

Lecture 6:

Chapter 16: Colonization of America, Louis XIV, Peter the Great, and the Glorious Revolution

Colonization by France, England, and the Netherlands

1. First English colony: Roanoke Island, North Carolina, 1585: disappeared.
2. First permanent English colony: Jamestown, Virginia, 1607
3. 1620: Puritans landed at Plymouth, Massachusetts
4. French established colonies on the St. Lawrence River in Quebec
5. Caribbean colonies: English colonized Barbados in 1624; French colonized Guadeloupe and Martinique
6. 1656: English took Jamaica from the Spanish
7. 1664: French established what is now Haiti
8. colonization led to massive decentralization. Monarchs in Europe couldn't keep close watch on what was happening across the Atlantic; led to massive smuggling, especially slaves
9. Dutch colonized New Amsterdam — present-day New York — and parts of South America
10. Too few Dutch to hold these areas; the British took New Amsterdam in 1664 and named it for the Duke of York, the king's brother
11. Dutch had much more success in the East, where they established colonies in modern-day Indonesia
12. Hugo Grotius (1583-1645): attorney general of Holland: developed the precursor to international law

Absolutism: theoretical subordination of all other elements of a country's power structure to the crown

Louis XIV

1. ruled 1643-1715 (72 years!) beginning with his regency at age 4
2. determined to undermine the French aristocracy and rule France
3. required aristocrats to remain at court year-round; undermined their influence in their rural estates
4. constructed Versailles to provide a center for French political authority
5. governed with ministers over ministries rather than through councils
6. introduced "intendants" to govern the provinces
7. modernized the French army; introduced muskets and military rankings
8. Wars:
 - a. Dutch war: caused by an invasion of the Hapsburg-ruled Spanish Netherlands
 - b. Attempted to regain all the territories ever claimed by France
 - c. 1689-97: fought the English and Dutch
 - d. War of the Spanish Succession: 1701-1714: prevented Louis' grandson from becoming king of Spain and therefore uniting France and Spain. English defeated Louis under John Churchill, Duke of Marlborough. War ended with the Treaty of Utrecht, in which Philip V, Louis' grandson, agreed never to unite France and Spain
9. revoked the Edict of Nantes and expelled all Huguenots from France, leading to economic crisis
10. became the example for all other European courts to emulate. French became the diplomatic *lingua franca*; everyone who was educated — even in Russia — spoke French

Russia: Peter I, the Great (ruled 1672-1725)

1. First Romanovs from the 1613 choice of their family as tsars were weak; some were mentally deficient
2. Russia was ruled, in effect, by the *zemskii sobor*, an assembly of nobility, clergy, gentry, and state peasants. Literacy was not required for membership. Sobor never had the power of taxation.

3. Grand Embassy: traveled incognito to France, England, and the Netherlands (1697-98)
4. built a navy to control the Baltic
5. encouraged private economic development with monopoly rights, free labor (peasants), and tariffs
6. reformed the Russian army along French lines using conscripts enlisted for life
7. Defeated Sweden in war; led to Russian domination of northern Europe
8. Conquered lands around the Caspian Sea
9. built St. Petersburg to give Russia a modern capital linked to Europe
10. abolished the independence of the Russian Orthodox Church, which was suspicious of foreign contacts
11. forced nobility to adopt European standards, including dress and shaving their beards
12. lives of the serfs worsened under his rule
13. died in 1724 without naming an heir

England: the Glorious Revolution

1. Charles II died in 1685 without a legitimate heir. His brother, James, Duke of York, succeeded him as king James II
2. James was openly Catholic in an Anglican country. The English put up with it because he had no son. However, his wife gave birth to a son in 1688
3. 1688: Parliament invited James' daughter, Mary and her husband, William III of Orange, to rule England.
4. Consequences:
 - a. William and Mary ruled at the pleasure of Parliament; settled the issue of sovereignty in England
 - b. Parliament proved more willing to finance wars with permanent taxes, leading to English expansion overseas
 - c. After the death of Queen Anne in 1714, Parliament invited the Elector of Hanover, George, to rule England

Bank of England: 1694: established to stabilize English finances; underwrote war loans, gave bankers lines of credit in times of crisis

1707: England merged with Scotland to become Great Britain.

During the War of Spanish Succession, the British navy came to rule the seas.