

ASTR 308 "Into the Final Frontier"

The Discoverers: Book VIII

1. In "A World of Oceans"

- (a) What did Vasco Nunez Balboa "discover"? What did he name it? What was his fate?
- (b) What was the main assignment that Magellan undertook? What year did he set out to sea and which nation sponsored the voyage? What was the political relationship between Portugal and Spain at this time regarding this voyage?
- (c) Once Magellan's first goal was accomplished, what *geographical* "surprise" was awaiting him? From where did the name "Pacific Ocean" derive? What was Magellan's fate before he could circumnavigate the globe?
- (d) Describe the return of his men to Spain (how long a journey? Did they circumnavigate the globe? How many survived out of how many departed?)

2. In "The Reign of Secrecy"

- (a) Provide at least three examples (different nations) of the attempts to keep the knowledge of sea routes as national secrets.
- (b) Provide a few of the main reasons that these routes and the knowledge of the distant lands were kept secret.
- (c) What was the policy of the Roman Empire regarding maps?
- (d) Describe the impact of the advent of the printing press with regards to the attempted secrecy policies of nations? What "rediscovery" was probably partially responsible for the beginning of "professional map making"?

3. In "Knowledge Becomes Merchandise"

- (a) What was the downside of the printing press?
- (b) Who was Mercator and what was his great contribution to how lines of longitude and latitude were applied that made navigating the seas much more straightforward? What was it that first appeared on his maps of the world?
- (c) Who was Ortelius and what was his "business"? Due to his works, what was the outcome for continued contributions of Ptolemy's worldview to making maps of the earth?

4. In "The Ardors of Negative Discovery"

- (a) Provide the reasons why the European belief in a great southern continent was so strongly adhered to?
- (b) Briefly describe Cook's first voyage. That is, what was the first task he was commissioned to perform and then what was he supposed to do? What nation sponsored his voyage?
- (c) There was something unique about Cook's second voyage that gives it a very special place in history. What was the sole focus/mission of Cook's second voyage? Compare and contrast how this differed from all previous sea voyages that came before it. What was the outcome of this voyage?
- (d) What years were Cook's first two voyages? What major event in the history of the USA did they barely proceed? What was the name of Cook's flagship on his famous second voyage? (I ask this because it will later connect with the space program).
- (e) What was the purpose of Cook's third and final voyage? What was Cook's fate on this voyage (where did it take place)?