

# AP US History Chapter 2 Notes

Was there trade between Asia and Europe before it existed?.

**Silk Road** – A path leading from China to Venice, discovered by Marco Polo between 1271 and 1295, and primarily used for trade.

Were the items that were being funneled into the Americas intended for trade with the natives, or to aid the explorers in their journey (or both)?.

**Columbian Exchange** – The cycle of trade, between the Old and New world, which began following 1492, and carried diseases, plants, animals, and cultures.

Was creating a new, autonomous government intentional, or did Cortés decide to conquer the natives during the trip?.

**New Spain** – The title given by the Spanish Empire to their new colonies in the Americas.

What needed to be done to be awarded one?.

**Encomienda** – A large ranch worked by Indian slaves.

Were all explorers conquistadores, or vice versa?.

**Conquistadores** – The name given to the Spanish conquerors of the Americas.

## Summary

Overall, the discovery of the New World would have a more profound effect on life in the Old World than the Old World had on the New World.