In school the instructor just barely has time to give the students some names and dates of early explorations – plus, within weeks after the “tests” they are forgotten anyway.

And in this lecture there is no test 😊

This lecture focuses on the Spanish; there is a companion lecture on the “non Spanish” landings in North America.
The Spanish Inquisition of the Americas

“The quest for gold and God’s servants”

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“In a museum in Havana there are two skulls of Christopher Columbus, one when he was a boy and one when he was a man.”

- Mark Twain, *The Adventures of Thomas Jefferson Snodgrass*
40 People Missing After First Flat Earth Surfing Championship
1453 Ottomans cut off land route

Marco Polo
1271-1295
Ah, the elusive Christopher Columbus

- 5 centuries before, Bjarni Herjolfsson set foot (by accident) in what would become North America
- Strange maps were available, but was Columbus aware of them?
- Historians cannot agree on where he was born, married or not, and where he was buried
- Born about 1451 in Genoa, Italy
- Literally washed on shore in Portugal after his ship was sunk by French
- He sought a noble title, and was dubbed Don Cristobal Colon
- Medieval times – yes, the earth was flat
- 1st crusades winding down; so onward to spread Worldwide Christianity and to get rid of non Catholics
He thought India was about 3,000 miles west (really 11,000 miles away with a whole continent in his way)
Determined to find a westward path to India
He jotted in a margin, “The end of Spain and the beginning of India are not far distant. This sea can be crossed in a few days with a fair wind.”
~86 men on the Nina, Pinta, and Santa Maria set out in August 1492
Stopped in Canaries for supplies, left Sept 9, headed dead west
October 12, saw naked people on a beach; he never discovered America, rather he was about to destroy it; he didn’t know where he was or about to unleash on the world
Claimed the land for Spain, and called it San Salvador (holy savior)
So…. Where was he? Best guess is that it was somewhere in the “Bahamas”
After 2 hours ashore, he wrote in his journal, “They ought to make good and skilled servants.”
Saw a gold nugget hanging on a necklace, and the race was on to find the source – island hopping was off and running, “Nope, not here. Try over there. Repeat”
Finally he was told of a large island called Cuba
He thought Cuba was Japan (an 8,000 mile error)*
Still in search of gold, Cubans told him of a big island to the East, but don’t go there because the people had dog faces, 1 eye in the middle, were known as the Bohio people who ate people
Columbus convinced the Bohios were part of Ghengis Khan group in Asia (Irony… original people of the Caribbean were descended from Asia blood)

* described by Marco Polo
Florida ~25 deg North

37 deg North
Columbus was certain that “cuba” was close enough to how Marco Polo described Japan.
• On Christmas eve, Santa Maria sunk on a reef
• Fort built out of Santa Maria wood, left a 39 men with instructions “do not insult natives” as he sailed back to Spain, but first..... He sailed to the eastern edge of island
• Encountered people different from ones on the west

• Didn’t go well for locals – sailors got into a fight and used their swords on natives
• Columbus knew he had located the “dog people” the Cubans had warned him about
• On March 15, 1493, he anchored the Nina near Palos, Spain, 32 weeks after leaving it
• The Pinta anchored close by
• Columbus sailed 3 more times to the “islands”
• Second trip (1493) Columbus commanded 17 vessels, 1,200 people, along with horses, sheep, cows, and pigs
• King of Spain financed the boats with two goals: 1. find as much gold as you can, with 1/8 going to Columbus, and 2. Christianizing the inhabitants (gold and god)
• Returning he hopped around the islands bestowing names like The Virgin Islands, St. Croix, etc.
• At St. Croix, skirmished with natives, took a woman hostage and gave it to a friend Michele de Cuneo
• In de Cuneo’s log he details that the first sex between a European and American was rape
• Finding a few nuggets of gold, Columbus and men set off to find more
• More skirmishes occurred; many natives decapitated in “town squares”
• Loaded 550 native men and women into boats and headed back to Spain; 200 died crossing the sea, the rest sold in Spain – all dying soon thereafter
• Columbus was a sailor, not an administrator – so he had to delegate

