

Chapter 2: The Invasion and Settlement of North America, 1550-1700

- 1. How does any country successfully establish a colony in another part of the world? Drawing from the English, French, Spanish, and Dutch experiences in North America through 1690s examine how motivations, goals, organization, strategy and the conditions one encountered affected the outcome of a colonial venture. By 1690, which European country had been most successful at colonization? Why?
- 2. The European colonization of North America did not occur on a blank slate. The native peoples and environment Europeans encountered fundamentally shaped their colonial experiences. How did the native Americans transform English colonization in North America?
- 3. Different European peoples with different colonial goals and strategies colonized North America. Yet, in the southwest, southeast and northeast, the impact of European colonization on the native peoples as well as their response was very similar. How do you explain this paradox?
- 4. Which social group from England, in which English colony in North America, do you think came closest to achieving their goals in the seventeenth century?
- 5. The English colonial experience in North America in the seventeenth century established some of the fundamental characteristics of American society, economy, politics, and culture. What are some of these characteristics and how did they affect subsequent events?

Chapter Two Section I.

- 1. What factors account for the differences in the colonizing experiences of the Spanish, Dutch, French, & English in North America during the 16th & 17th centuries?**
- 2. What was the first permanent settlement in North America?**
- 3. Who were the early French explorers and what settlements did they found?**
- 4. Why did the populations of New France & the New Netherlands remain small?**
- 5. Why did the first English colonies at Jamestown & Roanoke, Virginia fail before 1624?**
- 6. What was the date of the first recorded usage of African-Americans for slave labor in Virginia? Why did this occur?**
- 7. What was the headright system & what role did it play in the settlement of the English Chesapeake colonies?**

Imperial Conflicts & Rival Imperial Modes

- **New Spain: Colonization and Conversion: God, Gold & Glory**
- 1530s and 1540s, Spanish adventurers and explorers, driven by a quest for gold and wealth, ventured into southern North America.
- Established military forts in Florida and the Carolinas.
- 1573, the Spanish changed their strategy: missionaries instead of military adventurers to pacify, convert, and control the Indians at.
- Taken aback by the heavy costs of exploration that they decided to wait until the late eighteenth century to colonize California.

Imperial Conflicts & Rival Imperial Modes contd.

- New France: Furs and Souls
- The French conferred on a settlement company a monopoly over the fur trade
- In contrast to England, however, peasants in France retained control over their lands to resettle on the poorer lands of New France.
- Jesuit missionaries established extensive control over native peoples through trade and conversion across a vast extent of North America.
- French missionaries, instead of coercing native peoples, achieved conversions by understanding Indian ideas, concerns, and needs and relating Christian doctrine to them.

New Netherland: Commerce

- The Dutch developed trading outposts along the coast of North America
- They tried to attract settlers and to protect the outposts from Indians and other Europeans by granting extensive tracts of land along the Hudson River to Dutch proprietors.
- The weak small colony was easily taken by the English, who renamed it New York in 1664.

The First English Model: Tobacco and Settlers

- The Virginia Company launched its first colonial venture to establish an economic outpost in Virginia in 1607.
- The adventurers and seekers of fortune who established Jamestown had few, if any, survival skills.
- The efforts of subsequent leaders to impose discipline enabled the colony to survive from one year to the next, but just barely.
- Within ten years, the Virginia Company, to draw settlers to the colony, had instituted the head right system, developed tobacco as a cash crop, and established local government.
- Distressed by its poor performance, King James assumed control over Virginia and, by instituting local government under royal control, established the model for royal colonies throughout North America.

Chapter Two Section II.

- 1. What characterized royal colonies throughout English America in regard to governmental structure?**
- 2. What was/is the historical region of the Chesapeake?**
- 3. Who founded the colony of Maryland? In addition to profit from tobacco cultivation why was Maryland founded?**
- 4. What was the societal composition of the 17th century Chesapeake? What accounted for this unique societal composition?**
- 5. What were the Navigation Acts, & what was their significance to life in the 16th & 17th century colonies?**
- 6. What were some of the causes of Bacon's Rebellion? What effect did it have on society & politics in Virginia?**



The Chesapeake Experience

Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, Carolinas

- Religious freedom to Catholics in Maryland, but European settlement destroyed native American communities & both European indentured servants and African slaves Exploited for profit.
- Virginia: royal colony, Maryland (Lord Baltimore)& Delaware proprietory
- Continued tension in Maryland between Catholics & Protestants
- The tobacco boom assured continued economic growth
- Epidemic disease resulted in an extraordinarily high death rate among colonists.
- Servants and Masters
- Headright system and a large demand for labor attracted many indentured servants Laborers
- Half the men died before they were freed, women—& more social mobility by marriage

The Seeds of Revolt

- Price of tobacco collapsed in 1660 increased
- Low prices eliminated the prospect of newly freed servants finding land. Move to frontier in search of cheap land.
- Government officials exacerbated tensions: granted lands to a privileged elite and trying to
- Excluded freemen from voting and created an oligarchy.

Bacon's Rebellion

- Settlers in the western part of the VA, resented exploitation by Tidewater elites pushed on to the last Indian lands left in Virginia, the pressure boiled over. When westerners led by newcomer Nathaniel Bacon, a member of the governor's council, started a war against the Indians, the governor condemned them, expelled Bacon from the council, and ordered his arrest. Bacon, however, forced the governor to back down and institute reforms. Still not satisfied, Bacon rebelled openly and civil war broke out, only to end when Bacon died suddenly. To prevent further rebellions, the elite, after punishing the rebels, returned voting rights to the lower class, reduced taxes, and instituted an expansionist land policy. They also looked for ways to acquire more control over a labor force that was needed to grow tobacco.