

Codex Conquest

World Events

15th Century: Nation Building

The Hundred Years' War (1337-1453) separated the English crown from French control. Shortly after the English and French made their peace, the Spanish consolidated power with the marriage of Isabella I of Castile and Ferdinand II of Aragon in 1469. All 21st century European royals claim Isabella and Ferdinand as their ancestors.

Italy + Spain ++ France + England --

16th Century: Colonization

Martin Luther posted the *Ninety-Five Theses* in Wittenberg in 1517, which led to Europe undergoing the Protestant Reformation in the 16th century. The printing press, a new technology, helped fuel this religious shift. But this religious divide did not just shape religion: it also partitioned the New World. While Spanish Catholics dominated early colonial efforts, claiming Central and South America, the Protestant English attempted to control North America, losing many colonists in early settlements.

Germany + Italy + Spain + England – Americas –

17th century: Protestant Reformation/Catholic Inquisition

The Inquisition began as early as 12th century France; by the 17th century, it primarily occupied Spain and Italy. Through colonization, the Inquisition also spread to the Americas. Many Sephardic Jewish people in the New World were “relaxed,” or burned, at the stake. Scholars now see the 17th century's Inquisition as a backlash against the Protestant Reformation.

Germany + Italy – Spain – France – Americas –

18th Century: Balance of Power

The Seven Years' War (1754-1763) renegotiated the balance of power of European nations and is sometimes called the first world war by historians. In this war, France, Austria, and Spain fought against Britain and Prussia; the latter alliance won. Italy declined to fight although allied with France and Spain. The Seven Years' War foreshadowed the French Revolution, the American Revolution, and the rise of the British Empire.

Germany – Italy + Spain – France – England ++

19th Century: Industrialization

Industrialization transformed society by moving nations from an agriculturally-based economy to manufacturing. England and the Americas began industrializing first, followed by France and Germany. Industrialization also affected family structures, city planning, political philosophy, and the world balance of power, for countries which industrialized earlier gained an advantage of those who adapted later.

Germany + Spain – Italy – France + England ++ Americas +

20th Century: World Wars

World Wars decimate Europe in the 20th century. World War I (1914-1918), also known as the Great War, was won by the Allies against Germany. World War I marked the use of trench warfare and chemical warfare. World War II (1939-1945) led to defeat for the Axis Powers against the Allies. World War II's tragedies included the Holocaust as well as the first use of the atomic bomb. These wars set the stage for the United States to dominate the world economically, militarily, and culturally as the European allies were decimated even in victory.

Germany -- Italy – England – Americas +

National Events

15th century: GERMANY

Germany: Johannes Gutenberg introduces movable type printing in 1439. ++
Germany: Hans Holbein the Elder transitioned German art from Gothic to Renaissance style. +
Germany: George von Peurbach lectures to kings and emperors about Ptolemaic astronomy. +
Germany: Albrecht Dürer is one of the greatest woodcut artists of the century. +
Italy: Michelangelo carves the Pietà in Rome. ++
Italy: Botticelli's paintings represent the Golden Age of Renaissance art. +
Italy: The Italian wars lead to the end of Italian city-states. -
Italy: The Papacy returns to Rome, but the city is in decay. -
Spain: Spain settles the Canary Islands in 1403, beginning the Spanish Empire. +
Spain: Spain is unified under Ferdinand II and Isabella I. +
Spain: The Spanish Inquisition begins in 1481. --
Spain: Jews are expelled from Spain in 1492. - Action: Hebrew incunabula.
France: Joan of Arc influences French victory in the Hundred Years' War in 1429. ++ France/- England
France: Paris is established as the hub of France by King Francis I. +
France: King Charles VI frequently suffers insanity. -
France: France suffers heavy losses to England during the battle of Agincourt. -- France/+ England
England: England wins the Battle of Agincourt against France in 1415. + England/ - France
England: In 1431, Henry VI is crowned King of England. +
England: The War of the Roses decimates the country. --
England: Henry VI is deposed in 1461 in favor of Edward IV. -
Americas: Amerigo Vespucci arrives in South America in 1499 and 1502. +
Americas: Christopher Columbus lands in the Americas in 1492. +
Americas: Spanish colonization flourished in present-day Mexico. + Spain / -- Americas
Americas: Aztecs regularly require tributes from conquered city-states. -

