

Topic #19 Overview

Main Themes:

1. Why Americans turned from the old continental concept of Manifest Destiny to a new, worldwide expansionism.
2. How the Spanish-American War served as the catalyst to transform imperialist stirrings into a full-fledged empire.
3. How the nation had to make attitudinal, political, and military adjustments to its new role as a major world power.

Objectives: [You should be able to explain each of these in some detail]

1. The new Manifest Destiny and how it differed from the old Manifest Destiny.
2. The objectives of American foreign policy at the turn of the century with respect to Europe, Latin America, and Asia.
3. The variety of factors that motivated the United States to become imperialistic and how we fit into the imperialism of the age.
4. The relationship between American economic interests, especially tariff policy, and developments in Hawaii and Cuba.
5. The causes of the Spanish-American War.
6. The military problems encountered in fighting the Spanish and, subsequently, the Filipinos.
7. The problems involved in developing a colonial administration for America's new empire.
8. The motives behind the Open Door notes and the Boxer intervention.
9. The nature of the military reforms carried out by Elihu Root following the Spanish-American War.