Latin American Wars
For Independence:
Mexico
By Shannon Klein, Ina Allen, and Julian Riley
Spanish Colonization of Mexico

After Columbus’ discovery of North America, every European country was eager to colonize

- Spain wanted the material aid, mineral wealth, and opportunity to spread Christianity
  - Mexico was claimed for Spain by Hernan Cortes
    - Allied with Tlaxcalan tribes
    - Greatly outnumbered, spread of foreign disease
  - Capital city founded, series of viceroys in command
    - “New Spain”

Colonization brought many changes to the region

- Most of indigenous population enslaved
- Diseases brought into society detrimental to indigenous groups
- Spread of religion
  - Catholicism
  - Missionaries
- Encomienda System
The Viceroyalty of New Spain

Less than a decade after Hernan Cortés and his men and indigenous allies defeated the Aztecs, the first viceroyalty, New Spain, was officially created

- Tenochtitlan was razed and then rebuilt as Mexico City
- Viceroyalty of New Spain consisted of Mexico, much of Central America, parts of the West Indies, the southwestern and central United States, Florida, and the Philippines
- The Manila Galleon trade connected the Philippines with Mexico, bringing goods from around Asia to America
  - Goods also flowed between the viceroyalty and Spain

Colonial Mexico was central within this network of goods and resources, multiethnic population

- Richest colony of Spain
  - Large Indian labor force and rich silver mines produced much of the wealth
  - Mexico City largest urban center

Social class: several thousand Peninsular Spaniards > million creoles > five million Indians and mestizos

- European-born Spaniards controlled the viceroyalty
Early Revolts

In December 1650 Irish adventurer William Lamport posted a “Proclamation of Independence from Spain” on the city walls

- Wanted Mexico to break from Spain
- Separate church and state
- Proclaim himself emperor
  - His movement was terminated by Spanish colonial authorities
    - captured and executed
Early Revolts cont.

Conspiracy of the Machetes
- Led by a Creole Pedro De la Portilla
- 1799 Portilla arranged a meeting
  - Discussed the situation that Creoles found themselves in in relation to the Peninsulares
    - Solution was to rid the country of Peninsulares
- Planned on freeing prisoners and storming the viceroy's palace, then proclaim independence from Spain, declare war on Spain, and kill or expel the peninsulares
  - Wanted to initiate a popular uprising under the patronage of the Virgin of Guadalupe
  - After the uprising, planned on having the people decide which form of government should be established in Mexico
    - The conspirators favored a congress based on that recently established in the United States
- At the second meeting one of the members went to the authorities to denounce the conspiracy
  - Orders for the conspirators to be arrested; did not release the motives of the conspirators as to avoid excitement among the people
Specific Causes

Bourbon Reforms
- The War of Spanish Succession established Bourbon family from France as monarchy
  - Bourbon administration spreads Enlightenment principles
  - Following American Revolution (1775-1789) and French Revolution (1789-99), ideas of political liberalism circulated

The perceived weakness of Spain
- Led to rebellions throughout its colonies rather than any change in colonial policies
  - little to do with a change of conditions or sentiment among the indigenous population
  - deplorable government and long-standing oppressions
  - no significant rebellion was raised against Spain until its own government was near collapse
Specific Causes cont.

- Internal events within Spain
  - Napoleon invaded Portugal and Spain
  - New Spain took advantage of Spain's weak position
  - took the government into their own hands by forming governing councils, or juntas
    - stronger local governments
    - conservative coup d'etat

- Peninsular Wars
  - 1808; Joseph Bonaparte was installed as the King of Spain by his brother Napoleon
    - Disliked by the majority of the Spanish populace
    - government of Spain became illegitimate in the eyes of its own citizens
    - Spanish nationalists fought to return Spain to Spanish rule and expel the French from political control of their country
  - Ferdinand VII was restored to the Spanish throne
Specific Causes cont.

