

**Problems and Directed Readings – I**  
**North America from the Era European Expansion to the Formation of the United States,**  
**16th-18th Centuries**

**Updated October 2007**

Bibliography to Accompany PDR-I prepared by Paul G. E. Clemens, Jan Lewis, Andrew Shankman, and Camilla Townsend.

This bibliography covers the possible readings for **PDR-I: North America from an Atlantic Perspective from the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup> century**. The bibliography and the course are designed to prepare students for the qualifying exams, help them develop the background they will need to teach a US survey (or world history course), and raise historiographical and research questions that they might find useful in their own work (even if they work in different time periods). The emphasis is on cultural contact in Early America and the diversity of sixteenth- and seventeenth-century peoples in eastern North America and the Caribbean; secondarily, it is meant to introduce students to scholarship on the causes and consequences of the American Revolution. Some significant topics in early American history receive less coverage than one might wish and are left to you to pursue on your own (see the bibliography). Students preparing for the comprehensive examination in American history should have read at least two books from each section and one or more articles. Some of this reading will usually be done in the PDR course, but students are, of course, free to pursue the reading on their own.

### 1. Colonial Encounters

Inga Clendinnen, *Ambivalent Conquests: Maya and Spaniard in Yucatan, 1517-1570* (Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 1987, 2003) – 2<sup>nd</sup> edition if available.

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**Surveys:** James Lockhart and Stuart B. Schwartz, *Early Latin America: A History of Colonial Spanish America and Brazil* (N.Y., 1983); Mark A. Burkholder and Lyman L. Johnson, *Colonial Latin America*, 3d ed. (NY: Oxford University Press, 1998).

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The centuries following the European arrivals would see the culmination of this effort, as Americans pushed westward across the continent, enticed by the lure of riches, open land and a desire to fulfill the nation's manifest destiny. The Vikings Discover the New World. The company, however, was not successful, and in 1663 the king took direct control of New France. Although more prosperous under this administration, the French empire failed to match the wealth of New Spain or the growth of neighboring British colonies. Sweden and Denmark also succumbed to the attractions of America, although to a lesser extent. In 1638, the Swedish West India Company established a settlement on the Delaware River near present-day Wilmington called Fort Christina. \* 16th - 19th century: Slaves from Africa were brought to the European colonies. Most slaves were moved in the 18th century. 11-12 million Africans were taken to America between the 16th and 19th century by English, Dutch, French, Danish, Spanish and Portuguese traders. Canada. Africa West Africa. \* 16th - 19th century: 11 - 12 Million black slaves were forced to go to the colonies in North and South America. They came from the West Coast of Africa (Gulf of Guinea, from Senegal to Angola and Mozambique). 1.2 How did they travel: transport, circumstances of travelling? Western Europe UK.