Late 1495, first true European city that grew and prospered
• Columbus 2\textsuperscript{nd} voyage was a disaster monetarily and for prestige

• 3\textsuperscript{rd} voyage in 1498 he sailed on west, hitting present day Venezuela (making the South American continent yet another an unwitting discovery)

• Word had gotten back to Spain of the disaster Columbus causing; when Columbus returned to Santa Domingo he was put in chains and taken back to Spain

• The crown approved one more trip (now 1500) but this time with instructions to only explore by ship – leave the administration of cities to the crown appointees

• He made it to central America area, turned around, ship wrecked in Jamaica, made his way back to Spain, stripped of titles, died penniless, infirm, alone in May 1506*

• By now a German geographer Martin Waldseemuller knew this new area was not Asia, so he suggested that it needed a name, and he suggested “Amerige”

* Columbus was befriended by a fellow Italian who had an ego of Columbus, had Medici $ backing, and stole a lot of credit from Columbus “discoveries”; his name was Amerigo Vespucci
Let’s give all of the natives a name: Taino
Their leader was named Caonabo (lord of the mountains)
Spanish attacked them with swords, guns, horses
Caonabo was lured into town with promise he could have a brass bell
He was put in chains and he a few others sent back to Spain
The Spanish said they were sorry to those left (including Caonabo’s wife) so Spanish threw them a multi-day party, keeping them all with a compound –which they set afire killing all inside; except Caonabo’s wife who was spared and hung the next day
How to replace the Taino for servants and gold searching? Let’s import African slaves!
By 1495 no Taino children were found; a whole race of people was wiped from the face of Earth – why did we ever celebrate Columbus Day?
Under Spanish Control
• Time to leave Mr. Colombus (but not Cuba and Haiti)
• The Spanish were an inquisitive lot:
  - Vasco Nunez de Balboa – reached the Pacific Ocean
  - Ferdinand Magellan – rounded South America
  - Herman Cortes – conquered the Aztecs (Mexico)
  - Francisco Pizarro – conquered the Incas (Peru)
  - Ponce de Leon – found Florida
  - De Soto – searcher in the “united states”
  - Coronado – invader of the Mexico and “united states”
  - Alvar Nunez Cabeza de Vaca – more of an idiot than Columbus
  - Panfilo de Narvaez – Mr. Florida; more of an idiot than De Vaca

• The Spanish published a manual for conquistadors
• Depicts Spanish captain with “dividers” and hand on his sword hilt
• The caption reads “With the compass and the sword / More and more and more.”
• The Spanish (along with most of central Europe) was obsessed with ridding the world of Muslims; they had won battles back home, and this confidence spilled over to the above me
• Cortes: “we were obliged to make war against enemies of our faith.”
Ponce de Leon

- Came over on Columbus’ 2nd voyage
- Was “based” in Puerto Rico
- Heard rumors of “big” land northwest
- Estimated to have landed in Daytona Beach area 1,200 miles away or about 5-6 days
- Reached land around Easter time, or known in Spain as the “Feast of Flowers”; he named the land “La Florida”
- First recorded landing by a European in North America
- On his second trip back, he was wounded by an arrow and subsequently died at the age of 39
- A Spanish historian said that de Leon was searching for a mystical spring in order to cure his impotence
Herman Cortes

- 1519 landed 400 men on shores of Mexico
- Discovered rumors of gold, headed to Tenochtitlan

City of 100,000
Ruled by Moctezuma
De Narvaez and de Vaca – the Laurel and Hardy of the early 1500’s

- While Cortez in 1519 was pillaging central Mexico
- La Florida was being pillaged in its own way
- Spanish had no idea how far Mexico was from La Florida, but could imagine heading west they eventually meet their comrades
• De Narvaez landed in present day Tampa area with 5 ships
• He unloaded his 42 horses and 300 men (including de Vaca)
• Sent all 5 ships and 900 men west to find a harbor
• De Narvaez (along with De Vaca) decided to march north to present day Tallahassee (about 200 miles through swamps WEARING ARMOR!) in search of his ships
• No cell-phones to say “here I am”, they missed each other and de Narvaez, de Vaca, and men were on their own
• They ate their horses, built canoes, and with 242 men launched out to sea
• They ran out of food and water, so they drank sea water!
De Narvaez was no dummy – he had strongest crew in his boat. De Vaca suggested throwing a rope to him and his crew, but De Narvaez replied “Everyone for themselves. Sucker!” De Narvaez disappeared never to be seen again. Starving, De Vaca and men found land in present day Galveston area; they had travelled about 700 miles.