- Social struggle for freedom from Spanish rule
- Fear of religious oppression by the French
- Individuals from all racial groups—except the European-born Spaniards—participated in the insurrection
  - Creole sympathizers lived primarily in the cities and focused on the issue of political autonomy from Spain
  - People who filled the ranks of fighters were rural peasants and workers whose main concern was ending slavery and the caste system
  - The rebels’ demands to change social conditions within Mexico alienated many creoles from the independence cause
Enlightenment Theory

Late 18th century Enlightenment ideas spread to Latin America

- success of the American Revolution showed that foreign rule could be overthrown
- French Revolution showed that the people could overthrow an unjust monarch
- Some Creoles were educated in Europe and exposed to Enlightenment ideas

Independence leaders

- Father Miguel Hidalgo was inspired by Enlightenment ideals; called for revolution against the upper classes
- Father Jose Maria Morelos desired that all Mexican-born citizens be Americans and share governmental power
  - wanted Mexico to be an independent republic with guaranteed freedoms
- Agustin de Iturbide united Mexico after Morelos was executed and achieved independence by advocating a Mexican monarch, equal rights for the upper-class Creoles and peninsulares and recognition of the Catholic church as the official church of Mexico
Nativism and Positivism

Nativism

- Political strategy used by Creoles to promote the interests of the indigenous people to support their cause
- Creoles did not actually want to eliminate the social hierarchy or caste system, only needed more people to support their cause

Positivism

- After Mexico was liberated from Spanish control, many wanted to adopt the technological, scientific, and economic tools used by their colonial superiors without adopting the ideologies in which they had been oppressed under
  - Positivism seemed like a reasonable solution
  - Positivist promise of order and progress
  - Some thought it offered a solution to the tensions between conservatives and liberals in Mexico
Britain’s role in the independence process

- First great European power to recognize Mexico’s sovereignty
- One of the causes for Mexican independence was the peninsular war, fought between Napoleon's empire and the allied powers of Spain, Britain, and Portugal
  ○ Fought for control of the Iberian Peninsula during the Napoleonic wars
  ○ One of the first wars of national liberation
- Invasion of Mexico by Second French Empire 1861
  ○ Initially supported by the UK and Spain
  ○ In response to Mexican president Benito Juarez’s suspension of interest payments to foreign countries
  ○ Napoleon built a coalition with Spain and Britain
  ○ Britain and Spain withdrew from the coalition upon learning Napoleon planned to seize all of Mexico
Leaders

Contributions of leaders
Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla

A catholic priest, “the father of mexican independence”

- Free thinking ideas
  - Scientific interests
  - Efforts to develop new industries in his parish
- Launches mexican rebellion/war of independence- issuing the “Cry of Dolores”
- Hidalgo, asked for:
  - Defeated at Calderon in Jan 1811; he fled, and was captured then executed
José María Morelos

Revolutionary priest

- Mixed native american, african, european heritage-born in poverty

1811 joined Hidalgos insurrection and took control of most of Mexico

1813 Morelos called the Congress of Chilpancingo to form a government and constitution (declared Mexico's independence)

- Morelos allowed most of the revolutionary government to escape
- Morelos was captured and shot as a traitor
Agustín de Iturbide

Born in upper class, entered royalist army; model mexican creole
became an officer in the provincial regiment

- **1810**- Hidalgo offered a post with his revolutionary army, Iturbide refused and pledged to spanish

- Command of the military district of Guanajuato and Michoacán

**May 19, 1822**- Iturbide became Augustin 1 emperor of Mexico
  - Created instability in his country; all parties turned against him

**1824**- returned to mexico; captured then executed
Latin American women

Took part in armed struggle

- **Dona Josefa Ortiz de Dominguez**
  - warned Hidalgo of the impending arrest by Spanish authorities
- **Manuela Saenz**
- **Policarpa Salavarrieta**
- **Maria Quiteria de Jesus**

The struggle for independence of Haiti- described women as “omnipresent”

- 1824- message was a petition to the government of the Mexican state-Zacatecas
Characteristics of the Independence Processes
First wave of revolution

1803- Hidalgo; Goal; to drive out the spanish
   ○ Mobilize local indians and mestizos to join them

Sept 16, 1810- Hidalgo triggered war for Mexican Independence with Cry of Dolores
   ○ End of spanish rule in mexico, redistribution of land, and racial inequality

Sept 28- the capture of Guanajuato
   ● Spaniards in the granary and the city were killed(in a massacre); a turning point in the rebellion

March 1811- Hidalgo demanded for surrender; rejected and eventually capture.

1820 Royalists(mexicans/spanish descent) brought independence;
   ○ liberals took power in spain, new government promised reforms for mexican revolutionaries
Leadership with Jose Maria Morelos

Morelos tried to rally support of creoles

- Ordered an end to slavery, tribute; ended the rental of indigenous community lands and abolished community treasuries but was also too radical for the creoles
- Social reform; prohibited forced labor and use of racial terms

Sept 1813 "Solemn Act of the Declaration of Independence of Northern America."

