Pre-Columbian/Pre-Contact North America

- Migrants from Asia crossed a land bridge during the Last Ice Age; migrated south, evident in how the most populated part of America was centered around Mexico (Aztecs and further South, the Incas)
- Maize spread from Mexico to North America by 1000 AD
- Difficult for alliances among the different tribes as languages were diverse and modes of transportation were limited
- Sedentary or mobile lifestyle determined by climate and region and food source
- Religion
  - Animism: natural world is filled with spiritual power; spirits in aspects of the land
    - Reflected in Native Americans’ respect for and care of the environment
  - Success in hunting and war = appeasement of spirits
  - Women associated with fertility and agriculture; men with hunting and war
- Tribal and Family Structures
  - Matriarchal and matrilineal (often because the father of children was unknown due to open sexual relations)
  - Men were still the chiefs and leaders of war

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mexico</th>
<th>Aztecs</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Tenochtitlan (Mexico City)</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Height 1500 AD, more people than London</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Ruled by priests and warrior nobles</td>
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<td>Tribute, Maize farming</td>
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<tr>
<td>Andes</td>
<td>Incas</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Cuzco</td>
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<td>Mississippi Valley</td>
<td>Adena Hopwell</td>
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<td>Cahokia (largest N. American city north of Mexico; abandoned ~1400s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eastern Woodlands</td>
<td>Alonquian Iroquois</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Organized around agriculture in summer, dispersed into small hunter/gatherer groups in winter</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Controlled fires to clear brush</td>
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<td>Paramount Chiefdoms: numerous chiefs under control of one powerful chief</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northeast</td>
<td>Iroquois Mohican</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Canoes and rivers allowed for trade and transportation</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Some agriculture, mostly hunter/gatherer</td>
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<td>Longhouses</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Iroquois Confederacy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Region</td>
<td>Tribe(s)</td>
<td>Features</td>
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<tr>
<td>Southeast</td>
<td>Cherokee, Seminole, Choctaw, Creek</td>
<td>Mostly farmers; some fishing and hunting</td>
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<td>Communities of different sizes; sedentary</td>
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<td>Social hierarchy of priestly elite and commoners</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-Atlantic Region (Pennsylvania, Delaware, VA)</td>
<td>Wampanoag, Powhatan, Pequot</td>
<td>Local little communities</td>
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<td>Arrival of Europeans → extinction or joining other groups</td>
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<td>Algonquian speaking</td>
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<tr>
<td>Great Lakes</td>
<td>Anishinaabe, Ottawa, Iroquois, Potawatomi</td>
<td>Clan identities – beaver, otter, deer</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Canoes = mobility</td>
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<tr>
<td>Great Plains</td>
<td>Comanche, Lakota, Sioux</td>
<td>Hunters and gatherers, followed bison</td>
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<td>Teepees</td>
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<td>Once horses introduced → expert horsemanship and power = horse-ownership</td>
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<tr>
<td>Southwest</td>
<td>Anasazi, Hopi, Apache, Navajo</td>
<td>Pueblos = sedentary</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Maize agriculture</td>
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<td>Settled around water</td>
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<td>Pacific Coast (Northwest Coast)</td>
<td>Chinook, Spokane</td>
<td>Fishing, canoes</td>
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<td>Sedentary, large houses</td>
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<td>Totem poles</td>
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Western Europe

- Patriarchal societies governed by monarchs, feudal nobility, parliaments
- Trade networks
  - Italy and the Ottoman Turks and Asia
  - Silk Road
  - Trans-Saharan
- Important events
  - Crusades (1096-1291 AD): religious warfare against Islamic countries to increase support of Christianity → persecution of Jews and Islamic phobia. Opened up Europe’s worldview and introduced spices and sugar and classical texts preserved by Ottomans
  - Renaissance (Italian and Northern): emphasis on classical learning, civic humanism, art and wealth of Italian merchants
  - Reformation: dissatisfaction with Catholic Church → new sects of Christianity (Lutheranism, Calvinism), decreased power of Catholic church and thus altered political structures (think England’s separation from Catholicism and est. of Church of England)
    - Catholic/Counter Reformation: Jesuits and redefining Catholic practices
    - **Catholic countries sought to Catholicize Americas, while Protestant ones wanted Godly and “true” communities in North America
  - Dutch Republic (Calvinist) declared independence from Spain 1581

