

Why Europeans?

Why did Europeans displace Natives in North America?

Guns, Germs, Cows and Plows

Readings: Walton and Rockoff, Chapter 2
Diamond, Chapter 11 and the table on page 87
Lebergott, Chapter 2

I. What does it take for Invaders to Displace Natives?

A. One-on-one advantage: A single invader can kill/out compete a single native

- 1st, the invaders can survive in native lands. The invader's way of life is suited to native lands. ex. English wheat and cattle can make it in NY, but not in Bengal (East India)
2. Guns? Better military technology?
3. Germs? Invaders have nastier germs ... and better resistance to them

B. Numbers

1. Many invaders against each single native
2. More later

II. Guns: A closer (and slightly slanted) look at the role of

“superior” European military technology?

A. A brief military history of Shawnee & British-American conflict ... Ohio

- 1770's: The Shawnee occupied what is roughly equivalent to modern day Ohio and parts of northern Kentucky.
- 1774: Lord Dumore's War. Shawnee and allies defeated at Point Pleasant, on the Ohio (West Virginia) ($\cong 40$ of $\cong 300$ Shawnee killed,

$\cong 75$ of $\cong 1000$ Virginians killed)

- 1780: Battle of Piqua (or Pekowee) in western Ohio. George Rogers Clark and Kentucky militia defeat Shawnee and allies.
- 1782: Battle of Blue Licks. Shawnee and allies (and a few British) ambush and defeat Kentucky militia in Kentucky ($\cong 3$ of $\cong 1,000$ Shawnees killed, $\cong 72$ of $\cong 182$ killed Kentuckians killed)
- 1790: “Hardin's Defeat” and “Hamar's Defeat”: About 1,050 Shawnee defeat 400 U.S. troops and militia in western Ohio ($\cong 183$ U.S. Dead, $\cong 160$ Shawnee dead).
- 1791: “St. Claire's Defeat”. About 1,000 Shawnee ambush and defeat 1,500 U.S. troops and militia in western Ohio ($\cong 680$ U.S. Dead, $\cong 35$ Shawnee dead). **Have a good weekend!**
- Dang! The Shawnee and their allies are giving better than they get. ... but there's a lot more Americans and they just keep coming.
- 1794: Battle of Fallen Timbers. About 3,000 U.S. troops under “Mad” Anthony Wayne defeat 1,500 about 1,500 Shawnee in western Ohio ($\cong 33$ U.S. Dead, $\cong 40$ Shawnee dead). The British refuse to open Fort Miami's doors to the fleeing Indians. Also, Wayne's troops finally burn cornfields in the Shawnee heartland.
- 1795: The Treaty of Greenville: Most of Ohio, as well parts of Illinois and Michigan are ceded to the U.S.

B. So what?

- My examples are not 100% representative
 - ex. Battle of Horseshoe Bend, GA 1812+/- Andrew Jackson. 60 American and Indian allies killed. 857 Creek killed. (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Horseshoe_Bend. 2008)
 - How many times did Native Americans successfully invade and hold Euro-American lands? 0

- c. The British were supplying arms and other support to the Shawnee
2. ... **but the point is**, it wasn't all about military technology. Numbers were a big deal.

III. Diamond's Guns, Germs, And Steel in brief. Why Eurasia?

Did:

A. It had better opportunities (luck & geography).

1. More wild species of social animals suitable for domestication.
2. More wild species of plants suitable for domestication ⇒ higher population densities.
3. East-west axis ⇒ 1,000's of miles of similar climatic zones, domesticated animals and plants spread easily

~~B. Large East West oriented area (i.e. similar climate). ⇒~~

- ~~4. Better transmission: Innovations spread rapidly.~~
- ~~5. More competition ⇒ innovations more likely~~

C. **** Large population + animals + rapid and regular contact between regions ⇒ nasty diseases ****

~~D. **** Large population + rapid and regular contact between regions ⇒ better technology ****~~

V. Germs: Invaders' diseases kill lots of natives, but don't kill lots of invaders. Native diseases don't kill invaders.

A. Definitions (minor points for this material)

- **Endemic:** a disease that exists permanently in a particular region or population. Malaria is a constant worry in parts of Africa.