“Sentiments of the Nation”
22 articles declaring; “That America is free and independent of Spain and every other nation.:

- “All the inhabitants except Europeans will no longer be designated as Indians, mulattoes or other castes, but all will be known as Americans.”

1815 Morelos was captured by Spanish colonial authorities and executed for treason
Avoiding Mistakes/New Cortes

Royalists wanted to avoid radical social change under a republican regime- to avoid past mistakes from leaders

- Liberals took power from Spain- new government promised reforms for Mexican revolutionaries
  - Mexican conservatives called for independence to maintain their position in society

New Cortes

- Abolished church and military privileges
- Separated Mexico from the mother country to establish independence
  - Cortes refused to accept the creoles proposals for greater political autonomy and free trade (alienated everyone with power)
Augustine de Iturbide

1820- Spain appointed Iturbide commander of the royalists army in the south
   Joined forces with Vicente Guerrero

Feb 24, 1821 *Plan de Iguala;*
   - constitutional monarchy
   - protection of “union, religion, and independence.”

Sept 28, 1821- Iturbide proclaimed Mexican independence

May 21, 1822- Iturbide crowned himself Agustin I

March 19, 1823- Iturbide was renounced from the throne

1824- Iturbide returned from England and was captured

Mexican Independence was achieved and social revolution was averted
1808—after Napoleonic invasion of Spain, provoked debates and maneuvers among Mexican elites
Sept 15, 1808—peninsular merchants strikes back—Gabriel de Yermo led the consulados militia
1810—French armies controlled Andalusia, threatening Cadiz
Sept 16, 1810—Hidalgo triggered war for Mexican Independence with the cry of dolores
Sept 28, 1810—the capture of Guanajuato
1812—Cortes approved the constitution
Sept 1813 Congress declared Mexico’s independence
1814—Napoleon defeated; Ferdinand VII released soldiers overseas to suppress the Spanish American revolts
Dec 22, 1815—Morelos execution by firing squad ended the armed uprising of Hidalgo
Jan 1820—liberal revolt in Spain forced Fernando VII to accept and restore the Constitution
Feb 24, 1821—Iturbide issued his Plan de Iguala; called for a constitutional monarchy, and the protection of “union, religion, and independence.”
Sept 28, 1821—Iturbide proclaimed Mexican independence
1820—liberals took power from Spain—new government promised reforms for Mexican revolutionaries
June, 1822—small army in Mexico marched in regions occupying El Salvador
Dec 1822—Dom Pedro overcame resistance from Portuguese troops
March 1823—Iturbide’s Mexican Empire collapsed
1824—Independence wars in Mexico and Central America
Cry of Dolores

○ First wave of revolution
○ At sunday morning mass, Hidalgo called on the people of parish, to rise against their spanish rulers and he called for a rebellion with the Grito(cry) of Delores
○ He called for an end of spanish rule in mexico, redistribution of land, and racial equality
○ Goal; to drive out the spanish
  ■ Mobilize local indians and mestizos to join them
○ Claimed to be in support of a beloved captured king
Cry of Dolores cont.

**PAINTING** - visualising the Cry of Dolores in an 1810 Mexican church and signifying the gathered people with Hidalgo highlighted in white around the center. Painting modeled after Painted by Ina and Shannon. Modeled after a painting found on http://www.memoriapoliticademexico.org/Efemerides/9/Img/
Capture of Guanajuato

Thousands of mineworkers stormed the granary where Spanish officials, militia, and local elites attempted to hold out.

- Then hundreds of Spaniards in the granary and the city were killed (in a massacre); a turning point in the rebellion.
  - Brought open conflict between Hidalgo and his allies—creole domination of an autonomous or independent Mexico, and revenge of social justice from lower-class followers.
  - Following weeks 60,000 peasants (mainly Indians) rallied to Hidalgo’s call armed.
    - Cry was “Long live independence and death to the Spaniards!”
    - Call to seize property of Europeans, abolition of slavery, to end Indian tribute, redistribute land to dispossessed Indians.
- In Hidalgo’s first and only instance in redistributing land; he ordered indigenous communal lands that were rented to Spaniards be returned to pueblos. He wished that “only the Indians in their respective pueblos should enjoy the use of those lands.”
Creole movement

- Creole movement posed a threat to peninsular merchants
- Depended on the continuance of the existing closed commercial system
- **Sept 15, 1808** - peninsular merchants strikes back - Gabriel de Yermo led the consulados militia in a coup ousting viceroy Iturrigaray and arresting creole supporters of autonomy
Independence wars in Mexico and Central America

