Chapter 25

New Worlds: The Americas and Oceania
The Spanish Caribbean

- Spanish mariners meet indigenous Tainos (Arawaks)
  - Originally from Orinoco River valley in South America, settled in Caribbean in late centuries BCE through 900 CE
- Columbus uses Hispaniola (Haiti-Dominican Republic) as base for trading with Tainos
- Disappointed that Tainos had no spices, silks
- Recruit locals to mine gold instead
- *Encomienda*: Forced labor
From Mining to Plantation Agriculture

- Tainos occasionally rebel, but outgunned by Spanish military technology.

- Smallpox epidemics begin 1518
  - Spaniards launch raids to kidnap and replace workers, spread disease further.
  - Taino society disappears by middle of 16th century.

- Limited gold production causes new interest in exploiting Caribbean for sugarcane production.
  - Requires massive importation of slaves.
Conquest of Mexico and Peru

- Spanish conquerors (*conquistadores*) explore other territories
- Hernán Cortés and 450 men bring down Aztec empire in Mexico (1519-1521)
  - Smallpox destroys besieged Tenochtitlan
- Francisco Pizarro and 600 men bring down Inca empire in Peru (1532-1533)
  - Calls conference of warring Inca rulers, massacres them all
Spanish Colonial Administration

- Conquests of Mexico, Peru not the result of imperial policy, but inspired greater efforts to expand Spanish empire
- Spanish administration based in New Spain (Mexico) and New Castile (Peru), extended to Florida and Buenos Aires
  - Mexico city built atop Tenochtitlan, founded Lima in Peru
  - Viceroy’s rule, but supervised by local courts called audiencias designed to prevent buildup of local power bases
  - Considerable dispute with Spanish homeland
Portuguese Brazil

- 1494 Treaty of Tordesillas divides entire (non-Christian) world between Spain and Portugal
- Portugal claims Brazil
- Little interest at first, but increases as other imperial powers take notice
- Exploited for sugarcane production
Settler Colonies in North America

- Spanish towns, forts, missions on east coast of North America, some on west coast
- Dislodged in 17\textsuperscript{th} century by French, English, Dutch mariners
- Permanent colonies in North America
  - France: Nova Scotia (1604), Quebec (1608)
  - England: Jamestown (1607), Massachusetts Bay Colony (1630)
  - Netherlands: New Amsterdam (1623)
    - English take it in 1664, rename it New York
Colonial Government

- Exceptionally difficult conditions
  - Starvation rampant, cannibalism occasionally practiced
- French, English private merchants invest heavily in expansion of colonies
- Greater levels of self-government than Spanish and Portuguese colonies
European Empires and colonies in the Americas about 1700
Relations with Indigenous Peoples

- North American peoples loosely organized, migratory
  - Unlike Aztec, Inca empires
- European colonists stake out forested land, clear it for agriculture
- Increasing number of Europeans arrive seeking ample land: 150,000 from England in 17th century
Conflict with Indigenous Peoples

- Colonists displace indigenous peoples, trespass on hunting grounds
- English settlers negotiate treaties, poorly understood by natives
- Military conflict frequent
  - Natives also devastated by epidemic disease
North American Populations

- Native
- European
- African
The Formation of Multicultural Societies

- European, African migrants primarily men
- Relationships with native women formed
- Mestizo (mixed) societies formed
  - People of Spanish and native parentage
  - Descendants of Spaniards and African slaves ("mulattoes")
  - Descendants of African slaves and natives ("zambos")
- Less pronounced in Peru
The Social Hierarchy

- Race-based hierarchy
- Top: *peninsulares*, i.e. migrants from Iberian peninsula
- *Criollos* (creoles), i.e. children of migrants
- Mestizos, mulattoes, zambos, other combinations of parentage
- Bottom: slaves, conquered peoples
North American Societies

- Higher ratio of French, English female migrants than in South America
- Higher social stigma attached to relationships with natives, African slaves
- Fur traders have relationships with North American native women
  - Children: métis
Mining in the Spanish Empire

- Hunt for gold and silver
  - Conquistadores loot Aztec, Inca treasures and melt them down for their value as raw precious metals

