

Unit 4

Lecture Notes

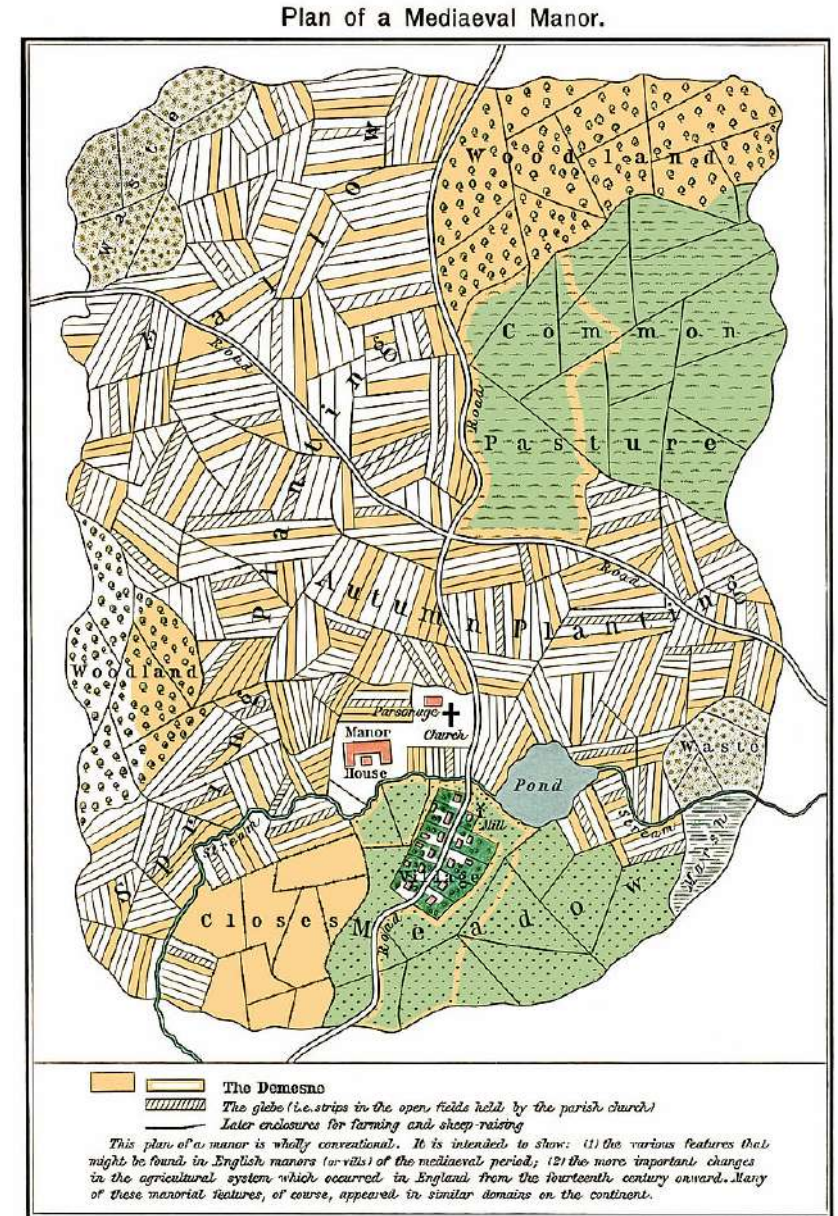
The Expansion of Europe in the 18th century

Chapter 17



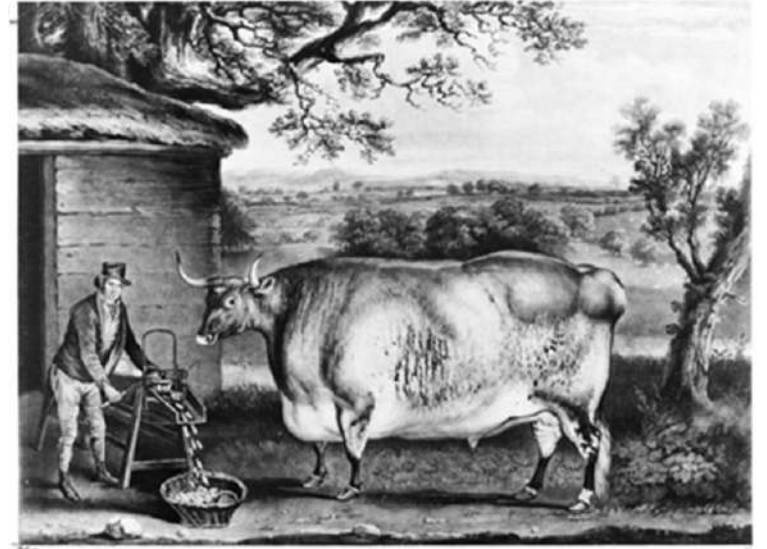
preindustrial Europe

- By the end of the 17th century, the economy of Europe was **agrarian**.
 - 80%+ of the population
- The Open-Field System:
 - Medieval system of farming that divided the land to be cultivated by the peasants of a given village into several large fields, cut into long narrow strips.
 - Peasants farmed each field as a community.



