The Columbian Exchange

Two Worlds Meet
Seeds of Change

- Animals
- Plants
- Diseases
- New Technologies
- New peoples
New Animals in the Americas

- Horse
- Cow
- Pig
- Chicken
- Rats
- Bees
New plants in the Americas

- Sugarcane
- Grapes
- Wheat
- Bananas
- Coconut Palms
- Coffee
- Dandelions
New plants in the “Old World”

- Potato
- Corn
- Tomato
- Sweet Potato
- Cacao (Cocoa)
- Pineapples
- Pumpkins
“Old World” Diseases

- Smallpox
- Measles
- Diphtheria
- Chicken Pox
- Bubonic Plague
- Influenza
- Cholera
- Malaria
“New World” Diseases

- Syphilis
- Hepatitis
- Polio
- Tuberculosis
New Technologies

- Wheel
- Firearms
New Peoples

- African slaves
- Mestizos

New people brought with them new ideas and cultures
Cultural Diffusion

- The spread of ideas, customs, and technologies from one people to another.
- Cultural diffusion occurs through migration, trade and warfare.
**Long Term Causes:**
- God
- Gold
- Glory

**Immediate Causes:**
- Europeans arrive in the Americas
- Europeans bring new plants, animals and diseases to the Americas

**Columbian Exchange**

**Immediate Effects:**
- Spanish conquer Aztecs and Incas
- Native Americans die of European diseases
- Enslaved Africans are brought to the Americas
- American foods are introduced to other parts of the world

**Long Term Effects:**
- Spread of products all around the world
- Population growth in Europe, Asia, and Africa
- Cultural diffusion
- Migration from Europe to the Americas
- Growth of Capitalism
Result?

Population disaster in Americas and Pacific Islands

- As much as 100 million
- Population growth in the long term

Increased food fuels increased population growth worldwide; Europe first

Population migration on a massive scale
The Key to Global Dominance: Guns, Germs, and Steel

- Available food
  - Population growth; multiple minds on a problem
- “Domesticate-able” large animals (only 13 species worldwide; 9 in Eurasia)
- Easy travel (east/west axis) for ease of distribution of ideas, people, and resources
Result?

- Eurasia wins
- Europe heads out
- Europe destroys, sometimes unintentionally
  - Disease
  - Slavery
  - Conquest