“Indians” found them and gave them shelter. After a year or so De Vaca decided to head east back to La Florida. His men decided living with the Indians was not too bad, and stayed. In the Louisiana area he came upon 3 men from de Narvaez’s crew. The 3 were slaves to local Indians, and de Vaca made 4. After a year, they escaped and headed WEST! They attracted Indian follows who thought they had magical powers to heal. With maybe 1,000 “followers”, de Vaca kept marching until he reached the Gulf of California.
• From just New Orleans to Gulf of California is about 1,400 miles
• 8 years later he ran into 4 Christians on horseback
• The Christians wanted to capture the Indians, but de Vaca convinced them not to
• The Christians took de Vaca and 3 others to a church and gave them food and clothes
• The Christians were actually slave traders, and after putting de Vaca away, they (along with other loyal “Indians”) went back and captured almost of the Indians - selling them as slaves
• Eventually de Vaca his way back to Spain; rewarded with a governorship in present day Paraguay area, where he was sympathetic to Indians’ plight and treated them kindly
• Wrote a journal called “Account”
• Local Spaniards didn’t appreciate this as they were in the habit of selling Indians as slaves
• Locals trumped of charges of treason against him, and he was sent in irons back to Spain
• De Vaca died in obscurity…. But not the black slave who walked across the U.S. with him.
• Mexico now called “New Spain”
• I now introduce: Estevanico, Estevan, Stephen, Estevanico de Dorantes, Stevie, etc.
• Estevanico assigned to Friar Marcos
• “Stevie” headed north and sent back a note that he had found the 7 cities of gold (Cibola)
• When gold not found, Estevanico was ordered killed when no cities of gold found
• Estevanico was a remarkable linguist, explorer, and loyal to Spain; (see epilog)
• Viceroy in Mexico wanted the gold, and chose 28 year old Francisco Vasquez de Coronado in 1540 to find Cibola
• 5 friars, 2 painters, 550 horses, misc. cows, pigs, sheep, thousand or so Spanish soldiers and Indian “roadies”

Example of Sonora desert

Started about here
Coronado found “Cibola”, or a series of Zuni villages just south of present day Gallup, NM, although it had no gold and only turquoise.

Marcos was on Coronado’s “bad list”

But… rumors of gold was just to the east… so off they went … the Spanish were nothing if not persistent in wanting to find gold

Priests carried a document called “Requerimiento”
- Had to be read to all Indians before commencing battle
- Said Pontiff in Rome had authorized Spain’s claim on the world
- Natives who accepted it would be welcome to the Spanish Crown as “king and lord”
- If not accepted, “I assure you that, with the help of God, I will attack you mightily… I will take your wives and children… I will make them you and slaves…I will take your property… I will do all the harm and damage to you that I can… I declare that the deaths and injuries that occur will be your fault” (In other words, sort of a Miranda’s Rights reading)
- Natives could not understand “pope”, “God”, or anything in the document
• Side story: 1598, Juan de Onate arrived in this area with 400 soldiers
• Onate sent his nephew ahead with a small group; nephew killed
• Onate now mad, and thus killed 800 local Indians (Acomas)
• Others captured: Onate ordered each to have 1 foot cut off and to serve 20 years as a slave
• 2 Hopis who had joined the Acomas had their right hands cut off and set free so they could warn others
Indian revenge 101:
• 1680 Po’pay led a revolt against Spanish in Pueblo area – killed hundreds, drove out Spanish

Spanish revenge 101:
• Statue of Po’pay was set to be erected in New Mexico Capital building, but Spanish voted it down
• In 1541, Coronado left the pueblo (which means “town” in Spanish) country with a guide who promised to lead him gold! Headed east.
• Saw their first buffalo herds
• Even guides got lost
• He sent out scouts; they got lost and didn’t return
• Welcome to the Great Plains of the United States
Coronado approximate routes with current day town names

Coronado’s guide led him east and south.