Agricultural Revolution

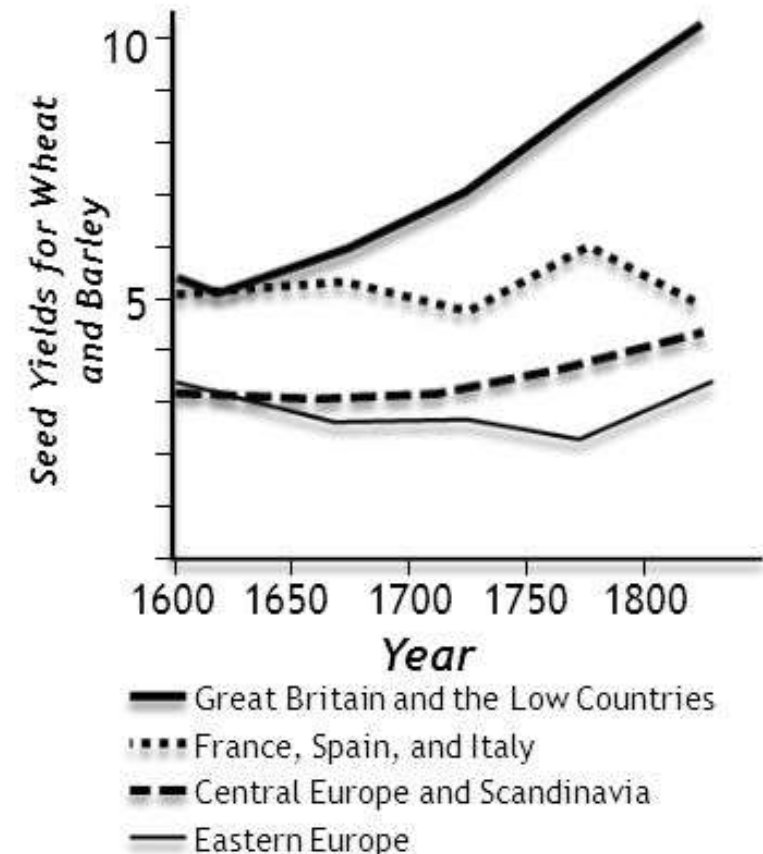
- **The Agricultural Revolution:**
 - Period of technological improvement and increased crop productivity that began in the mid 17th Century
 - *How do you solve the problem of soil exhaustion?*
 - **Crop rotation** → scientific farming



The Low Countries & England

Why did the agricultural revolution first manifest in the Low Countries?

1. One of the most dense population areas in Europe
 2. Growth of towns & cities
 3. Markets allowed for specialization
- English used Dutch system of drainage and water control
 - **Viscount Charles Townsend** advocated for agricultural improvement
 - “Turnip Townsend”
 - **Jethro Tull** used empirical research to create better farming methods



Enclosure



- **Enclosure:**
 - The movement to fence in fields in order to farm more effectively, at the expense of **poor peasants** who relied on common fields for farming and pasture.
- As you read *Arthur Young on the Benefits of Enclosure*, answer the following questions on a separate piece of paper:
 1. What are the various improvements in agriculture described by Young in this passage? How do they relate to one another?
 2. Why does Young think that enclosures produce more employment opportunities than open fields? Based on your reading in the chapter, did everyone perceive the benefits produced by enclosure in the same way as Young?

Limitations on population growth

- Until 1700, European population growth was slow and irregular.
 - 14th century → Black Death
 - 15th century → higher standard of living increases population
 - 16th century → population growth > agricultural production
 - 17th century → limited resources → poverty → end of population growth

“Malthusian Trap”

- **Thomas Malthus (1766-1834)**

- Population would always tend to grow faster than the food supply
 - *Essays on the Principle of Population* (1798)
- Encouraged marrying late in life → not optimistic



- Crash Course History: *in your notes...*

1. According to Malthus, what factors would ensure that population remains constant?
2. Malthus's theory on population growth has been proven to be incorrect. What are some reasons for this?

