○ Advanced technology
  ■ Steel
  ■ Firearms
  ■ Wheeled vehicles
  ■ Extensive writing & language
○ Why are they more advanced?
  ■ More people
  ■ Experienced their own agricultural revolutions before the New World did
  ■ Middle East & modern-day China: Experienced their revolutions & spread out from there
  ■ More modes of transportation & communication, more roads to travel, etc.
  ■ New World killed off their versions of the horse & ox (Megafauna Extinction)
○ No evidence of bronze in Mesoamerica
○ No evidence of concrete in Andes
● Spanish history to 1500
  ○ Roman Empire
    ■ Christianity
      ● Catholicism
  ○ The Dark Ages (Medieval)
    ■ Religious wars
      ● Islam
  ○ Reconquista
    ■ Moors & Iberia
      ● Iberian Peninsula endures the overthrow of Christianity to the Moors
    ■ Spain & Portugal
      ● Were among the first to show nationalism
      ● Militaristic societies
      ● Closely tied with Catholic church
      ● Rich
        ○ Have money to spend & desire to spend
    ■ Constantinople
      ● 1493: Conquered by Muslims