- Social revolution of Hidalgo and Morelos in Mexico was crushed
- Creoles and peninsulares united in a counter revolution
  - Created a break in Spain when metropolis became useless
- Revolution produced counter revolution—a conservative coup against a foreign monarch
- Social structure remained with creole elites replacing peninsular elites in new nations
Why Spain's colonies were able to win independence

- Spain won independence between 1810-1825
  - Colonies declared/won independence then divided into republics
- Simon Bolivar- fought the Spanish in Venezuela, Ecuador, and Columbia
- 1822- all countries were free except Peru
- In response to Napoleon’s capture of Spain Argentina created a government
  - Declared independence in 1816
- Chileans and Argentina defeated Spanish at the Battle of Maipú (near Santiago, Chile)
- Ended the Spanish control over the southern part of South America

Spain’s colonies ultimately won independence
Monroe Doctrine

- US recognized Mexican independence under the control of Iturbide Agustin I
- Holy alliance formed overseas
  - Comprised of Russia, Prussia, Austria, and France at times
  - Comprised to help stop the spread of revolution throughout their territories
  - Alliance planned to help Spain recapture its colonies in South America
- This Plan by the alliance concerned America and Britain
  - America didn't like the idea of the Holy alliance because it directly opposed the ideas of self determination and countries can choose if they want to be a part of an empire
  - Britain didn't like this idea because Latin America was a major trading partner and was very instrumental to the British import economy
  - Upon hearing that Britain will be against the alliance in this occasion Monroe took the opportunity to make a statement to the European nations
KEEP OFF!
The Monroe Doctrine must be respected.
Monroe Doctrine

- Dec 1823 delivered to congress by President James Monroe
- Was a defensive decree not advocating for violence but trying to avoid violence.
  - Divided european and american influence
  - Warns european nations that US will no longer tolerate further colonization or puppet monarchs within the western hemisphere
    - US would view an interference as a hostile act
    - Policy principle becomes a cornerstone of US diplomacy
  - Allowed the US to intervene in Latin America
    - Justified the Mexican-American war
    - Great Britain shared the idea of the Monroe Doctrine, and almost declared a joint statement to keep other European powers from colonizing the New World.
    - British had a fear that their trade would be harmed if European powers continued to colonize.
Economic Impact

- Mexican mining industry declined during internal and external fighting combined with Spaniards leaving caused Mexico to lose talented populous and money reserves
  - War left mine shafts flooded and spaniards abandoned their estates
  - Mexico accepted foreign loans to help deal with debt
    - 11 million out of 32 million promised pesos actually reached the spanish due to bank closures
    - This raised the nation's debt to 54 million pesos threatened independance and land owned
  - British foreign aid helped rebuild the abandoned mines and restart the mining industry in mexico
  - Mexico subject to large amounts of debt and had trouble borrowing money from other countries
  - Large economic reliance on income from taxes on international importation
Economic Impact

- At the same time that the economy became stagnant foreign trade increased
  - Mexico imports were larger than their exports resulting in trade deficit forcing exportation of precious metals
- Mexican industry spurred by the creation of the Banco de Avio in 1830
  - Assisted Mexican industry with the help of government
  - Manufacture of goods increased led by the textile industry
  - Lack of money and protection for the new industries
  - Helped restart mining industry and bring money into Mexico
  - Banco de Avio closed in 1843 causing the industry in Mexico to go back to being based on Mining and Agriculture
    - Silver was the main export out of Mexico
    - Mexico's main import was finished goods that Mexico themselves cannot create
New Empire

- Mexican Empire was established after separation from Spain
  - After separation a council of regents was created in 1821
  - Iturbide elected President of council of regents
  - Regents represented intendancies (districts) of Mexico
  - Mexican districts were allowed to leave the empire and establish new independence governments

- In 1822 Military groups declared Iturbide Emperor under the name Agustin I
New Empire cont.