The Growth of the cottage industry

- **The Cottage Industry:**

- A stage of industrial development in which **rural workers** used hand tools in their homes to manufacture goods on a large scale for sale in a market.
 - **Poor peasants** and **landless laborers** willing to work for low wages
 - First developed in England



Cont....

- **The Putting-Out System:**
 - The 18th century system of **rural industry** in which a merchant loaned raw materials to cottage workers, who processed them and returned the finished products to the merchant.
 - Reduction of the power of guilds (cottage workers produced many kinds of goods)
 - Growth of the **textile industry** → population boom

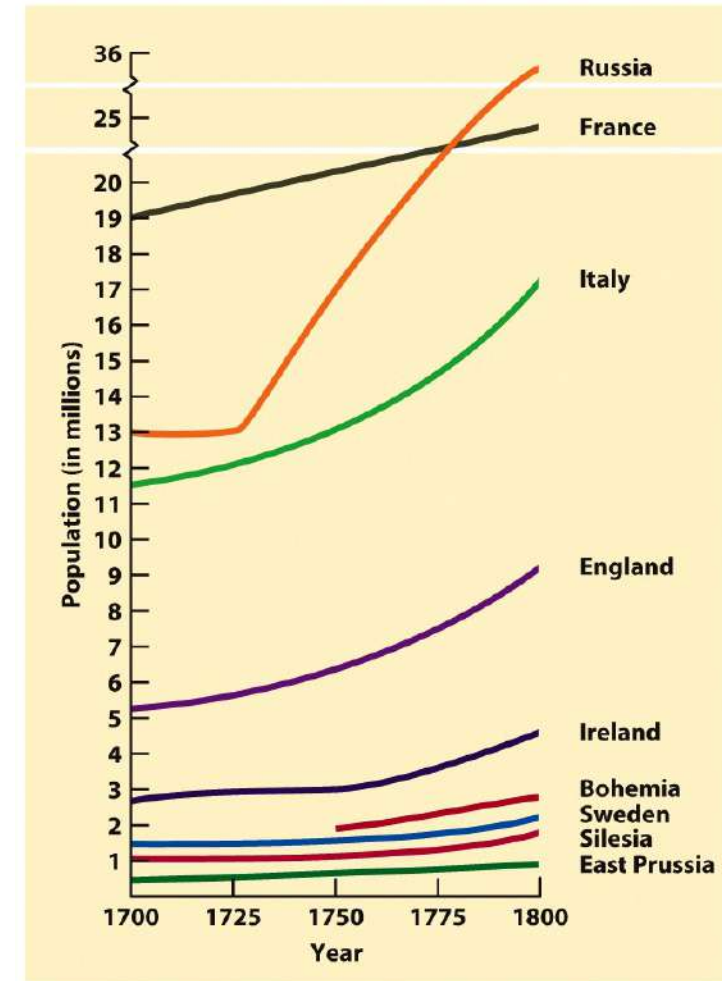


Figure 18.2 The Increase of Population in Europe in the Eighteenth Century
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Urban Guilds

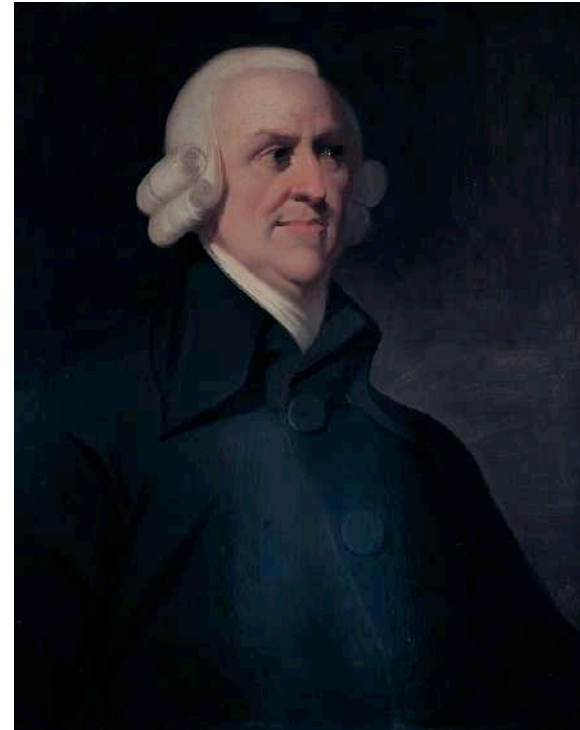
- *What were guilds, and why did they become controversial in the eighteenth century?*
- **Guild System**: artisan trade associations → received a monopoly over its trade and the right to train apprentices and hire workers.
 - Each had detailed set of **privileges**
 - Struggled with rural competition (**Cottage Industry**)