West and Central Africa

- West Africa: Sahara → Sahel (flat, semiarid) → Savanna (grassland) → tropical rainforest
- Kingdoms
  - Sudan (~9000 BC): domesticated cattle, sorghum and millet, cotton, diving kings, monotheism
  - Ghana Empire (~800 AD) → Mali Empire (1200) → Songhai (1400): camel, Trans-Saharan trade in which goods traveled south to north
  - * like Aztec/Incas in that they were composed of smaller kingdoms, had trade, militaristic
  - Different tribes and communities controlled different parts of the African coast so Europeans negotiated contracts on local terms
- Religion
  - North Africa was Christian bc of Byzantine Empire until 600 AD → Islamic
  - South of Sahara = Islamic (Timbuktu)
  - Polytheism and animism
Exploration and Conquest

REASONS FOR EXPLORATION

- Curiosity due to Renaissance
- Demand for natural resources
- God, gold, glory
- Competition among European states
- Decline of feudal system → knights and conquistadors are unemployed and restless

COLUMBIAN EXCHANGE

- Changed populations and cultures
- Old World → New World
  o Smallpox, measles, influenza, yellow fever
  o Livestock – cattle led to the clearing of the land which upsets natives
  o Rye, wheat, barley, rice, sugar
- New World → Old World
  o Syphilis
  o Potatoes, maize, tomatoes, beans, squash
  o Chocolate and sugar
  o Gold, silver
  o Tobacco
  o Cotton
- Diseases killed ~90% of native population → labor shortage → Importing Africans for slave labor

SPAIN

- Christopher Columbus (1492): landed on Bahamas and Hispaniola, exploited natives for gold
  o Columbian Exchange: exchange of plants, animals, diseases btwn Old and New World
- Hernan Cortes (1519): conquered Aztec Empire and killed Moctezuma (emperor)
- Francisco Pizarro (1535): conquered Incan Empire
- New Spain
  o Encomienda system: lasted about 100 years, abolished by Spanish monarchy at insistence of Bartolome De Las Casas and others
    ▪ Natives provide food and labor, often worked to death
    ▪ Encomenderos govern and protect natives
  o Caste System: racial hierarchy
    ▪ Pureblood Spaniards → American-born Spaniards → Mestizos (Euro+Native) → Zambos (African + native) → Africans
    ▪ Sexual relations btwn Spanish men and Native women bc New Spain was mostly male at the beginning
  o Spanish mission system to Catholicize the natives
PORTUGAL

- Prince Henry (1394-1460): renewed Portuguese interest in exploration
- Established trading posts in Indian Ocean, replacing Arabs as leaders of Asian commerce
- Explorers: Bartolomeu Dias (Africa), Vasco da Gama (India)
- Sugar plantations in Caribbean and Brazil
- Portugal was the leader in exploration and African slave trade

SLAVERY AND AFRICAN SLAVE TRADE

- Slavery existed in Africa before European involvement
- Europeans established trading posts on Africa’s coast and did not venture inland to secure slaves because of diseases (malaria, dysentery) and instead relied on other Africans to sell slaves to them
- Increase in African slaves in America when colonists from Caribbean settled in Carolinas
- Native American populations were mostly decimated by disease, or protected by tentative alliances, and those sold into slavery didn’t last long
- Majority of slave trade directed toward Caribbean and South America = sugar plantations
- Middle Passage
- Slavery ended in US 1865
- Worked on rice, indigo, tobacco plantations in Southern region of N. America

Sources

- Princeton Review APUSH 2017 edition
- http://biblescripture.net/Indians.html
- Class textbook