Around Tucumcari, NM, he basically asked, “Y’all seen any gold around here?”

“Oh yes, but it is north of here about 40 days away.”

Coronado sent his whole army back and he went on with 30 horsemen.

In Floydada is wonderful museum of Coronado artifacts found in the area.

Coronado had reached the city of “gold” but it was just mud huts and tepees. He had gambled his fortune and got nothing in return.
• His guide admitted that he had deceived him because of two reasons:
  1. He hoped to find his wife
  2. His pueblo “masters” (Indians) told him to lead them astray so they would either die or be so weak that the Indians could take their revenge on the Spaniards
• The guide was murdered on the spot
• Coronado and men headed west and met up with his army and camped by the Rio Grande
• In 1542 he and army made their way back to Spanish Mexico
• He had lost his fortune along with investors’ monies
• Coronado died penniless in 1554 at the age of 44
  ❑ One of Coronado’s captains had taken a tattooed female Indian as slave
  ❑ Back in Mexico area she escaped and headed east
  ❑ Only to run into and recaptured by Spanish heading west; she described Coronado to them, and they took her west with them
  ❑ The men heading west was headed by Hernando de Soto who had left Florida about the same time Coronado headed north across the Sonora Desert
  ❑ De Soto and men had travelled over 1,500 miles, with a few horses but mostly on foot
Hernando de Soto

- (remember, almost every explorer had one focus: gold (God came second)
- Part of Balboa’s force that crossed the isthmus of Panama to see the Pacific ocean
- Governor put in charge of Panama area, told de Soto to arrest Balboa in exchange for some $
- Balboa arrested and executed, governor and de Soto split up area, slaves, gold, silver
- In 1535, force moved up the west coast, landing in Peru under leadership of Pizarro
- Pizarro gave orders to introduce himself to the Inca leader Atahualpa
- de Soto did by decapitating the Incan leader and looting all gold and silver – about $10M worth
- Returning to Spain, he begged investors for $ so he could buy ships, men, etc. in return for share of gold he could find; established a base Cuba, and landed just south of Tampa Bay (Florida NW side where one can find today the de Soto Laundromat, mobile-home park, and pet clinic)
- In 1539, de Soto moved up the coast slaughtering natives as he went
- Unlike Indians in the plains, southeastern Indians centralized in “cities” – which made it easy for de Soto to attack head-on
- Was told of a city of gold, so off he went (sound familiar?)
Hernando de Soto: I lost by ship ride 😊

Hernando de Soto: I’m sooooo lost ride 😊
• Indians were on to de Soto and started to attack instead of waiting to be attacked
• His army and horses were 1/3 from when he started out
• De Soto died at the age of 42 in 1542 from a fever, assigning Luis de Moscoso his successor
• He had travelled about 3,000 miles from Florida killing thousands of Indians, chiefs, and毁ing crops and civilizations
• As city/states of Indians collapsed because of de Soto plundering and killing chiefs, the south became a free-for-all; two tribes took over: Creek and Choctaw
• He made it easier for French and English coming along in 1600’s
Be sure to visit the “Pedro Menendez massacre wave pool”!
Spain had established, in September 1565, a fort in St. Augustine in La Florida

Pesky French were settling the Carolinas; King Philip II of Spain told Menendez “get them out of there”

If you ain’t Catholic …. Well sorry for you, we warned you (all grouped into pot known as Lutherans - aka Protestants)

142 French slaughtered as Menendez moved north (even though the French surrendered)

The French sent a navy/army south of St. Augustine to attack; Menendez alerted by friendly natives, and he turned to go south where he attacked and slaughtered all but 10 (who said they were Catholics)

