

APUSH 1491-1607: Concluding Discussion

1. How did the geographic setting of North America – including its relation to Asia, Europe and Africa—affect its subsequent history?
2. What were the common characteristics of all Indian cultures in the New World, and what were the important differences among them?
3. What fundamental factors drew the Europeans to the exploration, conquest, and settlement of the New World?
4. What was the impact on the Indians, Europeans and Africans when each of their previously separate worlds “collided” with one another?

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5. Should the European encounter with the Indian peoples of the Americas be understood primarily as a story of conquest and exploitation, or as one of mutual cultural encounter that brought beneficial as well as tragic results for both?