

09/13 Health and Disease before Columbus

Origins of Americans

- Bering land bridge and the problem of pre-Clovis remains
- Skeletal evidence
- Linguistic evidence
- Genetic evidence
- Modern debates

Overview of American Societies

- Olmec
- Tiwanaku
- Cahokia
- Inca
- Aztec: Tenochtitlan larger than Paris in 1490
- Overall population: 44,000,000?

Health of Americans

- Paleopathology: *Backbone of History*
- Dangerous lives of hunter-gatherers
- Agricultural transition: a threat to health?
- Urbanization: crowding, malnutrition, violence, and disease
- Coastal populations: remarkable health
- Health index and life expectancy: declining health over time before 1492