Guild Procession in 17th Century
Brussels

Adam Smith

- **Adam Smith (1723-1790):**
 - Scottish Enlightenment
 - Limited government regulation → raise **living standards**
- **Economic Liberalism**: A belief in free trade and competition → the **“invisible hand”**
 - *Division of Labor*
 - Promoted reduced power of Urban Guilds



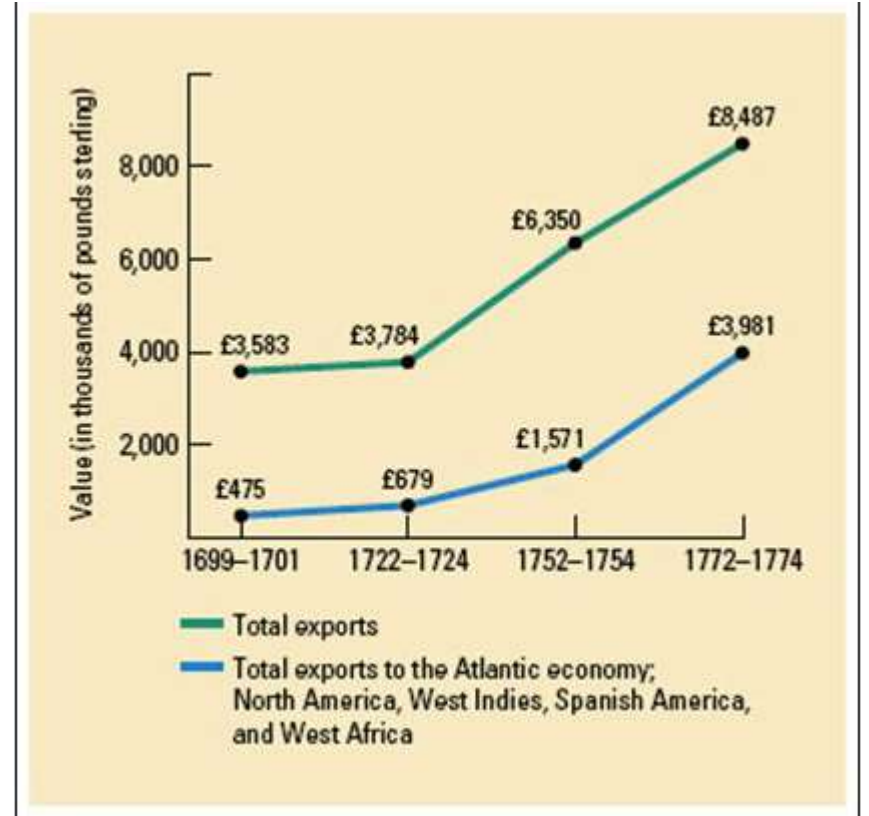
Mercantilism

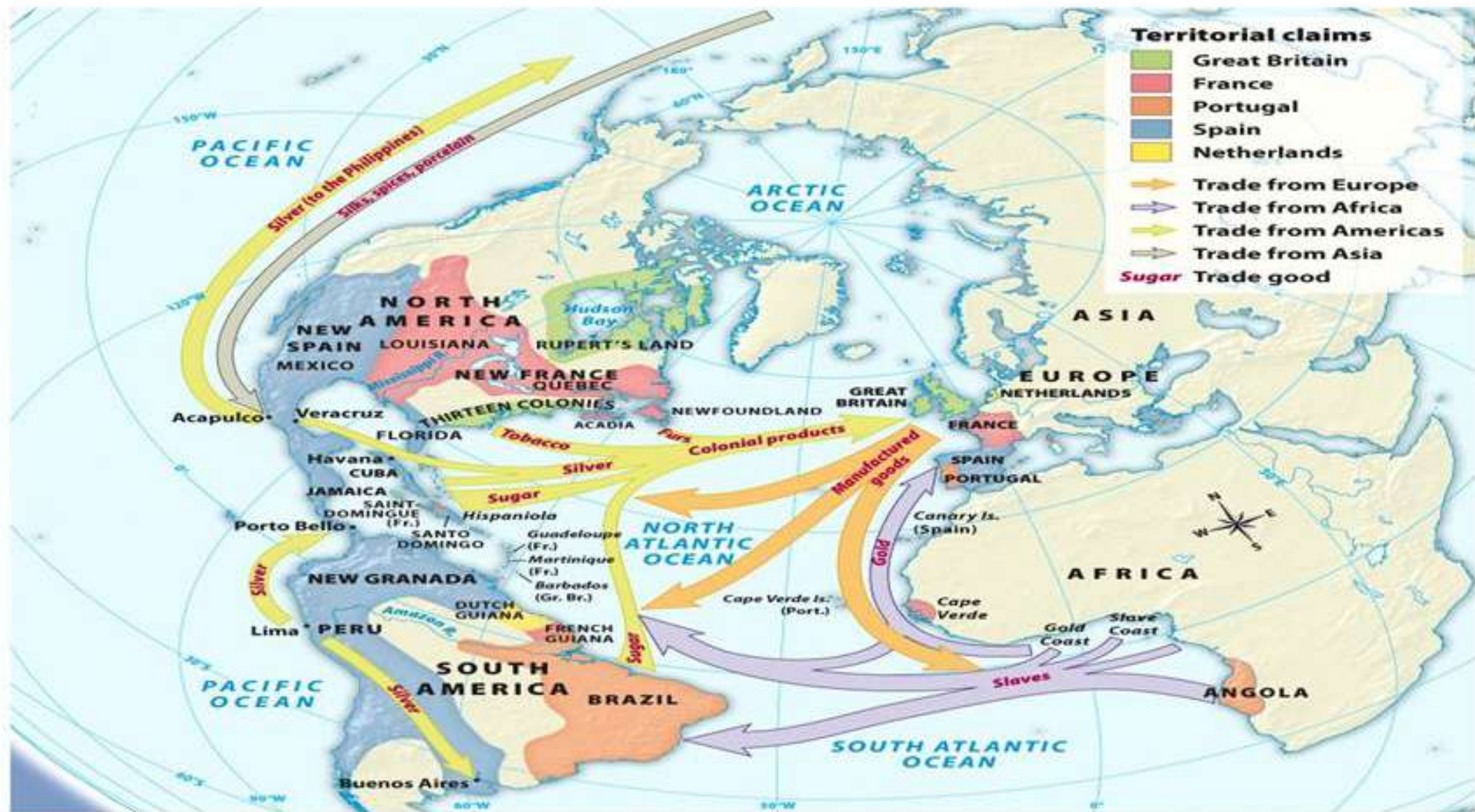
- *Review: what is Mercantilism? What are examples?*
- **The Navigation Acts:** A series of English laws that controlled the import of goods to Britain and British colonies.
 - Created a monopoly on trade with English colonies.
 - Form of '**economic warfare**'
 - Anglo-Dutch Wars → England surpasses Dutch in shipping, trade, and colonies



Growth of foreign trade

- Expanding colonies = expanding market for market for British goods.
 - Cottage **textile industry**
- States of continental Europe developed own industries to deal with rural poverty & overpopulation
 - Protectionist & **mercantilist** policies
 - Drop in English wool exports to Europe





Map 18.2 The Atlantic Economy in 1701
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Mercantilism Vs. Economic Liberalism

- Using your textbook and notes, create a T-Chart outlining the specific policies of Jean-Baptiste Colbert (Mercantilism) and Adam Smith (Economic Liberalism).
 - You should have multiple examples in each category.
 - Be ready to discuss!
- **LEQ (2002):** Both Jean-Baptiste Colbert (1619-1683) and Adam Smith (1723-1790) sought to increase the wealth of their respective countries. How did their recommendations differ?
