

## Anthro lecture 1.2

### Emergence of Anthropology

- Need to fight racism

- Romanticism of new worlds

- Creation of multiethnic communities and systems of inequality

- invention of social differences among those who are fundamentally the same

Dollar bill - problem of the one and the many - e pluribus unum

- political experiment - federalism

- social experiment - multiethnicity

- federalism was best way to coordinate new social experiment

New World problem: creating unity out of diversity and preserve diversity in unity

- successes, failures, and hypocrisies

Three solutions to problem of difference

- annihilation of difference -

- genocide, eugenics, cultural annihilation

- acceptance of difference with institutionalized inequality -

- apartheid, aristocracy

- acceptance of difference with institutionalized equality

- Pregnancy disability act - pregnancy considered as disability for leave

- Democracy, Communism

- eroticization of difference

Internal and external others

- Internal others - catholics

- External others - jews, gypsies in christian Europe

- significance of 1492 - expulsion of jews, heretics, witches

- introduction of new cultures in America

The "discovery"

- Mix of pragmatic and finalist interpretations

- Discovering nature; discovering the Other

- The experience of alterity

- Ethnocentrism

Columbus

- ambiguous motivations -

- wants gold

- desire for christianization

- reflects tensions of transitioning world views

- 1. Wealth is not an end in itself

- 2. Wealth is an end in itself

- pragmatic - empirical

- finalist (dominant) - based on prior expectations, biblical authority

Aztecs and Montezuma practice this as well  
black & parrots -> heat -> gold  
read that mermaids exist, on that basis, he expects to find them  
prohibits any contrary evidence that Cuba is not the mainland  
ignorant of conventions  
conversion of nautical miles  
persists in hearing Spanish in Indians language  
no clothes -> no laws or culture, Indians become beasts  
discovery is always projection of self (ethnocentricity)  
ethnocentricity derives from finalist interpretations

#### Consequences of Columbus's finalist worldview

perception of similarity -> assimilation -> possession  
perception of difference -> rejection, enslavement, and destruction