16th century: ITALY

Germany: The German Renaissance spreads humanism. +
Germany: Martin Luther reforms the Catholic Church, creating Lutherans (and Protestantism). ++
Germany: The *Bundschuh* movement generates a wave of unsuccessful peasant rebellions. -
Germany: The Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire brings war to Germany. – Germany/ + Italy
Italy: Italian carnivals, festivals, pageants and other events promote revelry domestically and internationally. + Auction: Festival books.
Italy: Leonardo da Vinci completes the Mona Lisa in 1506. ++
Italy: Machiavelli writes the Prince in 1513. +
Italy: Titian, Raphael, and Leonardo da Vinci continue to lead innovation in not just Italian, but European art. +
Spain: Spanish conquistadores and explorers cross-cross the Americas. ++
Spain: St. John of the Cross writes the best mystical poetry of Spanish literature. +
Spain: Bartolome de las Casas is a witness to the brutal subjugation of natives by conquistadors. -
Spain: Spain suffers from famine in 1504. -
France: Catherine de Medici is the most powerful women in Europe. +
France: French population recovers its pre-Black Death population in the early 16th century. +
France: The French Wars of Religion rage from 1562-1598. --
France: Riots spread in 1572 due to the St. Bartholomew's Day massacre. -
England: Elizabeth Tudor becomes Queen Elizabeth I in 1558. +

England: England defeats the Spanish Armada in 1588. ++ England/ - Spain
England: Mary, Queen of Scots is executed by Queen Elizabeth I. -
England: King Henry VIII executes Anne Boleyn, Elizabeth I's mother. -
Americas: Jacques Cartier successfully navigates the St. Lawrence River and is welcomed by the Huron Indians in what is now Montreal, Canada. + Americas / + France
Americas: Native Americans successfully resist settlements by the English in Virginia in the late sixteenth century. + Americas / - England
Americas: First African slaves arrive in the Americas in 1502. - - Americas / + Spain
Americas: Hernan Cortes leads the conquest of Mexico from 1519 to 1521. - - Americas/ + Spain

17th century: SPAIN

Germany: The Peace of Zsitvatorok ends the war between Austria and the Ottoman Empire in 1606. +
Germany: Johannes Kepler is a key figure in the 17th century scientific revolution. ++ Auction: German math.
Germany: Danish King Christian IV invades Germany in 1625. -
Germany: Frederick V accepts the Bohemian throne, provoking the German states. --
Italy: Pope Urban VIII elected in 1623. +
Italy: St. Peter's Basilica completed in 1626. ++
Italy: Galileo Galilei is tried by the Inquisition in 1633. -
Italy: Giordano Bruno is burned at the stake for advocating cosmic pluralism. -
Spain: The Spanish navy holds onto Anatolian islands under attacks from the Ottomans. +
Spain: Spain enjoys its Golden Age, the *Siglo de Oro*, due to its vast empire. ++
Spain: Spain participates in the Peace of Westphalia. + Spain, England, France
Spain: Hapsburg rule continues through the end of the 17th century. +
France: Molière is born in 1622. +
France: The Sun King, Louis XIV, establishes an absolute monarchy. ++
France: Francois Revailac commits regicide in 1610. -
France: Famine kills 2 million between 1692 and 1694. -
England: Peace comes to England with the Treaty of Westminster in 1674. +
England: The Bank of England established in 1694. +
England: The English Civil War begins in 1642, resulting in King Charles I's execution. --
England: London suffers a plague in 1665. -
Americas: The Mayflower Pilgrims arrive in Cape Cod in 1620. + Americas / - England
Americas: Harvard University is founded in 1636. +
Americas: The Salem witchcraft trials result in innocents executed as witches in 1692. -
Americas: European settlers firmly establish slavery in the colonies. -- Americas / - England, - France, - Spain

18th century: FRANCE

Germany: Serfdom gradually abolished by the Austrian monarchy between 1781 and 1785. +
Germany: King Frederick William I rules a newly-centralized Prussia. +
Germany: Austria and Prussia invade France, losing at the Battle of Valmy in 1792. -- Germany/ + France
Germany: The coldest winter of 500 years occurs in 1709. -
Italy: The Trevi Fountain is completed in Rome. +
Italy: The Enlightenment comes to Italy under Holy Roman Emperor Joseph II. +
Italy: Venice loses independence after a thousand years with Napoleon's invasion in 1797. -
Italy/+France
Italy: The Spanish rule Naples and Sicily after the Battle of Bitono in 1738. -

