Lecture 1 The land and the people The USA

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Plan

- General characteristics
- Location
- American geography
- Population
- A changing America
- The American people
- The Native Americans

The USA

- nine million square kilometres (9,364,000 sq. km)
- 253 million people
- "In God We Trust"
- "the Stars and Stripes and Old Glory"
- The coat-of-arms an eagle with wings outspread
- "E Pluribus Unum" ("One out of many" in Latin).
- "Uncle Sam" 1812
- Uncle Sam Wilson

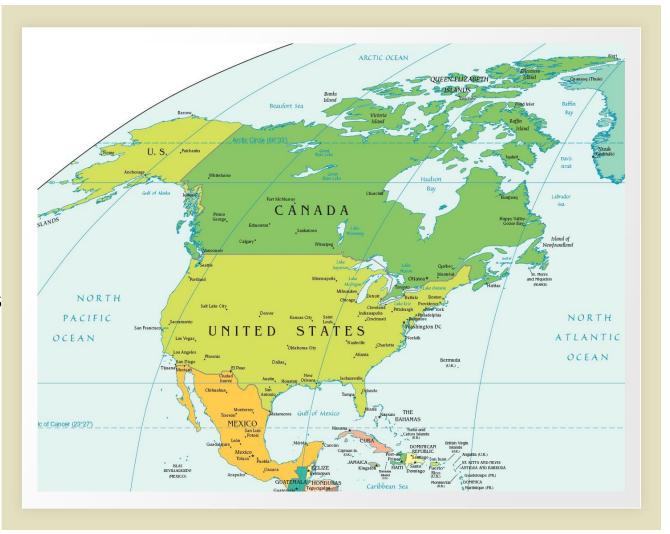






Location

- two highland and two lowland regions
- Puerto Rico & Virgin Islands
- the Appalachian Mountains
- the Cordillera and the Rocky Mountains
- 2,037 metres high





American Geography

7 regions

- New England (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont),
- 2. Middle Atlantic States (New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania),
- 3. Southern States (Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia),
- 4. Midwestern States (Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin),
- Rocky Mountain States (Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Utah, Wyoming), Southwestern States (Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas),
- 6. Pacific Coast States (California, Oregon, Washington).
- 7. Hawaii and Alaska



The face of the land

Illinois

■ The Mississippi – 3,970 miles

The Missouri

The Ohio

The Colorado & the Columbia

■ The Rio Grande – 1,990 miles

5 Great Lakes



A changing America

- 1950s the decade of calm and free time
- Birth control, high cost of raising children
- Neighborhood
- Since 1960s single parent families
- Summer or after school jobs, baby-sitting, part time job
- Women 24, men 26





The American People

- The 3rd largest population
- **•** 1990 250,000,000
- Walt Whitman is not merely a nation but a nation of nations





The Native Americans

- Across the Bering Strait from Siberia and Alaska
- The 1st migration 40,000 years ago
- Columbus 15th c. 10 mln people in North

America – Indians – 1.5 mln

- Reservations
- Poverty and unemployment







Immigrants

- The British 1660s
- African-Americans 1620-1820
- Northern and Western Europe 1820s



