

AP WORLD HISTORY

AMERICA AFTER THE 1500s



A TIMELINE

Year(s)	Event/Person	Significance
1492	Columbus' Discovery of America (not from Strayer)	Columbus "discovered" what is now Haiti and the Dominican Republic he never actually made it to the Americas. But his voyage did spark Spanish interest in these new lands as a possible source of resources that could be exploited.
1492	The Columbian Exchange (page 409)	Enormous network of trade, communication, migration, the spread of diseases, and transfer of plants and animals all facilitated by European colonies in the Americas. Gave rise to something wholly new in World history. Connected the Atlantic world to four continents. "Two old worlds were joined creating a "new world"
The end of the 15 th Century	Emergence of Complex societies (in terms of Hunting and gathering)→> Chinookan, Tulalip, and Skagit (page 366)	It was distinguished because they had sturdy house, considerable economic specialization, ranked societies that included slavery, chiefdoms and extensive storage of food.
1500	Great Dying (page 406)	The demographic collapse of Native Americans due to due to the long isolation from the Afro-Eurasian world, and the lack of most domesticated animals and the absence of acquired immunities to Old World diseases.
1521	The Spanish conquest of the Aztecs and the Incas	Gave Spain access to the most wealthy, urbanized, and densely populated region of the western hemisphere. New social order and the emergence of <i>Mestizos</i> (the mixed race population).
1450-1750 (high point in 1750s)	Atlantic Slave Trade (page 454)	Added a substantial African presence to the mix of Europeans and Native Americans. This injected into these new societies issues of race that

		endure into the 21 st century.
1535-1700	Spanish Catholic missionaries convert the Natives of Latin America to Christianity. (page 468-9)	Different than earlier conquests, because the Europeans claimed an exclusive religious truth and sought the utter and complete of local gods and deities; however eventually Christianity was assimilated into society; and mass conversion took place.
1775-1787	North American revolution (502 & 503)	Not many things changed-other than the political independence. It was a conservative movement, because it was an effort to preserve the existing liberties in the colonies rather than to create new ones. Did not grow out of social tensions, but from British aggressiveness. What was revolutionary was the kind of democratic society that emerged.
1791-1804	Haitian Revolution (509-510)	The only successful slave revolt in History, this was triggered by rumors that the French king had already abolished slavery→ burned plantations and killed whites, and mixed races. In turn, inspired other slave rebellions but also caused places like Cuba to take extra precaution in terms of slavery. Injected a deep rooted caution and social conservatism in Latin America that led their country to independence (1900s).
1810-1825	Latin American Revolution (510-511)	Very inspired by previous revolutions such as North America, France and Haiti. Elites in the Spanish colonies were offended by the efforts of the Spanish monarchy to greater control the colonies and to subject them to taxes and tariffs. Lasted twice as long as the American revolution because divided by class, region and race. As a result, they became underdeveloped, impoverished, undemocratic, politically unstable and dependent on foreign technology and investment.

1834	Emancipation of Slaves (513)	Based off of Enlightenment ideas that claimed that Slavery was a violation of the natural rights of every person, and the public pronouncements of the American and French Revolution about liberty and equality. Economic lives of former slaves did not improve dramatically; redistribution of land did not occur (except in Haiti). Sharecropping emerged, which caused resistance from former slaves and resulted in a shortage of labor, and migration of indentured servants from India and China were imported to work on these plantations in horrible conditions. Newly freed people did not achieve political equality (except in Haiti); white planters, farmers, and mine owners retained local authority in the Caribbean. US had a short period of “radical reconstruction” where slaves enjoyed full political rights but was followed by harsh segregation laws, denial of voting rights, and racism.
1848	Feminist beginnings: Women’s rights conference in Seneca falls, New York (521)	As a result of enlightenment thinking, this was the first organized expression of the emerging feminist movements; in which they drafted a statement saying “all men and women are created equal” Major concerns included, access to schools, universities, and the professions.
1850s	Growing sense of nationalism (519)	People saw nationalism with it’s emphasis on “the people” as an aid to their aspirations toward wider involvement in political life. “Civic nationalism” identified the nation with a particular territory and maintained that people of various cultural could assimilate into the dominant culture, as in the process of “becoming American”
1820s (grows after the Civil War→1861-65)	American industrialization begins in the textile	The Country’s huge size, ready availability of natural resources, its growing domestic market, and its

	industry of New England, and grows. (542)	relative political stability combined to make the United States the world's leading industrial power (by 1914). This also resulted in the US pioneering techniques of mass production, using interchangeable parts, the assembly line, and "scientific management" to produce for a mass market. Also, change was inflicted more by society rather than the state itself.
1870s	Feminist movements focused on suffrage (520)	Resulted in many ordinary middle class housewives and working class mothers to join in the movement.
1890s	A growing gap had emerged between the poor and the working class on the one hand and the middle class and the rich on the other (543).	This was apparent to the labor working force, which had unfair and harsh working conditions in the factories. Generated much labor protest, and class-consciousness. However, American union organizations were very conserved, and no political party emerged and thus the idea of socialism did not appeal to Americans.
1900s	Upper and middle class women had gained entrance to universities, in small numbers, and literacy rates improved. (521)	The United states passed legislation allowing women to manage and control their own property and wages, separate from their husbands. Professions opened up as well (Jane Adams invented social network).

