**Lecture 1 – The Energies of Colonial America**

Theme – In the realm of energy, scarcity and abundance are relative terms – obviously against each other, but more crucially against populations and among different energy types. In American colonial history, wide energy differentials shaped nearly every aspect of life, governance, and culture. There were wide gaps among the available human energies and wide differentials between the energy endowments of Native Americans, colonists, and the residents of old England

* The English and the Indians – peaceful coexistence or conquest?
  + Native populations were small despite the abundance of solar energies
    - Constrained by culture, beliefs, and behavior
  + Why did colonists displace natives?
    - Religious superiority
    - Beliefs about land ownership
    - Organizations (i.e. companies)
    - Technological knowledge about energy
    - Accidental death – exposed natives to viruses
* Labor in a vast land
  + North America had more land but less human energy
    - Town commons – commonly owned farm land
    - Slavery helped solve human energy crisis
    - Domestication of animals
* Settlement shaped by energy
  + Cape Cod was known to thousands of Europeans as a source of energy before settlements arose on the east coast
    - Human energy
    - Solar energy
    - Derived solar energy
  + England faced an energy crisis in the 1600s
  + Travelers to the new world faced energy abundance
    - Solar energy for survival and export
    - Importance of fungibility
  + Ties to England were extremely important – live on the coast
* America in the British Empire