

Thematic Timelines: Native and Latin Americans

Period 1: 1200 CE – 1450 CE

Period 1 – Post-Classical Era – 1200 CE - 1450 CE

- **Incan (1300s-1500s) empire** conquered and unified the entire western coast of South America from Columbia to Argentina
- Incans established an incredibly complex state bureaucracy that controlled trade, labor, printing coins, built roads, kept records (marriage, birth, and death certificates), and pitted other tribes against one another
- Incan power and wealth was demonstrated with the **Incan Sun Temple of Cusco**, destroyed in the 16th century by Spanish conquistadors
- Incan **Mit'a system** formed a centralized economy controlled by the Incan government, which determined labor, wages, and distribution of goods across its massive empire
- Aztec migration, invasion, and conquest of Mesoamerica (1300s-1500s)
- Aztecs establish themselves as dominant culture, influencing the architecture and trade of surrounding Gulf and Mayan natives
- Gender parallelism developed on most Native America cultures—different roles, but neither gender or their roles superior (Sun and Moon), but men dominant in political and religious institutions
- **Aztecs** begin conquest empire in Mesoamerica, forcing tributes, slaves, and human sacrifices on those who were conquered
- Mayan city-states functioned and developed separately from the Aztecs, going undiscovered by Europeans until much later in the dense jungles
- **Mayans** developed algebra and advanced astrology and mathematics independent of other civilizations (1000s-1500s)
- Mayans traded extensively with Tenochtitlan and the Aztec Empire, also drawing inspiration from their architecture (steppe pyramids)
- Cahokia trade center of Mississippi River Valley with goods found from the Rockies, Gulf, Central Plains, Great Lakes, and Atlantic Ocean

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Period 2: 1450 CE – 1750 CE

Period 2 – Early Modern Era – 1450 CE – 1750 CE

- Native American populations decimated by Old World diseases
- **Conquistadors** (Pizarro and Cortes) bring disease and conquest to the Native Americans, also pitting natives against one another when possible
- **Metacom's War** resisted British colonial expansion in New England from 1675 to 1678
- French function harmoniously with Canadian Native tribes and use to fight the British in the **French-Indian War (Seven Years War)**
- Many subjected to the Spanish and Portuguese encomienda system and forced to work on haciendas
- Spanish adopt Incan mit'a labor system, utilizing Native labor and later indentured servants and African slaves as disease and poor conditions dropped Native populations
- Spanish and Portuguese racial castes formed (Penninsulare, Creoles, Mestizo, etc) with Native and African races at the bottom of the hierarchy
- **Christianity** introduced (mainly forced) by Catholic missionaries, and some Protestant missionaries
- **Catholicism** becomes dominant religion of Latin America
- Native beliefs incorporated and syncretized in Catholicism (veneration of saints – Lady of Guadalupe)

Thematic Timelines: Native and Latin Americans

Period 3: 1750 CE – 1900 CE

Period 3 – Modern Era – 1750 CE – 1900 CE

- Latin American Revolutions in the 1820s and 1830s start nearly all modern Latin American countries under **Simone de Bolivar** (Gran Columbia) and **Jose de San Martin** (Argentina)—both of whom inspired by **Enlightenment** ideals
- **Cherokee Nation** functions temporarily as an independent federal state within the U.S.
- **Túpac Amaru II** rebelled against the Spanish in Peru in 1778
- Native Americans moved west by the growing United States and **Manifest Destiny**, sometimes by force (**Trail of Tears**) to reservations
- Native Americans face persecution by the United States during the **Indian Wars** (1880s and 1890s)
- **Ghost Dance Movement** arose as a peaceful coping with American pressure, interpreted as a growing threat, and Native Americans massacred at **Wounded Knee** in late 19th century
- **The construction of the Port of Buenos Aires with the support of British firms** was commissioned by Pres. Julio Rocha in 1881
- **Copper extracted in Chile** consisted of high-grade oxidized copper minerals in the 1541–1810 period

Thematic Timelines:

Native and Latin Americans



Period 4: 1900 CE – Present

Period 4 – Contemporary Era –1900 CE - Present

- Taking place from 1910-1920, the **Mexican Revolution** was largely a response to the extended presidency and regime of **Porfirio Mori Dia** when growing calls for reform and even elements of social justice resulted in revolutionary struggle.
- **Italians** began arriving in Argentina in great numbers from 1857 to 1940, totaling 44.9% of the entire post-colonial immigrant population
- **Augusto Pinochet** ruled Chile as a U.S.-backed dictator through junta (a military committee) from 1973-1981.
- **The Shining Path** begins a Marxist-Leninist communist rebellion against the Peruvian government starting in 1982 present-day
- **Production and manufacturing economies** take hold in many developing nations such as **Mexico** and **Honduras**