 - Answer the prompt in a paragraph.

Identities and Communities of the Atlantic world

- Growth of European colonies created new identities
 - Creoles: People of **Spanish** blood born in the Americas (wealthy merchants)
- Much of the population descended from unions of European men and indigenous or African women.
 - Most migrants were **men**



Individuals in Society: A portrait of Rebecca Proffen with her second husband and their daughter, Anna Maria. Courtesy of Jan F. Senebach. Used by permission of the Manuscript Archives (Düster Archives, Homburg, Germany), 65-393. Chapter 17: A History of Western Society, Twelfth Edition. Copyright © 2017 by Bedford/St. Martin's. Distributed by Bedford/St. Martin's/Macmillan Higher Education strictly for use with its products. Not for redistribution.

Atlantic Enlightenment

- The colonies of British North America adopted the Scottish model of the Enlightenment
 - Pragmatism, self-improvement and ethical conduct
 - **Benjamin Franklin** → deism & constitutionalism
- **Spanish American colonies**
 - Northern Enlightenment thinkers saw Spanish & American colonies as barbaric.
 - **Catholic Church** → censorship
 - Encouraged Creoles to criticize government & promote autonomy

The Atlantic Slave Trade

- **Atlantic Slave Trade:** the forced migration of Africans for slave labor on plantations & other industries.
 - Rise in **plantation agriculture** led to increased demand Peaked in 18th century
- Abolition movement began in 1780s in Britain
 - Women were prominent in the effort to ban slavery
 - **1807:** Parliament abolishes the British slave trade