A cleric witnessing the scene said that Menendez “gave them a noble and honorable death in that he only chopped off their heads, as he could have burnt them alive at the stake.”
• Menendez established missions up the coast all the way to the Chesapeake Bay (about 600 miles)
• French struck back, hanging many Spaniards
• Menendez died at 1574, age 55
• Many settlements by Spanish, English, and French up and down the coast, but only St. Augustine survived; it had a fortress, church, monastery, hospital, shops, and over 100 dwellings – it was a small city
• 1821 Spain gave up Florida and gave it the U.S.
Aztec Empire summarized

- Established in central and southern current day Mexico
- Cortez landed on the Yucatan area and drove inward
- Many battles ensured, and by 1525 the empire was essentially dissolved
Inca Empire summarized

- Established up and down the west coast of South America
- They had no writing, no wheel, no iron making, no money (used the barter system), and no taxes (sort of – ruler used labor as payment), but yet established a great civilization
• Pizzaro asked Spain to make him ruler after he took Panama; the Queen of Spain granted him what he wanted with the following charter was issued in July 1529: “…allowing Pizarro to conquer the Incas. Pizarro was named governor and captain of all conquests in Peru, or New Castile, as the Spanish now called the Nueva Espana”.
• 1st expedition 1524: Pizzaro left Panama area and headed south with 80 men and only 4 horses
• 2nd expedition 1526: Pizzaro headed out with 2 ships, 160, “several” horses
Pizzaro’s life takes a left turn

- Governor in Panama not happy with his investment in Pizzaro, sent a crew to bring him back
- Pizzaro had retreated to an island to regroup; locals fighting back
- Pizzaro had no intention of returning since riches were so close; Pizarro drew a line in the sand, saying: "There lies Peru with its riches; Here, Panama and its poverty. Choose, each man, what best becomes a brave Castilian. For my part, I go to the south. Only 13 men chose to go with Pizarro
- Pizzaro makes his way back to Panama area with a little gold, heads to Spain
- Gathered support to get 3 ships, 180 men, and 27 horses for 3rd expedition
The Inca “king” Capac was killed, Pizzaro installed his brother as ruler, and tried to make peace. Didn’t go well, as battles after battles kept on. Capac sons then also fought for the “crown” to lead the Inca’s.

FYI, many “local” south American natives welcomed the Spanish, as Capac was the “Sadam Hussein” of South America.

More irony: smallpox was brought the Spaniards, and the efficient road system of the Inca’s made the spread very effective in killing off thousands of Incas.

By about 1600 the Inca empire consisting of any army of 50,000, and a civilization of maybe a million was gone - conquered by only a few hundred men.

Poor Pizzaro

- Pizzaro had brought other Spaniards with him who were as greedy as he was
- Pizzaro ordered murder of another Spaniard
- The murdered Spaniard’s brother not pleased, and on June 26, 1541, in Lima, Pizzaro was assassinated.
Mexico plunderers were wary about crossing the big expanse of the Atlantic Ocean; they had a known path from the Caribbean.

Havana harbor was a perfect place to drop off their gold/silver, get supplies, and return for more plundering.

Spain had ships waiting (who brought west supplies and slaves) in Havana to take gold/silver back to the king/queen.

Other countries were hearing about this – what would you do if you were England or France?

France employed/hired over 1,000 independent contractors (pirates) to plunder; they could keep a share and return the rest to the King of France; England did the same.
Spain 195,364 Sq miles
Texas 268,597 Sq miles
• Spanish by birth, educated in Spain, decided enough is enough of Spanish cruelty
• Early 1800’s (while Spain was up to their frilly collars with Napoleon) led revolts against Spanish throughout Venezuela, Columbia, Granada, Ecuador, Bolivia, Peru and established treaties
• Spain no longer ruled South America
• Died in 1830, age 47, from tuberculosis
Mexico

