

Lecture 2

Colonization, Conquest, and Cultural Collisions Part II

Goal – Compare and contrast the Spanish, French, and English empires

French Empire

I. French Empire

- Exploration begins mid-17th century (1600's)
- Claim lands in present-day Canada
 - St. Lawrence River valley and Great Lakes region
- Unwanted Land Grants issued

Summary

Largest city in Michigan as Detroit (Anglo name) derived from Détroit (Franco name)

Iowa capital Des Moines (Name from the French)

Not many French settlers came to North America which is why they were unsuccessful in their efforts of establishing an empire here

- Many stayed in France
- Underpopulated in North America

Spanish had to convert Native Americans

Small, Dispersed Populations

- Little push factors
- Bad reputation for Canada
- Attracting Settlers, a continued problem for New France

Summary

Few push factors urging citizens to leave France (land was already abundant)

Land in England was limited meaning there push factor was the tiny amount of land available.

Gold is a pull factor, however, there was no pull factors for New France

- It's a cold miserable place so there is no pull factor, hard to farm in the current time period
- Many formidable Native American tribes in the land already
- Attracting settlers was difficult

England = Positive connotation of North America

French = Negative connotation of North America

Furs and Faith

Those French who did come to America came for “**Fur and Faith**”

Fur = economy of New France

- Centered on fur trade (beaver hats that were trendy at the time)
- Hunted the animals (beavers, weasels, etc...) for their fur

- French colonists and Indians bond together
 - Had no choice but to enter into alliances with Native Americans for the waterways and things needed to hunt the animals for the Fur trade because it was one of the only things you could do to make money
 - Could not conquer or enslave
 - No biological advantages
 - Alliances vital for economy, military

Summary

French entered into alliances with the Native Americans not out of niceness but because they had no choice.

- Saw Native A. as savages, backwards, heathens
 - Would have conquered them if they had the choice.

Native American chiefs get tribute and treasure from Europe while French get protection and access to hunt animals

“Middle Ground”

Key term for unique aspect of French America is “Middle Ground”

- Used to describe the unique aspects of the alliance system in French America
- Describes relationship between French and Native Americans
- Neither ascendant
 - Neither group is controlling the other
- Interdependent
 - Reciprocal relationship where French need access to fur trade and protection and Natives profit from the riches given to them by the French
- Shade together
 - Intermarriage
 - Acculturation
 - Groups begin to blend together
 - Cultural borrowing
- Limited efficacy for Jesuits
 - Tended to send Jesuits to New France because they were seen as the most intellectual since people had to learn languages of the Natives

Summary

“Middle Ground” refers

1. Relationship between French and Native Americans
2. Location of France in America
 - a. The Midwest or middle of America

French and Natives become to use cultural borrowing where Natives learned French and French learned Native languages

Both learned about each other’s cultures to maintain their interdependent relationship

Mixed population did not come about too much because so few French settlers came in the first place

Jesuits were unsuccessful in conversion because **so many few Jesuits arrived in New France**

- Was hard for Jesuits to inspire Natives of their religion

English Colonies

II. English Colonies

English who came to Americas came because of the **“Land”**

- Land, Land, Land!!!
 - Chances of owning land in England was limited
 - Land in Americas was abundant
 - Those who came were permanently staying, they did not intend to go back to England
- Prospects of Land Ownership excited Dreams of Freedom and Autonomy
- Strong push factors
- 1607 to 1700: 500,000 English journeyed to Americas

Summary

English becomes the most **powerful, populous, and profitable of the European efforts**

Had strong push factors of having a private ownership of land

Longview of American history is the idea of freedom associated with ownership of land

- Opportunity to own land
- Owning land = “being free”
 - More than a physical asset or resource

English Americas and Rights

- Virginia Company Charter
 - Idea in English law
 - That being English entitles you to certain rights and protections and liberties
 - Established early in Virginia Company Charter

Colonists were just as English as the people in England which meant they had the same rights as well

- Greater Rights than Colonists of Other Empires
 - Elected assemblies
 - To deal with local problems in the colonies
 - English deserve a representative government
 - These assemblies were limited to wealthy, white, landowning males
 - Trial by jury
 - Habeous corpus
 - Access to land

