

Art of the Aztec Empire

LD 4: Map and Chronology Review

Introduction: Our understanding of Mesoamerican civilizations is necessarily enhanced by our ability to place ancient societies into a temporal-spatial framework through which both cultural regions, or space and chronology, serve to frame our understanding. Today's lab will permit us to visit the question of cultural regions and chronology for Mesoamerica's major cultural and artistic traditions. You are to use the attached maps and or charts, and other available resources – books, maps, Internet, etc. – to identify and briefly characterize the major artistic, cultural, and ethnic characteristics of three Mexican states.

Instructions: You are to assemble into teams, and your respective task will be to prepare a narrative summary or essay that serves to identify and characterize at least three major Mesoamerican civilizations or traditions for those Mexican states selected (See Civilizations or Cities, below). Your individual narratives, based on group work, should include any and all information provided by your professor during the course of a map review that draws directly on the Perry-Castañeda Library Map Collection at the University of Texas, Austin (See <http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/americas.html>). Be prepared to address the following for each Mexican state or sub-region selected:

- Topographic and or physiographic characteristics of region
- Major capital and at least two major modern cities
- Environment and ecology
- Principal ethnographic groups and archaeological cultures
- Major languages and or dialects spoken
- At least three major archaeological zones and their cultural traditions
- Relative chronology or timelines for each of said archaeological cultures

Civilizations (Use attached map for annotations)

1. Aztec	2. Olmec	3. Toltec	4. Tlaxcalteca	5. Huastec
6. Teotihuacán	7. Lowland Maya	8. Itza	9. Quiche	10. Zapotec
11. Mixtec	12. Putun	13. Tarascan	14. Hist. Olmec	15. Choluteca
16. Chichimeca	17. Tol. Chichimec	18. Highl. Maya	19. Matlatzinca	20. Otomi
21. Xochimilca	22. Mexica	23. Peten Maya	24. Totonac	25. Izapa

Precolumbian Cities

a. Cholula	b. Tenochtitlan	c. Monte Alban	d. Casas Grandes	e. Kabah
f. La Venta	g. Tula	h. Chichen Itza	i. Mitla	j. Caracol
k. Yaxchilan	l. Cacaxtla	m. Xochicalco	n. El Tajin	o. Palenque
p. Mayapan	q. Copan	r. Tzintzuntzan	s. Quirigua	t. Seibal
u. La Quemada	v. Becan	w. Ziculeu	x. Tikal	y. Uxmal

Map / Chronology:

<http://archaeology.csumb.edu/Courses/Maya/Syllabus/images/SabloffMap.jpg>

<http://archaeology.csumb.edu/Courses/Maya/Syllabus/images/SabloffChronology.jpg>

or