Mid 1800s	Post-Independence, Decline of Latin America (549)	Post independence resulted in decimated populations, diminished herds of livestock, flooded or closed silver mines, abandoned farms, shrinking international trade and investment capital, and empty national treasuries. Many international wars resulted in weaker nations-and the divide between conservatives (favored authority) and liberalists (enlightenment values) emerged. Other than Slavery being abolished and the legal distinctions among racial categories disappearing, Social life did not change fundamentally.
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<p>Late 1800s</p>	<p>Political Consolidation of Latin America (page 550)</p>	<p>Took place among countries such as Mexico, Peru, and Argentina. At the same time, Latin America as a whole became more closely integrated with the world economy. The most significant outcome was a rapid growth of Latin American exports to the industrializing countries, which eventually led Latin America into a “dependent development.” Accompanying this was a large-scale investment of European capital in Latin America. O a side note, Urbanization proceeded rapidly and Latin America sought to attract more Europeans.</p>
<p>1910-1917</p>	<p>Bloody conflict in Mexico and the creation of a Constitution. (555)</p>	<p>Due to the unchanging social order many peasants middle class reformers and peasants overthrew dictatorship (Porfirio Diaz), and Mexico had a new constitution in 1917. This proclaimed universal suffrage, provided the redistribution of land, and stripped the Catholic church of any public roles.</p>
<p>Post 1914</p>	<p>World war I had loosened the hold of tradition in many ways. (633)</p>	<p>Enormous casualties promoted social mobility, young middle-class women, began to flout convention and generally expressing a more open sexuality, a new consumerism appeared (cars, electric irons..etc). radio and the movies became vehicles of Popular culture, transmitting American jazz to Europe and promoting Hollywood films abroad.</p>
<p>1929</p>	<p>Great Depression (633)</p>	<p>Due to Stock Market crash→banks to close→ people losing life savings→world trade decreased by 62% → they couldn't sell products=unemployment. America had a surplus of items, and because they were physically untouched by the war they were doing well. But, after the war-because of capitalism/unequal distribution of income people and even major countries were unable to buy those products. The Speculative stock market frenzy added to this, caused the fragile system to collapse. This challenged capitalistic views, and the United States responsive was Franklin Roosevelt's “New Deal”, which was intended to restore pre-Depression prosperity. However, this permanently altered the relationship among government, private economy, and individual citizens; such as Social Security system and minimum wage,</p>

		and various relief and welfare programs.
1941	Japanese attack on the Pearl Harbor (647)	Was a result of Japan's goal to end American hostility to Japanese empire building; because America viewed them as a threat to US economic interests in Asia. However this resulted in the US entering the World War II, and bombing Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945.
1944	Conference in Bretton Woods, New Hampshire (724)	Determined to avoid any return to Depression era conditions, at this conference they forged a set of agreements and institutions → World Bank and International monetary Fund. This laid the foundation for postwar globalization This "Bretton Woods system" set the rules for commercial and financial dealings among the major capitalist countries, while promoting free trade, stable currency linked to the US dollar and high levels of capitalist investment.
1948	The Marshall Plan (654)	Indication of the United States' intention to exercise global leadership following World War II. This gave Europe about \$12 billion for reconstruction of its society. Extremely successful, and Western European communities grew rapidly. This plan also required European recipients to cooperate with one another, assured political and military security against renewed German aggression and Soviet Union.
1949	NATO (654)	To ensure political and military alliance the North Atlantic Treaty Organization was created. It committed the United States and its nuclear arsenal to the defense of Europe against the Soviet Union. Thus Europe was able to revive economically under the US's watch.

1949	The US's global role Post World War II (678)	<p>Spearheaded the western effort to contain the spread of communism.</p> <p>The "military-industrial complex" allowed America to have the most successful economy after the WWII, and everyone looked up to America politically and economically; they had Huge American firms, the dollar replaced the British pound- and thus American culture also spread throughout the world. (example: rock and roll, spirituals, coca cola, "cool")</p>
1947-1991	The Cold War (673-677)	<p>Created the "Iron curtain" between the East and the West. Vietnam wanted to Unite their communist country, the US interfered but Vietnam won and United anyway in 1975 (another cause with Russia and Africa). Cuba Missile incident; the Cubans were becoming allies with the Soviet Union, and they feared the US would attack so the Soviet gave them nuclear missiles, but luckily it was avoided through a compromise- and America promised not to invade the land. Nuclear Standoff: USSR and US, rapidly created more and more nuclear technology and if unleashed it could practically wipe out the whole human race; therefore they kept creating more and more arms, but they never attacked physically-hence the name "Cold War"</p> <p>"Third World Country courting"- The US and USSR both wanted political influence on many 3rd world countries, and US was afraid they would turn communist so they interfered and supported anti-communist regimes in Iran, Philippines, Guatemala, El Salvador, Chile and The Congo.They couldn't dominate though, because 3rd world countries didn't want to be pawns.</p>

Mid 1900s	Many Technological innovations contributing to Globalization (725)	Technology contributed to the acceleration of economic globalization. This included containerized shipping, huge oil tankers, air express services drastically lowered transportation costs, and later the Internet provided the communication infrastructure for global economic interaction. Population growth further fueled globalization, because dozens of new nations eager for modern development were entering the economy.
1970s and after	The emergence of neo-liberalism (725)	The US abandoned many earlier political controls on economic activity and viewed the world as a single market (neo-liberalism). This favored the reduction of tariffs, the free global movement of capital, a mobile and temporary workforce, the privatization of many state-run enterprises. By the end of the twentieth century “capitalism was global and the globe was capitalist.”
1970s onwards	Globalization (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ World Trade skyrocketed ○ Money achieved amazing global mobility→ foreign direct investment, short-term movement of capital, and personal funds of individuals. ○ Transnational corporations was central to the acceleration of globalization ○ High immigration rates. ○ The division of economic prosperity is very unbalanced with Europe and North America being significantly better off than the rest of the world.