Module 01: Demographic Catastrophe — What Happened to the Native Population After 1492?

Resources

Printed Material


David Jones, "Virgin Soils Revisited." *William and Mary Quarterly* 60:4 (June 2005), 703-742.


**Online Resources**

Alfred W. Crosby, "The Columbian Exchange: Plants, Animals, and Disease Between the Old and New Worlds," hosted by the National Humanities Center. Brief article with abundant illustrations providing an overview of Crosby's influential argument. Includes the author's suggestions for guiding classroom discussions on the topic. Also includes a list of online resources and a summary of scholarly debate on the Columbian Exchange.

"Columbus and the Age of Discovery," hosted by Millersville University. An online database created by the History Department and Academic Computing Service at Millersville University in Pennsylvania. Provides access to over 1,000 articles related to Columbian exploration and encounters between the Old and New Worlds. Searchable by keyword and grouped by category. Contains many resources generated during the Quincentennial.

**Explorations: Columbus & the Columbian Exchange**, hosted by Digital History. An online teaching unit focusing on Columbus and the Columbian Exchange designed by professors at the University of Houston. Appropriate for K-12. Contains several teaching activities as well as access to an online American history textbook.

**Guns, Germs, and Steel**, hosted by PBS. Designed to accompany a National Geographic documentary based on Jared Diamond's *Guns, Germ, and Steel*. Contains further information on plant, animal, disease, and technological exchange between cultures and continents. Features include an interactive map and lesson plans for middle and secondary school teachers.

**National Museum of the American Indian**, hosted by The Smithsonian Institute.

**Secrets of the Dead: The Syphilis Enigma**, hosted by PBS. Brief synopsis of an episode of the historical forensic documentary series. Contains background information, clues and evidence, and an interview with a biological anthropologist studying the origins of the disease.
Mary E. Wilson, "Travel and the Emergence of Infectious Disease." *Perspectives* 1(2) (April/June 1995). Brief article by a physician at the Harvard School of Public Health and Harvard Medical School. Outlines the continuing impact of the Columbian Exchange in contemporary society. Full text available online.