16 September 1810 – 27 September 1821 – War of Independence from Spain

Spain comes in 2\textsuperscript{nd} place
Summary and Epilog

- The Spanish got a jump-start on the English, French, Dutch, etc.
- Columbus didn’t know where he was but ….. Provided bases from onward expansion and exploration
- Spain riding high on their battles against the Muslims
- Catholic church wanted gold and more Catholics, and Spain promised it
- Spain wanted gold – explorers promised it (Spain had wars to fight and needed to build ships, armor, guns, etc. – wars are expensive!)
- Spanish explorers were given land and a share of silver and gold, but initially most had to finance their own explorations
- European countries had steel, gun powder, horses, technology – “Indians” could not compete
- Spain decimated Indian culture
- Napoleon, 1807-1808, overthrew Spanish rulers
- In 1700’s English attacked Havana and Santiago, Cuba - Spain retreating; negotiated with England that they could have Florida if Spain could keep Cuba
- Hapsburgs (Protestants) challenging Catholic rule in Spain – wars take time, focus, and money
- Spain has given up all colonies in South America AND Mexico (aka New Spain)
- Cuba was rich in sugar plantations and now copper mining
- Spain put a whole new definition to what slavery meant
- In 1898 the U.S. took control of Cuba, and in Spain’s surrender the United States demanded the Philippine Islands (thereby helping to bring about Japan attacking Pearl Harbor in 1941)
Spanish Missions

The religious suppression and labor demands fostered resentment that eventually led to many revolts.
Mission ruins in the **Salinas Pueblo Missions National Monument** — in Socorro County, central **New Mexico**.

By early 1800’s English had driven Spain from Eastern coast, and Spain could not support missions “out west”.
Outside of its own country, Spain claims only 3 territories: Ceuta and Melilla.
Just south of St. Augustine, Florida, is a classic American Tourist Trap. Poncie never came close to discovering his cure for impotence, but it never stopped a local city from proclaiming “We found it! It’s right here!”
• Columbus was convinced he had reached India, so called the people Indios*
• The islanders travelled in canoas, and slept in hamacas
• Islanders actually called Cuba “Cuba” Name still survives
• Cubans described Hatians (who ate people) Canibales
• As the Moors/Muslims where run out of Spain, rumor was that they took their gold and headed out to sea to a place they called Antilia (Isle of the 7 cities); when Columbus found the Caribbean with its many islands, he called them “The Antilles”
• Remember Estevan/Stephie slave guide for Coronado?

![Map of Tucson](image-url)
- U.S. created Coronado National Memorial Park – According to the U.S. National Parks visitor logs, this is the least travelled federal road in the U.S. 😊, and it is only a mere 70 miles southeast of Tuscon
Onate found guilty of crimes and banished from the area, but not before he carved (over the top of Indian petroglyphs) the following at the base of El Morro": “Here passed by the Governor General Don Juan de Onate, from the discovery of the South Sea, the 16th of April, 1605” (15 years before Plymouth Rock settled)
In Floydada, Texas, is a remarkable Coronado museum
• Been on I40 connecting Arkansas to Memphis? You travelled on the Hernando de Soto bridge 😊
Recall Menendez who slaughtered French?

- 13 miles south of St. Augustine
- Matanzas means “The Slaughters” in Spanish; you will find a bridge and inlet commemorating this event
Epilogue continued

- From the time the Spanish was pushed out and the U.S. took over around 1900, Cuba went through lots of internal struggles – always in fear that the U.S. would claim them!
- Finally things settled down by around 1960 after one revolution after another
- Cuba opened up island for investments; the following countries jumped in: (who is missing?)
  - Chili, Canada, Mexico, Great Britain, Italy, Israel, France, Australia, The Netherlands
Some good reading

• “A Voyage Long and Strange”, Tony Horwitz
• “Carnage and Culture: Landmark Battles in the Rise to Western Power”, Hansen, Victor Davis
• “Alvar Mimez Cabeza de Vada: His Account, his life and expeditions”, Adorno, Rolena, and Patrick Pautz
• “The log of Christopher Columbus”, Christopher Columbus
• “The Crusades”
• “Bolivar: American Liberator”, Marie Marana
• “Cuba”, Ada Ferrer (Pulitzer prize in literature)
Any questions?

Please feel free to email me at DARRELVAN@GMAIL.COM if you want to discuss a topic later.
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