A.P. U.S. History
Period One Study Guide
Natives, Europeans, and the “New” World
(1491-1607)

AMSCO: Chapter 1

Key Ideas: Cultural Exchange, Conflict, Religion, Geographical Colonization

Concepts To Know (These are things you should know by the time we get to the end of unit)
1. As native populations migrated and settled across the vast expanse of North America over time, they developed distinct and increasingly complex societies by adapting to and transforming their diverse environments.
2. Different native societies adapted to and transformed their environments through innovations in agriculture, resource use, and social structure.
3. The spread of maize cultivation from present-day Mexico northward into the present-day American Southwest and beyond supported economic development, settlement, advanced irrigation, and social diversification among societies.
4. Societies responded to the aridity of the Great Basin and the grasslands of the western Great Plains by developing largely mobile lifestyles.
5. In the Northeast, the Mississippi River Valley, and along the Atlantic seaboard some societies developed mixed agricultural and hunter-gatherer economies that favored the development of permanent villages.
6. Societies in the Northwest and present-day California supported themselves by hunting and gathering, and in some areas developed settled communities supported by the vast resources of the ocean.
7. Contact among Europeans, Native Americans, and Africans resulted in the Columbian Exchange and significant social, cultural, and political changes on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean.
8. European expansion into the Western Hemisphere generated intense social, religious, political, and economic competition and changes within European societies.
9. European nations’ efforts to explore and conquer the New World stemmed from a search for new sources of wealth, economic and military competition, and a desire to spread Christianity.
10. The Columbian Exchange brought new crops to Europe from the Americas, stimulating European population
11. Improvements in maritime technology and more organized methods for conducting international trade, such as joint-stock companies, helped drive changes to economies in Europe and the Americas.
12. The Columbian Exchange and development of the Spanish Empire in the Western Hemisphere resulted in extensive demographic, economic, and social changes.
13. Spanish exploration and conquest of the Americas were accompanied and furthered by widespread deadly epidemics that devastated native populations and by the introduction of crops and animals not found in the Americas.
14. In the encomienda system, Spanish colonial economies marshaled Native American labor to support plantation-based agriculture and extract precious metals and other resources.
15. European traders partnered with some West African groups who practiced slavery to forcibly extract slave labor for the Americas. The Spanish imported enslaved Africans to labor in plantation agriculture and mining.
16. The Spanish developed a caste system that incorporated, and carefully defined the status of, the diverse population of Europeans, Africans, and Native Americans in their empire.
17. In their interactions, Europeans and Native Americans asserted divergent worldviews regarding issues such as religion, gender roles, family, land use, and power.

18. Mutual misunderstandings between Europeans and Native Americans often defined the early years of interaction and trade as each group sought to make sense of the other. Over time, Europeans and Native Americans adopted some useful aspects of each other’s culture.

19. As European encroachments on Native Americans’ lands and demands on their labor increased, native peoples sought to defend and maintain their political sovereignty, economic prosperity, religious beliefs, and concepts of gender relations through diplomatic negotiations and military resistance.

20. Extended contact with Native Americans and Africans fostered a debate among European religious and political leaders about how non-Europeans should be treated, as well as evolving religious, cultural, and racial justifications for the subjugation of Africans and Native Americans.

**Vocabulary to know (You do not have to define these but you will use most of them in your study question responses)**

- Incas
- Aztecs
- Mayans
- Pueblo
- three sister farming
- Iroquois
- Columbian exchange
- Anasazi
- Treaty of Tordesillas
- conquistadores
- capitalism
- Lakota Sioux
- Encomienda
- mestizos
- Pope’s Rebellion
- Algonquian
- Black Legend
- Juan de Onate
- Bartoleme de Las Casas
- 1st & 2nd Powhatan War
- nation-state
- Christopher Columbus

**Study Questions (short essays-use vocab above in each detailed response)**

1. In what ways did groups of natives change the environment they lived in? Focus your answer on the tribes of the Southwest, Great Plains, Northeast, South and Northwest.

2. What social, political, and economic structures did native tribes set up to help them be successful?
3. Look at the chart on p. 14 of the Columbian Exchange and read the passage “When World Collide”. What impact did the exchange have on Europeans and natives? Give at least 3 examples.

4. The question of land ownership was a source of conflict as European settlers moved into North America.
   A. Explain each group’s perspective on land ownership:
      - Native Americans

      - Spanish settlers

      - English settlers

   B. Explain how these perspectives led to conflict between the above groups.

5. What technological innovations made it possible for Europeans to sail around the world? What specific impacts does this have on Africa?