**LECTURES 3-4. The People of California: Past, Present and Future**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| David Sedlak | Monday/Wednesday, January 25/27, 2016 |

Outline

* The Past: Five Eras of California

1. First People (15,000 BC-1700)

2. Spanish & Mexican CA (1700-1850)

3. The Dream is Born (1850-1930)

a. The Gold Rush

b. Irrigated Agriculture

c. Kuwait of the Jazz Age

4. Building a Mega-State (1930-1975)

a. Water and Power

b. LA Grows Up

c. SF Grows Up

5. Between the Two Browns (1975-2016)

a. Environmental Awareness

b. High Technology

* The Present: Living in a Mega-State
* The Future: Challenges Beyond Climate Change

Key Points

* History and geography created modern California
* In the early days, resource exploitation and agriculture dominated
* Modern California relies upon technology and human resources
* California’s infrastructure is vulnerable to climate change
* California has the potential to lead efforts to respond to climate change

Terms

* Placer deposits/placer mining
* Peripheral canal

Learning Goals

* An ability to explain the industries and activities that made major contributions to the development of California in the 19th and 20th centuries.
* An ability to explain the ways in which California’s development has impacted the environment and how the state has responded.

Readings:

Starr “A Nation-State” (reader)

Fulton & Shigley "Guide to California Planning", Chapter 2 (reader)

Goodyear “The Dying Sea” (Optional; New Yorker Magazine, May 4, 2015)