- In 1822 Military groups declared Iturbide Emperor under the name Agustin I
  - Council of regents called to created a written constitution (Drew influence of constitution from the American constitution.) however not implemented
  - Agustin I declared the Mexican Empire a Hereditary monarchy
  - Became unpopular with the people after disbanding congress and ruling through 45 man junta
  - Led to discussion of a revolt against Agustin I led by Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna
Rise of the Mexican republic

- Iturbide Agustin I lost favor of the people after disbanding congress
  - Antonio López de Santa Anna along with Victoria Guadalupe led the revolt against Agustin I in favor of establishing a Republic
  - Forced Agustin I to reinstate congress and forfeit his right to rule (Dec. 1822)

- Mexican republic formed in 1824
  - Implemented new Republic Constitution in 1824
  - Mexico formed federal republic of 19 states with four territories.
CONSTITUCION
FEDERAL
DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS MEXICANOS.
SANCIONADA
POR EL CONGRESO GENERAL CONSTITUYENTE,
EL 4 DE OCTUBRE DE
1824.
Rise of the Mexican republic

- New Constitution
  - Removed indigenous peoples rights and property by removing them from their governmental districts and removing their colonial status
  - Excluded the poor from the political system by enacting a restrictive state legislation
  - Abolished chattel slavery in 1829
Rise of the Mexican republic

- Creation of two political parties Centralist (Strong Central Government) and the Federalists (Limited Central Government)
  - Federalists tried to help the middle classes and ensure special privileges for the upper classes
  - 1824 Guadalupe Victoria a federalist who helped lead in the fight for independence became Mexico's first president
  - In 1828 the Centralists replaced the federalists in office, this led to a federalists revolt in 1829
  - 1829 Federalist Vicente Guerrero placed in office after revolt which led to a centralist revolt which put the centralist in power until 1832
Rise of the Mexican republic

- Santa Anna elected president in 1833
  - Placed Vice President Valentín Gómez Farías into presidential office to take care of duties
    - Passed many new reforms (i.e. abolition of special privileges and immunities in the army and church, abolition of tithes, secularization of the clerical university, new department of Public instruction, and a reduction in the military along with the creation of a civilian militia.)
    - Government also went through many internal reforms bringing government closer to people
    - Government actively helped promote Mexican economy and education systems
Rise of the Mexican republic

- Reforms displeased the army and clergy leading to outspoken sermons and plans of rebellion
  - Fariás’s attack on the army and clergy privileges caused Santa Anna to reclaim duties and office;
  - Santa Anna after reclaiming office exiled Fariás and repealed all of his reforms in addition to suspending the constitution of 1824 and enacting a new conservative constitution (1836)
  - These new reforms by Santa Anna ensured that the government was in the control of the wealthy and high classes
  - Restored Clergy and Army Privileges

- Conservative control ensured that the interest of the wealthy in the capital of Mexico City will be meet while the interest of the rest of Mexico will be subjugated
  - Tariff Tax of 1837 and Government monopoly on Tobacco aided Conservative goals and provide continuous money flow to Mexico City
Change in Mexico

- After the fall of Iturbide a New Republic was elected and a constitution was instilled.
  - New constitution helped keep governmental power in the hand of the rich and excluded many of the lower castes from participating by establishing a restrictive legislature.
    - Natives hurt the most by new constitution because it revoked their government given land and their status as Mexican citizens.
  - However under the new constitution and Republic Chattel slavery was abolished.
    - This helped those in the lower class by allowing those who were in slavery and viewed as property to become Mexican citizens (Mainly pertaining to African Americans and Mestizos).
  - New Constitution did not help Women, women were still viewed as lesser than men and weren't able to actively participate in congress.
  - Caste system didn’t change with both wealth and power primarily located in the creole class.
Cadillo Rule & Nature Thereof

- Santa Anna is the first longstanding cadillo ruler of Mexico
  - Cadillo Rulers are dictators who rose to power mainly through military might
  - Iturbide I first official Cadillo however only in power for short period of time
  - Bolstered into fame through leadership in helping overthrow Iturbide I and fending off Spain's attempt at reconquest of Mexico in 1829
    - Backed in support by Mexican armies and those who fought in wars that Santa Anna led
  - After gaining power as Mexico's president he established a centralized government allowing for the executive power (him) to obtain almost all legal authority
  - Postponed previous Constitution of the republic and enacted a new constitution that focused of benefiting the rich and consolidation wealth in Mexico City
  - Disbanded part of the Mexican army and replaced it with a less experienced local militia
Santa Anna is the first longstanding cadillo ruler of Mexico.

