

American Empire – Outline

I. Manifest destiny

- a. Idea that the United States should expand from Atlantic to Pacific
- b. Louisiana Purchase (1803-1804)
- c. Mexican-American War (1846-1848)
- d. Gadsden Purchase (1853-1854)

II. “Internal” territorial expansion

- a. Alaska
 - i. “Seward’s Folly”
 - ii. Bought from Russia, 1867
 - iii. Became 49th state, 1958
- b. Hawaii
 - i. Annexed, 1898
 - ii. Became 50th state, 1959
- c. Puerto Rico
 - i. Acquired following Spanish-American War, 1898
 - ii. Puerto Ricans are American citizens

III. “External” territorial expansion

- a. Philippines
 - i. Acquired following Spanish-American War, 1898
 - ii. Independent, 1946
- b. Samoa, Virgin Islands, Wake, Guam
 - i. Acquired by annexation or treaty
 - ii. Military bases
 - iii. Administered by U.S. Department of the Interior
- c. Carolina, Mariana, and Marshall Islands
 - i. United Nations trusteeships, 1947
 - ii. Military bases
 - iii. Administered by U.S. Department of the Navy

IV. Review questions

- a. What term describes the philosophy behind United States westward expansion?
- b. How and when was Alaska acquired by the United States?
- c. How and when was Hawaii acquired by the United States?
- d. Describe Puerto Rico’s affiliation with the United States.
- e. Describe United States governance of its Pacific territories.