- *** Epidemic:** An outbreak of disease that attacks many peoples at about the same time and may spread through one or several communities.
- **Pandemic:** an epidemic that spreads throughout the world.

B. Another Definition

- **Acute:** fast acting. It doesn't take a human lifetime for the disease to do its bad stuff.

C. Why did Europeans have deadly, acute, epidemic diseases? **Start Wed. Did Constantinople & pop density**

♪ **Somewhere to run to baby, somewhere to hide** ♪

1. Eurasia's population densities meant there were always new hosts

♪ **Somewhere to run to baby** ♪

2. Eurasia's east west axis and extensive trade between regions meant there was a vector for the fast transmission of disease

♪ **Somewhere to run to baby** ♪

1 + 2. Let's Draw some pictures.

- ⇒ Crowd diseases: measles, smallpox, cholera (from Asia), typhoid, tuberculosis, influenza, etc.
3. Eurasian's closeness with (social) livestock

“♪ **Somewhere to hide** ♪”

- A place diseases can live and evolve until they come to “fit” humans
- Aside: the initial jump to humans can be pretty brutal. Humans have not had a chance to develop or evolve any resistance.

D. Why were Europeans less susceptible to European diseases?

- More immunity from childhood (kids more adaptable immune systems and have better survival rates than adults)
- Some genetic resistance had evolved

E. Native diseases don't kill invaders

- Some diseases that Europeans got in the new world that weren't actually new world diseases
 - o Yellow fever – from Africa (not a crowd disease)
 - o Malaria – from Africa (not a crowd disease)
 - o These greatly hindered European expansion in the tropics of Africa, South and Central America, and Asia.
- Diseases that Europeans got in the new world that were from the New World
 - o Syphilis: less virulent, less acute, than old world diseases.
 - Why? It spread more slowly and could not afford to kill its hosts quickly.
 - Why? Slower method of spread. Less contact between regions in the Americas.
- **Why, in general, were American diseases less nasty?**
 - o The America's relative lack of livestock
 - o The America's lower (?) population density
 - o Slower communication between regions in the Americas

IV. Technology: Plows ... and Cows

A. European way of life supports a denser population

- Lebergott reading **Overhead/handout (see table at end)**
- On lands of equal area: 20 Europeans for 1 native
 - to
 - 2000+ Europeans for 1 Native

- Multi-nation Indian delegation to the Spanish Governor of St. Louis after the American Revolution. *"The Americans, a great deal more ambitious and numerous than the English, put us out of our lands, forming therein great settlements, extending themselves like a plague of locusts in the territories of the Ohio River which we inhabit."* Calloway, Colin. 1995. The American Revolution in Indian Country. p 281.

B. ⇒ lots of Europeans for every Native American

~~VI. Political Organization: Natives are split into small groups that fight each other as often as they resist invaders~~

~~A. failed Indian attempts at pan-Indian action~~

~~King Phillip's War (1675-1676)~~

~~The French & Indian War (1758-1763)~~

~~Pontiac's Rebellion: 1763~~

~~Tecumseh's War: 1790's~~

B. Inter-ethnie conflict

- o Exacerbated by "Turf wars" over the fur trade and unequal access to trade and guns. i.e. Exacerbated by European conflict.
- o ex. The Iroquois expansion
 - Iroquois (Northern & Western NY state) trade for Dutch, then English guns, and run amok through nations to North, South, and West like a Mongol horde. Iroquois maintain overlord ship of tribes to south and west until about the American Revolution.
- o The Dakota (and other) Sioux: Expansion onto the Great Plains from ≈1700 to 1775. Pushed by Chippewas, and Ojibwas, who are pushed by others, who are pushed by whites. Pulled by the combination of horses and guns giving them an advantage over other plains tribes. Whooped up on the Crow, Kiowa, Cheyenne, etc.