- Fell out of power after issues with Texas and the Mexican American War due to lack of respect and power within Mexico for having made a deal with the United States.
  - Regained status and respect after leading forces to push the French out of Veracruz.
  - Became an acting dictator from March to July of 1839 while the president was out of the country.
  - In 1841, Santa Anna would lead a military revolt and place himself back in office as a dictator and would hold this power until 1845 when he was forced into exile.
- Would no longer hold political office in Mexico, however, he did try to regain control in subsequent battles pertaining to Mexico.
Rise of the Mexican republic

- Issues with Texas and Yucatan Region
  - Mexico Neglect of border regions and destruction of provincial autonomy gave rise to many issues
  - Yucatan
    - Caste/Social War of 1839 was a regional war against conservative government and an indigenous war against feudal landlords
    - Yucatan Area would remain outside of Mexico for 10+ years
Issues at the borders

- Texas
  - In 1830, 30,000 U.S. immigrants entered Texas causing Mexico to shut down borders and imposed restrictions on the citizens.
  - After enacting a new constitution in 1836, Texas state rights were removed, leading U.S. immigrants to take a stand against Mexico.
  - With Sam Houston at the front lines, Texas declared itself independent from Mexico.
  - Santa Anna led an army against the revolt, having success at the Alamo but would later be defeated at San Jacinto and captured.
  - Mexico refused to acknowledge Texan independence.
  - In 1845, the United States annexed Texas causing Santa Anna to lose office for his willingness to negotiate with the United States.
UNANIMOUS

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE,

BY THE

DELEGATES OF THE PEOPLE OF TEXAS,

IN GENERAL CONVENTION,

AT THE TOWN OF WASHINGTON,

ON THE TWENTY-FOURTH DAY OF MARCH, 1836.
Issues at the borders

- North American Invasion/ Mexican War
  - Polk wanted to annex Texas with the rio grande boundary and California
    - Mexico refused to discuss matters with North America
    - Polk Stationed troops in between the Nueces River and the rio grande
  - America and Mexico at war after american troops stationed on the border clashed with mexican troops in 1846
  - Manifest destiny spurred american troops to gain not only Texas but also California, and new mexico
    - War was easily won by North America due to superiority in leadership, skill, and resources.
    - Mexico aided in loss by the selfishness of the aristocracy causing guerilla armis to be made up of unskilled peasantry
    - Some voices still called for revolt and taking up arms in the mexican territories
      - These ideas made wealthy creoles began to fear of another revolution against them and their loss of power
Wars in Texas

- Major battles for Texas
  - Battle of the Alamo 1836
    - Battle for the Alamo was between Texan Republic and Mexico
    - Fought at a fort in San Antonio resulted ultimately in a Texan defeat
    - Mexican troop pushed Texan forces back into the fort and on March 6 breached the fort and killed all those inside
      - Major Texan figures killed (William B. Travis, James Bowie, and Davy Crockett)
    - Battle became a rallying cry for Texan independence
  - Battle of Goliad
    - Texan Forces led by James W Fannin failed to retreat on time allowing troops to be easy defeated by Mexican forces
    - Over 400 POW executed by Mexican Forces after the battle
Wars in Texas

- Major battles for Texas
  - Battle of San Jacinto
    - Battle took place in San Jacinto near present day Texas
    - Rallying cry of “remember the alamo” used by Sam Houston to inspire militia
    - Mexican forces were defeated easily and many taken prisoner along with Santa Anna
    - Santa Anna was freed as long as he recognized Texan independence
Mexican American War

- Conflict started due to The United States Annexation of Texas
  - US troops marched north of the rio Grande into territory claimed by both Mexico and the United States
  - Fort Texas was the location of the first shot fired by Mexican troops on the Americans

- Major Battles of Mexican American Wars
  - Battle of Palo Alto First official battle of war resulting in an American Victory
  - Battle of Monterey fought in Monterey, California Was a vicious battle that was won by American Troops in decisive hand to hand combat
Mexican American War

- Major Battles of Mexican American Wars
  - Battle at Buena Vista
    - Major battle where General Taylor and The American troops were heavily outnumbered
    - Despite this the Americans still emerged victorious gaining Taylor a large amount of Fame and Respect
  - Battle of Mexico City
    - Ending battle of the War when American troops enter Mexico's Capital and easily defeat the Mexicans and occupy the city
  - Treaty of Guadalupe signed after the Battle for Mexico city signing away California, Texas, and New Mexico
Issues at the borders

- Conflict ended with the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848 where Mexico gave the US Texas, New Mexico, and California.
  - Government preferred to negotiate with US over endangering the ruling class.
- People of Mexico perceived government as weak after the sale of roughly half of the Mexican Territories.
  - Led to distrust of government and allowed Benito Juarez gaining power and leading Mexico in a series of reforms.
The Theft of Mexico by the United States

- 1/2 of Mexico stolen by U.S.
- Attacks & Occupations by U.S.
- Mexico territory 2016