad; Guacanari helped them to establish a fort

White menace

Columbus returns 1493-96

- Reassert Spain’s ownership of the islands; 17 ships and 1200 sailors and in 1493 reached Dominica (Spanish name for Sunday)

La Navidad 1493: La Navidad disappeared= settlers were massacred; Columbus’ sent Tainos as slaves to Spain; creation of Isabella= mutiny= Diego Colombus ***

- Taino Attack: All Caciques in Hispanola united to fight the Spanish; Massacred the Arawak and enslaved 500; Tainos forced to labor and pay tribute to the Spanish (1/2 ounce of gold or 25 pounds of cotton every 3 months)

Investigating Colombos

1495 Juan Aguado came to investigate the situation

Colombus was sent to Spain

Third Voyage (1498-1500): could not recruit enough sailors= recruited criminals

- Columbus reached Trinidad--- Hispaniola
- Tainos were pacified and brutally exploited
- Francisco Roldan lead a rebellion= Columbus in hot water
- Columbus arrested by Francisco Bobadilla (advisor to the crown)

The fourth voyage 1502 -1504

- Columbus persuaded the monarchs that a connection to the east existed; Instructed not to appeal or go to Hispanola; Columbus disobeyed + did not find a passage

- Columbus in trouble in 1503: Upon reaching St. Ann’s Bay his ships shipwrecked; Columbus marooned for one year= trouble with Taino; frightened the Taino with his knowledge of the eclipse

- Who owned America?
Inter caetera papal Bull 1493: Inter caetera was a papal bull issued by Pope Alexander VI on the fourth of May 1493, which granted to the Catholic Majesties of Ferdinand and Isabella all lands to the "west and south" of a pole-to-pole line 100 leagues west and south of any of the islands of the Azores or the Cape Verde islands.

- Treaty of Tordesillas, (June 7, 1494), agreement between Spain and Portugal aimed at settling conflicts over lands newly discovered or explored by Christopher Columbus and other late 15th-century voyagers. This agreement gave the Portuguese ownership of Brazil.

Spanish Dominance (Hegemony)

-Reasons for Spanish migration:
  - Subjugation of the Caribbean islands and coastal areas
  - Rumors of vast hidden treasures in the interior
  - Francisco Pizzaro murdered the Inca leader extracting over twenty tons of pure gold and silver

-Decentralized government Issues: Chaos and disorganization, conquistadors did not follow orders, the church demanded allegiance, space, time and distance

-Centralized government--- Casa de Contrataction (House of Trade-based in Seville):
  - Licensed all equipment and operations engaged in trade with America; Enforced the commercial laws and regulations; Collected customs duties and colonial crown revenues; Kept the commercial accounts for the entire empire
  - 1524 council of the Indies:
    - controlled the legislative and the executive governance of the colonies; issued all colonial laws and decrees, civil and religious; appointed all the officials, clerical and secular, who enforced the colonial regulations; it served as a court of last resort for the entire judiciary system of the colonies; it censored all publications in America; it audited the accounts of the colonial treasurers.

-local Government: Cabildos (municipal governments): regidores (mayors) controlled cities and surrounding areas, imposed local taxes, maintained local defense, and looked after infrastructure.
  - Controlled by regidores: nominated by the captains generals
  - Audiencia work: A travelling court
    - The visita: A visit carried out during the governor’s tenure
    - Governor’s residencia: Audit of a former governor’s tenure carried out by three judges
    - Correjedores: assessed the performance of local governments

Spanish Viceroyalties

-Silver sources framed the economy
  - 1540s major silver mines were found in:
    - Zacatecas, Mexico- routes leading from Mexico City to the port of Veracruz
    - Potosi Peru- the capital became Lima which was close to a port

-Why viceroyalties? To manage the collection of the crown’s revenue.
  - Viceroyalty of New Spain; Viceroyalty of Peru; Viceroyalty of New Grenada; Viceroyalty of Rio de La plata 1717

Spanish Hegemony

-Trouble with colonizing: Limited resources for Colonizing; Small military forces; Iberian colonizers were minorities.

-Hegemony: Antonio Gramsci: Implied an active commitment to the established order, based on a deeply held belief that the rulers are indeed legitimate.
- The values, norms, perceptions, beliefs, sentiments, and prejudices that support and define the existing distribution of goods, the institutions that help maintain the structure.

Spanish establishing hegemony: Violent suppression DID Not allow control! They needed to create a domination that implied consent from the oppressed.

Soft domination: When they accept the principle of their own inferiority and, “know their place,” they participate in their own subjugation.

Religion as Hegemony

- When the indigenous accepted Christianity they accepted Europeans as truth tellers; Nuns, priests, bishops, kings and queens of European descent; Queens/kings reigned by divine right.

- Education and Religion: All educational institutions were religious: knowledge is power
  - The inquisition: government systems that combated heresy: Banned books, burned native books, erased native history, Erased native beliefs.

- Church and time: Church bells controlled the rhythm of the day: hours of work, rest and prayer
  - Calendar observations: Sundays, holidays, lent, holy week, Easter
  - Individual milestones: baptism, marriage, death were validated by church sacraments and records.

- Priests and conquest: Priests were in every step as bearers of Christianity, scribes, advocates and oppressors of the poor. The church worked in the creation of aldeas to have natives concentrated and “Protected.” Facilitated converting and the wage earning system.

Hegemony as Patriarchy

- Patriarchy: The father or eldest male is head of the family and descent is traced through the male line.
  - Fathers ruled heaven, hell, earth, cities and families: The pope: Husbands had legal control of their wife: The law and political system dominated by men.

- Machismo: Rooted in patriarchal concepts that support female subjugation, male authority, and men’s hardworking, protective and breadwinner roles. Men are emotionally distant and expose aggressiveness, courage, and pride. VRS Marianismo: About sacred duty, self-sacrifices and chastity; about dispensing care and pleasure, not receiving them. About living in the shadows, literally and figuratively, of your men (father, boyfriend, husband, sons), and your family.

- Honor: Measure of how well men and women played their prescribed social roles. Women were subjugated under the honor system. People without property lacked honor.

- Hacienda: Land, wealth and status determined honor; PRIVATE OWNERSHIP vrs COMMUNAL
  - Latifundia (Haciendas): Large pieces of land worked by slaves or other unfree laborers

Spanish Caste System

- European domination: Cities dominated by Europeans: administrative, judicial, and other offices were based in Cities. Squared blocks