Regional Outline for Latin America

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|  | 8000 – 600 CE | 600 – 1450 CE | 1450-1750 CE | 1750 – 1914 CE | 1914 - Present |
| Politics | * The leaders are related to divinity (priests) * Hierarchal system | | * Arrival of Cortes (1518) * Annihilates existing political system * Codified laws | * Colonization * Implement own government (Europeans immigrate) * Religion (Catholic) plays a strong influence in gov’t | * Decolonization * Majority rules * Series of juntas/dictatorships |
| Economy | * Little trade * Internally based * Mostly agriculture * Large marketplaces | | * Cortes – trading * Encomiendas * Haciendas * Trade of crops * Brought beasts of burden 🡪 improved agriculture | * improved technology * dependent * Europe sucks natural resources/profits * monoculture | * Europe cannot maintain * Monoculture * Difficulty industrializing * Heavily dependent on natural resources (Venezuela) |
| Social Class/Gender | * priests rules * hierarchal * patriarchal (though women appreciated) | | * more hierarchal (by race) * depreciation of women (European influence) | * Continued hierarchy * New castes created (creoles, mestizos ) | * Society opens up * More egalitarian * Some meritocracy * Existing racism |
| Science/Inventions | * Calendar * No wheels * Road system * Chinampas | | * medical advances (longer life span) * Wheel brought in (levers, pulleys) * Brought in writing system (for Incan empire) | * primitive anesthesia * tools for probing, incision, organ extraction * blood letting * transfer of European inventions/influenced | * innovation continued * beginning industrialization * extracting natural resources * science/inventions gotten through trade |
| Art/Architecture | * Ziggurats * Religion-based | | * Western/religion (Christian based) art * Mix of original Spanish and Western art | | - Combination of European, indigenous, and Christian arts. |
| Empire | * Aztecs * Incas * Mayans * Toltecs, etc. | | * decimated (guns, germs, steel) * Iberian rule | * Spanish/Portuguese empire * Treaty of Tordesillas (1949) * Portuguese King moves to Brazil * Some French influence | * split into many countries * General Boliva: legacy of anti American, influenced many countries * No strong institutions due to dependency |
| Religion | * Animism * Polytheism * Worship of nature, etc. | | * West considered Gods * Lose belief in previous Gods * West brought Christianity * Influenced (little syncretism: superstitions created) | * Christianity heavily encouraged | * Atheism agnostics increased * Legacy of Catholicism * Society more free to choose religion |