**Chapter 1: Three Old Worlds Create a New (1492 – 1600)** (p. 3 – 31)

1. **Early European Explorations (p.16-19)**

Improved sailing techniques helped to expand European trade in African and establish colonies in the Med. Atlantic. Europeans expanded their power and influence and dominated their relationship with African nations, setting the stage for a pivotal moment in world history.

* 1. **Sailing in the Mediterranean Atlantic**
     + Canaries, Madeiras, Azores = off cost of Europe and Africa
     + Discovery of the “Westerlies” and sailing around the wind solved difficulties of sailing against the wind and opened up further exploration
  2. **Islands of the Mediterranean Atlantic**
     + Used the islands to develop a colonial plantation system around sugar production
     + Some native populations offered little resistance to European settlers
  3. **Portuguese Trading Points in Africa**
     + Explored and establish trade along West African coast and beyond
     + Bartholomew Dias(1488) first to reach Cape of Good Horn
     + Vasco de Gama (1489) went all the way to India
     + Established trade of gold, ivory and slaves
     + Sao Tome = island colony first to establish economy based on slavery
  4. **Lessons of Early Colonization**
     + Learned how to transplant their crops and livestock to new locations
     + Learned that native people could be conquered or exploited
     + Developed a viable model of plantation slavery and a system for supplying the free labor

1. **The Voyages of Columbus, Cabot, and Their Successors (p.19-22)**

The exploration of America finally brought the Eastern and Western hemispheres together. Early European contact hoped to exploit the lands and people of the new world. Spain (and Portugal a little) focused on present day South America while England, France and the Dutch aimed for North America. Their discovery hoped to find the Northwest Passage but indirectly established the future of colonial expansion.

* 1. **Columbus’s Voyage**
     + Myth that Columbus was only one to think the world was round
     + His idea that he could reach Asia was laughed at
     + Ferdinand Isabella of Spain financed the risky voyage
     + 1492 = Nina, Pinta and Santa Maria
     + 2.5 months arrived in the Bahamas at San Salvador
  2. **Columbus’s Observations** = 3 themes
     + Asked for gold, pearls and other jewels and was directed to other islands or mainland but he did not believe the natives
     + Noted differences in wildlife and vegetation
     + Description of natives as good for labor source, easy to subject, potential for conversion
  3. **Europeans and “America”’**
     + Italians = Amerigo Vespucci deemed it a new continent
     + Treaty of Tordesillas (1494) = divides power between Portugal (Africa) and Spain (America)
  4. **Norse and Other Northern Voyages**
     + Leif Ericsson settled “Vinland” in modern day Newfoundland
  5. **John Cabot’s Exploration**
     + Sponsored by England’s King Henry VII found North American in 1497

1. **Spanish Exploration and Conquest (p.22-24)**

Spanish conquest of South America was fueled by the discovery of gold and other precious metals. The Spanish colonial system established an example for future Europeans to follow as political control rested with the crown and natives and slaves were further exploited. As gold and silver declined the Spanish Empire began to show weakness. Christian missionaries spread European social traditions begin the demise of native cultures.

* 1. **Introduction**
     + Columbus’s second voyage brought colonization and introduction of European seeds, plants, livestock, chickens, dogs, diseases
     + Earliest colonies throughout the Caribbean in Hispaniola, Cuba
     + Ponce de Leon found Florida, Balboa across isthmus of Panama, Coronado into the Southwest, De Soto in the Southeast, Cabrillo to California, Pizarro in western South America
  2. **Cortes and the Malinche**
     + Mainland exploration in 1519 and took slave Malinche as translator
     + Mestizos = mixed blooded children
     + Defeat of the Aztecs and acquisition of their gold made Spain the richest, most extensive empire
  3. **Spanish Colonization**
     + 3 Elements of Colonial Control
       1. Crown with tight control over the colonies
       2. Most colonists were male creating a mixed population
       3. Colonial wealth based on exploitation of native populations and imported slaves
       4. Ecomienda System (1542) = tributary systems in which natives paid tribute to Spanish in return natives were not taken as slaves. Increased the role of and need for African slavery
  4. **Gold, Silver and Spain’s Decline**
     + Abundance of gold led to inflation in Spain, crippled Spanish trade values and fueled wars
  5. **Christianity in New Spain**
     + Native American cities were destroyed to make room for cathedrals and monasteries
     + Friars from Franciscan and Dominican orders converted native populations

1. **The Columbian Exchange (p.25-28)**

The transfer of different plants, foods and diseases resulted in a greater European desire for resources like sugar and tobacco and depleted Native populations. This exchange motivated an increase in European exploration and colonization in the Americas.

* 1. **Introduction**
     + Columbian Exchange = mutual transfer of diseases, plants and animals led to the doubling of the world population over next 300 years
     + Europe: cattle, horses, crops like wheat, millet and rye
     + Americas: no domesticated animals, crops like maize, beans, squash, cassava and potatoes
  2. **Smallpox and Other Diseases**
     + Devastating impact on natives = appx. 90% of population lost
     + Small pox more dangerous than measles, typhus, influenza, malaria
     + Natives gave Europeans syphilis
  3. **Sugar, Horses, and Tobacco**
     + Insatiable European demand for sugar
     + Horses spread to Native populations which focused native culture on buffalo hunting
     + Tobacco created smoking fad

1. **Europeans in North America (p.28-30)**

Looking to keep up with Spain, early attempts at British settlement in the Americas focused on fishing and trade. Conflicts between these two empires won by the British opened the door for British colonization. Early attempts at colonization failed but recognized the potential the new world offered.