- Gold not extensive in Spanish holdings, but silver relatively plentiful
  - Extensive employment of natives
    - Incan *mita* system of conscripted labor
    - Dangerous working conditions
  - Eventually assimilate into Spanish culture

- 1/5 reserved for crown (*quinta*), hugely profitable
Global Significance of Silver

- Major resource of income for Spanish crown
- Manila Galleons take it to the Pacific rim for trading
- Very popular with Chinese markets
  - Also trade in the Atlantic basin
Manila galleon route and the lands of Oceania, 1500-1800
The Hacienda

- Large estates produce products of European origin
  - Wheat, grapes, meat
- *Encomienda* system of utilizing native labor force
- Rampant abuses 1520-1540
- Gradually replaced by debt patronage
  - Peasants repay loans with cheap labor
A Hacienda in Chile
Resistance to Spanish Rule

- Rebellion
  - 1680 Pueblo Revolt
  - 1780 Túpac Amaru rebellion
- Half-hearted work
- Retreat into mountains and forests
- Appeal to Spanish crown
  - 1,200 page letter of Guaman Poma de Ayala, 1615
Sugar and Slavery in Portuguese Brazil

- **Sugar mill**: *engenho*, refers to complex of land, labor, etc. all related to production of sugar
  - Sugarcane to molasses, or refined to sugar for export
  - Low profit margins

- **Unlike Spanish system of forced native labor**, Portuguese rely on imported African slaves
  - Natives continually evaded Portuguese forces

- **Large-scale importing of slaves begins 1580s**
  - Working conditions poor: 5-10% die annually
  - Approximately one human life per ton of sugar
Fur Trading in North America

- Indigenous peoples trade pelts for wool blankets, iron pots, firearms, alcohol
- Beaver hunts cause frequent incursions into neighboring territories, conflicts
- European settler-cultivators also displacing natives from traditional lands
  - Albeit initially dependent on native assistance, as European grains did not grow well in many areas
Development of Cash Crops

- Products developed for European markets
  - Tobacco
  - Rice
  - Indigo
  - Cotton

- Increases demand for imported slave labor
  - European indentured servants, 4-7 year terms
    - Chronically unemployed, orphans, political prisoners and criminals
Export of Tobacco from Virginia

![Bar chart showing the export of tobacco from Virginia from 1616 to 1638.]

- **1616**: Approximately 50,000 pounds
- **1624**: Approximately 250,000 pounds
- **1638**: Approximately 300,000 pounds
Slavery in North America

- African slaves in Virginia from 1610
- Increasingly replace European indentured laborers, late 17th-early 18th centuries
- Less prominent in north due to weak nature of cash-crop industry
  - Slave trading still important part of economy
  - Also, products made through slave labor
    - Rum, based on sugar from plantations
Missionary Activity in the Americas

- Franciscan, Dominican, Jesuit missionaries from 16th century
- Taught Christian doctrine, literacy
- Often accumulated cultural knowledge to better communicate their message
  - Bernardino de Sahagún
- Due to conquest and plague, many natives in Spanish America concluded that their gods had abandoned them, converted to Catholicism
  - Yet often retained elements of pagan religion in Christian worship
The Virgin of Guadalupe
French and English Missions

- Less effective than Spanish missions
  - Spaniards ruled native populations more directly
  - Migration patterns of North American natives made it more difficult to conduct Missions
  - English colonists little interest in converting natives
Australia and the Larger World

- Broadly similar experiences to American natives
- Portuguese mariners long in the region, but Dutch sailors make first recorded sighting of Australia in 1606
- VOC surveys territory, conclude that it is of little value
  - Limited contact with indigenous peoples
  - Nomadic, fishing and foraging societies
- British Captain James Cook lands at Botany Bay, 1770
  - Convicts shipped to Australia, outnumber free settlers until 1830
Australian Aborigine

An Aborigine of the Naomi tribe ca. 1900
Pacific Islands and the Larger World

- Manila Galleons interested in quick trade routes, little exploration of Pacific
  - Islands of Guam and the Marianas significant, lay on trade routes
  - 1670s-1680s took control of islands, smallpox destroys local population
- James Cook visits Hawai’i in 1778
  - Good relationship with Hawaiians
  - Sailors spread venereal disease
  - Cook not welcomed in 1779, killed in dispute over petty thefts