Spain: Philip V rules over the first unified Spanish state. ++
 Spain: Felipe de Neve founds Los Angeles during his time as governor of the Californias. + Spain / - Americas
 Spain: War of Spanish Succession wages from 1701 to 1714. -
 Spain: The Anglo-Spanish War begins in 1796. –Spain/+ England
 France: France, Britain, and the Netherlands sign the Triple Alliance in 1717. + France, + England
 France: The Treaty of Paris is signed in 1783, ending the American Revolutionary War. ++ France, ++ Americas/- England
 France: French court etiquette becomes a symbol of refinement internationally. +
 France: The French Revolution triggers the rise of democracy. + Auction: French Revolutionary Pamphlets.
 France: The French Rococo style transforms European taste. +
 England: The Kingdom of Great Britain is created in 1707. +
 England: Britain establishes the world’s first copyright law. ++
 England: Scotland rises in a failed rebellion in 1714. -
 England: The South Sea company loses its share price, resulting in the nation’s economic decline. -
 Americas: The Declaration of Independence is signed in 1776. + Americas/ - England
 Americas: The US Constitution written in 1787. +
 Americas: The French and Indian War is fought between 1754 and 1763. -
 Americas: French Acadians are displaced from Canada and move south to Louisiana. – Americas /- France

19th century: ENGLAND

Germany: Beethoven astounds audiences with the Moonlight Sonata in 1802. +
 Germany: The University of Berlin is founded in 1810. +
 Germany: The Berlin Conference brings European colonialism to Africa. --
 Germany: Napoleon’s army crushes the Prussians at the Battle of Jena. – Germany/ + France
 Italy: Pope Leo XIII generates the first Catholic document on Social Justice in 1891. +
 Italy: The Italian unification movement, or *Risorgimento*, centralizes Italy into one nation. +
 Italy: The Carbonari, secret revolutionaries, terrify authorities. --
 Italy: Southern Italy suffers unequal social and economic status. -
 Spain: The Spanish Inquisition ends in 1834. +
 Spain: King Alfonso XII finally brings peace to Spain in 1874. +
 Spain: The Ten Years’ War between Cuba and Spain is fought, ends in a draw between 1868 and 1878. – Spain/ - Americas
 Spain: The First Republic in Spain exists for only a year: 1875. --
 France: Napoleon dies in exile in 1821. +
 France: The Eiffel Tower is built in Paris in 1889. +
 France: Alfred Dreyfus is wrongfully convicted of treason due to anti-Semitism. -
 France: Napoleon crowns himself Emperor in 1804. --
 England: Ireland and Great Britain merge to form the United Kingdom in 1801. +
 England: Slavery is banned throughout the empire in 1833. +
 England: England enjoys Pax Britannica between 1815 and 1914. ++ Auction: British Novels.
 England: The British Empire reaches its apex between 1837 and 1901. +
 Americas: The US doubles in size with the Louisiana Purchase in 1803. ++
 Americas: The first women’s rights convention in the US held in Seneca Falls in 1848. +
 Americas: The American Civil War is fought between 1861 and 1865. -
 Americas: Native Americans are forcibly removed through the Trail of Tears in 1838. -

20th century: AMERICAS

Germany: Albert Einstein lives in Germany between 1914 and 1933. +
Germany: East and West Germany are reunified in 1990. +
Germany: Germany loses WWI in 1918. – Germany / + Americas, + France, + England
Germany: Nazism rises in Germany in 1933. --
Italy: Montessori education begins in 1907. +
Italy: Italy joins the UN in 1955. +
Italy: Fascism rises in Italy in 1922. --
Italy: King Umberto is assassinated in 1900. -
Spain: The Spanish miracle ushers in a period of economic growth between 1959 and 1973. +
Spain: In 1976, a transition to democracy begins. +
Spain: Miguel Primo de Rivero rules as dictator between 1923 and 1930. -
Spain: Civil War wracks Spain between 1936 and 1939. --
France: Paris is the center of modernism in the early decades of the twentieth century. ++
France: The Channel Tunnel opens between London and Paris in 1994. + France / + England
France: Tensions between regional and national culture persist throughout the century. -
France: France is occupied by Germany during World War II. – France/+ Germany
England: Oxford University opens to women in 1920. +
England: Queen Elizabeth II will become the longest-reigning monarch of England. +
England: The English crush the Easter Rising in Ireland in 1916. -
England: The English sustain heavy losses during WWI. - - England / + Germany
Americas: The first PC is invented in the United States in 1957. +
Americas: The United States begins to address concerns regarding Civil Rights and Women’s Rights. +
Americas: American popular culture dominates the world through radio, television, and film. +
Americas: The United States becomes the strongest economy in the world following WWII. ++ Americas
Auction: American Artists’ Books.