Story of the “fight for democracy”

- Meaning democracy was not initially there but it needed to be fought for

Summary

COMPARE AND CONTRAST

French = couldn’t get enough people

Spanish = Sojourners

- Wanted to get rich and go back to Spain

English = came for land and did not intend on going back to England

1765 – Sense that English are not getting their traditional rights

- Pushing people to revolt
- Key and cause to the American Revolution

Taxed w/o representation = deprived of your property w/o consent

Virginia

1st of 2 locations of English colonization in the 1600's

- Jamestown – 1607
 - 1st permanent colony in the Americas
 - People who came were guaranteed land if they could survive the journey
 - Freedom was only a boat ride away
- 50 acres to each free male colonist
- 1619 – House of Burgesses
- Rise of local elite
 - Once it is clear that Tobacco grew well wealthy elites started flooding to the “Tobacco Colony” to make lots of money
- “Tobacco Colony”
 - Land scramble, population growth, divided society
 - Need for labor to harvest the “cash crop” tobacco
 - Grows well in the land in Virginia

Summary

Colonists saw Native A. as obstacles when trying to secure their “land” given to them by the English

Farming was first a struggle because they were not used to farming in the different region

- Natives taught Colonists how to farm the land

Tobacco emerges as the “cash crop” in Virginia and it becomes a **“Tobacco Colony”**

Need for labor causes

1. Indentured servitude
2. Slavery

New England (Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont)

Colonies were founded in 1600's

- Different Dreams: God's Order, “City on a Hill”
- Flee persecution, economic betterment, anxiety over England's future
- Families as settlers
 - Brought their families to New England
 - Stirs population growth
 - English will not intermarry like the French
- Family as Foundation for Society

Most important group to settle New England are the Puritans

- Started by John Winthrop

- “Beacon of Light”
- Came to create a religious place
- Puritans were persecuted in England
- Puritans believe they were the only “pure” religion and everyone else was not pure (the only real Christians)
- Believed England was in the command of the devil, they think that’s the reason they were being persecuted

Summary

Puritans were most important group of settlers in New England

Maintains the stark divide between Native Americans → Will not intermarry with Natives

Introduction of patriarchal values in America that will be in place for a long time

English and Native Americans

- Strong divide maintained
- Land claims
- Legal tide
- Virginia + Tobacco Boom
 - New England + Stable population = land hunger, recurrent warfare

Summary

English **do not have incentive or need to have a friendly relationship** with the Native Americans

→ Result is that English engage in warfare with Native Americans

English saw Natives as a threat, unworthy occupants, the land as an asset

Leads to cycles of warfare between Natives and Colonists

Early Conflicts

- Virginia: Uprising of 1622
 - Only about 15 years after settlement of Virginia
- New England: Pequot War (1636-1638)
 - Pequot exterminated
 - Attempt to wipe from history

Summary

Colonists displaced and killed Native Americans near the Boston region known as Pequot

→ Goal was to exterminate them (genocide waged by English)

- Burned their villages

King Philip’s War

King Philip was a Native American and saw what the English were doing

→ Launches series of attacks to combat the displacement that has taken place by the English colonists
→ English saw Philip as a blood thirsty savage

- 1675 Attacks begin in colonial New England
- 1676 half of New England towns attacked; 1000 English killed, 12 entire towns destroyed

- Mid-1676 tide turns
 - King Philip is captured
 - Head is cut off and put on a pike
 - Just as “savage” as the Native A.?
- Cements divide, enables further incursions
- Compare with Pueblo Revolt

Summary

Flashpoint event = “King Philip’s War”

Event tells us why the English becomes the most Powerful, Populus, Profitable of the European powers

- Convinces English even more that the Native A. are savages
- Convinced they were biologically savage (race)
- English were unified in this idea and is why the English become so successful

Pueblo Revolt vs. King Phillip’s War

- Spanish are weaker and must share power with Pueblo Indians at **end of Pueblo Revolt**
- English were mor unified and more determined to displace Native A. **at end of King Philip’s War**