* 1. **Introduction**
     + Initial exploration focused on exploitations of resources, primarily fish, rather than outright colonization
  2. **Trade Among Indians and Europeans**
     + European cloth and metal goods for Native beaver pelts
     + Soon established trading posts along the coast
  3. **Contest Between Spain and England**
     + British pirates such as Hawkins and Drake began to raid Spanish ships returning from the Americas
     + Resulted in the defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588
  4. **Roanoke**
     + Queen Elizabeth I authorized British colonies in the late 1500s
     + Sir Walter Raleigh established Roanoke Island in 1587
     + In 1590 a supply ship returned to Roanoke and the people were gone
  5. **Harriot’s Briefe and True Report**
     + Chronicled the failings of early colonial attempts and examined the possibility of economic and social development in America

1. **Summary = The discovery of the America’s by Europeans, occurred as the result of natural advances in exploration. The natural wealth of the Mesoamerica attracted more explorers that often clashed with the native inhabitants. This “first contact” and the “Columbian Exchange” that developed proved devastating for native populations which were wiped out by European weapons, disease and other imported items. The new world brought Europeans an abundance of opportunity and wealth as well as provided the arena for cultural and political clashes in the coming centuries.**

\*\*\*Below are the notes to the first half of the chapter which is not assigned for homework\*\*\*

1. **American Societies (p.5-7)**

The earliest inhabitants settled in the warmer climates in the American Southwest and Mexico after crossing a land bridge that connected North America and Asia. Most of these civilizations were hunter gatherer societies with some developing agricultural systems. Some societies organized larger urban centers and began to develop class systems, study sciences and create writing systems, and even began to conquer neighboring civilizations.

* 1. **Ancient America**
     + Earliest inhabitants crossed a land bridge at Bering Strait (Beringia)
     + appx. 12,000 – 14,000 years ago
     + early nomadic hunter gatherers turned to farming becoming more sedentary
     + more stable and complex societies developed
  2. **Mesoamerican Civilizations** = Gulf, Mexico Valley and Yucatan Peninsula
     + Olmecs, Mayas Teotihuacan
     + Warlike, studied astronomy, first writing systems
  3. **Anasazi and Mississippians** = U.S. Southwest and Midwest
     + Arizona/New Mexico: hunting, gatherings and farming
     + Mississippians: some of largest urban (city) centers
  4. **Aztecs** = Valley of Mexico
     + Built city of Tenochtitlan
     + Developed class system = warriors, merchants, priests, common folk and slaves
     + Conquered neighbors

1. **North America in 1492 (p.7-10)**

A wide variety of cultures developed in mainland North America. Most of these civilizations developed social structures based on gender roles and status. Political organization amongst tribes created loose confederations with little consistency. Many different polytheistic religions supported native traditions and rituals. When Europeans arrived, natives did not consider themselves a unified people nor did they think to unite to repel European leaders.

* 1. **Sexual Division of Labor in North America**
     + Men = hunters, food preparation
     + Women = gatherers, clothing production, cared for young children
     + In favorable environments larger groups combined to share work
  2. **Social Organization**
     + Permanent Housing in “villages”
     + Most agricultural societies were “Matrilineal” = mothers, their married daughters and their daughter’s husbands, and all children lived under one roof
  3. **War and Politics**
     + Tribes fought for the best hunting/farm land
     + Political structures created = village councils, larger political hierarchies between villages into nations and confederations
     + Autocratic rule
  4. **Religion**
     + Many different “polytheistic” systems = worshipping many gods
     + Integral part of society

1. **African Societies (p.10-13)**

African societies developed similar agricultural economies based largely on the influence of different environments. Both men and women shared roles and responsibilities and worked side by side. Systems of trade and slavery would fit well in the Americas, but cultural traditions would not be as respected.

* 1. **West Africa**
     + Fishing, cattle herding and agriculture
     + Influenced by Islamic influences from Mediterranean
     + Connected through sub-Saharan trade routes
     + Individual villages or “kin” were loosely linked into hierarchical kingdoms
  2. **Complimentary Gender Roles**
     + Men: shared agricultural duties, hunted, managed livestock, fished
     + Women: shared agricultural duties, childcare, food preparation, cloth manufacture, TRADERS
     + “duel sex principle” = each sex handled their own affairs
  3. **Slavery in Guinea**
     + Recognized individual and communal property ownership
     + Necessitated slavery from criminals, enemy captives, voluntary slaves to pay off debts or for protection
     + Slaves could be traded or sold at the will of their owners

1. **European Societies (p.13-16)**

Europe developed an agricultural economy with defined gender roles. Men dominated European politics. Following the loss of life from the plague and wars, the continent developed dominant political monarchies and new technology helped to spread information around the world. Power and money hungry leaders desired for economic and religious expansion around the world and looked to Asia and African to expand.

* 1. **Sexual Division of Labor in Europe**
     + Shared communal agricultural system, very little hunting except for sport
     + Men: fieldwork, herding livestock, dominated politics
     + Women: helped at planting and harvest, childcare, household tasks, inferior social, economic and political position
  2. **Christianity**
     + Dominant religion in Europe, Catholics and other Christians united to drive out non-believers (Muslims)
  3. **Effects of Plague and Warfare**
     + In the 1300’s, the plague killed 1/3 of the population and set back economy
     + Hundred Years War (1337-1453) = England and France, interrupted trade in Europe
  4. **Political and Technological Change**
     + European monarchs grew in power, unified people and increased taxation: England/Spain/France
     + Printing Press stimulates communication and spread of knowledge and information
  5. **Motives for Exploration**
     + Economic: Europeans hoped to cut out the Mediterranean middle men to get African and Asian goods
     + Religious: spread Christianity
     + Both interests worked hand in hand