The Spanish Conquest of the New World
1492–1607 (Cont.)

● Constantinople
  ○ Trade with the east is halted due to the conquest of Constantinople
  ○ Portugal, instead of sending their armies to take back Constantinople, decides to instead sail around Africa
  ○ Spain doesn’t want to do either way, & they are visited by Christopher Columbus

● Christopher Columbus
  ○ Not Spanish; Italian
  ○ Thought the world was only 16k miles around
  ○ Thought he could go directly west to trade with the east
    ■ Needs money to try this
    ■ Proposes it to Portugal, but they just sail around Africa
    ■ Proposes it to Spain, instead
  ○ First Voyage (1492)
    ■ Arrives in the Bahamas
      ● Thought he was off the coast of India
      ● Encountered the Tainos, but called them Indians
        ○ Treated them well with a gift
    ■ Stops at Cuba
      ● Hispaniola
        ○ Dec 1492: Columbus disassembles one of his ships & uses it to found La Navidad
        ○ Leaves some of his crew behind as he goes back to report to the King & Queen
        ○ Returns to La Navidad destroyed & his left-behind crew missing (killed)
        ○ Says the Tainos are Spanish now & must pay with gold, & begin punishing them when they don’t have enough gold
  ○ Columbian Exchange: The trading of goods between the Americas & Europe, Asia, Africa that brought about a lot of the things that we know about today