- o “Inter-Ethnic Conflicts” from the next table

IV. Results ... swamped by a horde of locusts ... a relatively united, technologically advanced, horde of locusts with biological warfare

How many Native Americans in “lower 48”? modern estimates

- 1492: 1.85 million to 14.5 million Native Americans
- Contact: 725,000 to 900,000 million Native Americans
- 1785: \cong 3,000,000 (euro) Americans in U.S. & growing
 \cong 225,000 (euro) Americans w/in 50 miles of Indian lands (John Lovett, 1996)
 \cong 350,000 Indians in all “lower 48” E. of Mississippi
- 1900: \cong 250,000 - 300,000 Indians in “lower 48”

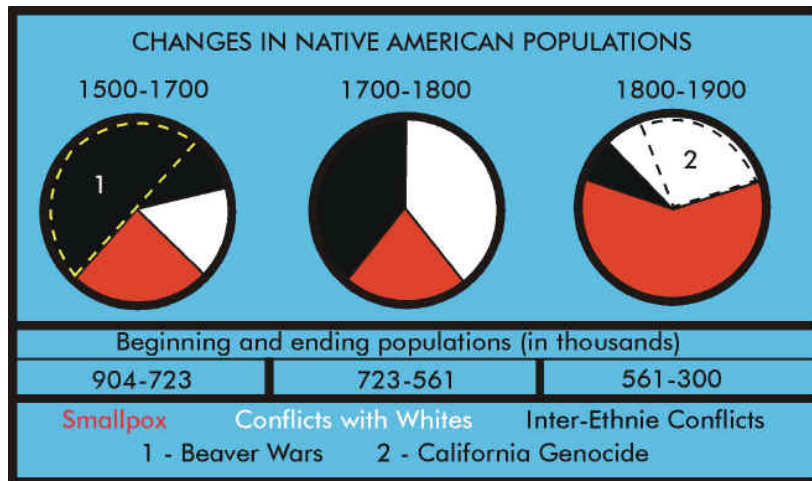


Chart is From: The Four Directions of Native American History

http://www.fourdir.com/four_directions_of_native_american_history.htm

In 1539 - 1543, Hernando de Soto led a Spanish expedition through what is now Florida. De Soto stated that he; "*marched on through some great fields of corn, beans, and squash and other vegetables which had been sown on both sides of the road and were spread out*

as far as the eye could see across two leagues of plain" (Doolittle 1992).

Study problems

1. ** European guns proved superior to Native American weaponry, even when applied to non-European settings. What are some other, more subtle ways in which European **technology** led to Europeans replacing native North Americans? Numbers are good. Thoughtful and clear analysis is better. Numbers + analysis = Yeah Baby!
2. When did European diseases start killing Native Americans?
3. ** Why did the diseases Europeans brought to America prove so deadly to the Native Americans, while American diseases proved less deadly to Europeans? Was it just luck?
4. It is widely known that disease and military conflict with Europeans killed many Native Americans. What else, stemming from European contact, led to many Native American deaths?
5. (A bit of a preview ... You won't be able to answer this fully until we do some more readings.) European "Guns, Germs, and Steel" depopulated the Caribbean as well as the American colonies North of the Chesapeake. Why did Europeans replace the natives in the colonies North of the Chesapeake and Africans replace natives in the Caribbean?

** These 2 questions are the most likely of the bunch to be exam essay questions. The other 3 are likely to be made into "objective" section questions.

**Land Requirements during the Colonial Period
Some Estimates.**

	<u>acres</u> capita	<u>capita</u> mile ²	<u>capita</u> km ²	<u>Max. European Pop</u> native pop on land of same area	<u>Actual European Pop</u> native pop on land of same area
1) British in North America "land requirements" 1750-1850	2	320	123.55	1 x	
2) Euroamericans in N. America actual values for ceded (non- Indian) land in 1783	75	8.75	3.29	37.5 x	1 x
1) Great Lakes Superior, Huron, & Michigan Chippewa, Ottawa	1600	0.4	0.15	800 x	21 x
1) Southern "civilized tribes" Cherokee, Creek	1900	0.34	0.13	950 x	25 x
1) E. Illinois & E. Wisconsin Sac, Fox, Kaskaskia	4000	0.16	0.06	2000 x	53 x
1) Edge of Prarie (MO) Osage (W. or Eastern?)	12000	0.053	0.021	6000 x	160 x

Sources: 1) Lebergott, *The Americans: An Economic Record*, 1984, p 16

2) The 75 acres per capita is John's **guestionate** based on Lebergott (1984),
and John's dissertation (1996).