I. Rural Growth and Crisis
   a. Peasants, population, and plague
      i. In 1200, most Europeans were peasants bound in serfdom & using
         inefficient agricultural practices. 30-50 such families supported each
         noble household.
      ii. Women labored in the fields w/ men but were subordinate to them.
      iii. Europe’s pop. more than doubled between 1000 & 1445. Growth was
         accompanied by new agricultural technologies in n. Eur., including 3-
         field system and cultivation of oats.
      iv. As pop. grew, new lands opened for cultivation, including poor
         soil/growing conditions. \therefore; decline in average crop yields ~1250.
      v. Population pressure eased by Black Death, Kaffa \rightarrow Italy/southern
         France in 1347. Plague ravaged Europe for 2 years and returned
         periodically in late 1300s & 1400s, causing substantial decreases in
         pop.
   b. Social rebellion
      i. As a result of plague, labor becomes more expensive in W. Eur. This
         leads to a series of peasant and worker uprisings, higher wages, & the
         end of serfdom. (Serfdom in E. Europe grew extensively in the
         centuries after the Black Death.)
      ii. Rural living standards improve; artisans’ apprenticeships shortened,
         per capita income rose.
   c. Mills and mines
      i. 1200-1500, Europeans invented/used mechanical devices including
         water wheels and windmills. Mills were expensive to build but brought
         great profits over time.
      ii. Industrial enterprises like mining, ironworking, stone quarrying, &
         tanning grew. Results: greater productivity along with environmental
         damage including water pollution & deforestation.

II. Urban Revival
   a. Trading cities
      i. Increases in trade & manufacturing contributed to growth of cities.
         Relationship between trade, manufacturing, & urbanization
         demonstrated in growth of cities in n. Italy & urban areas of
         Champagne & Flanders.
      ii. Venetian capture of Constantinople (1204), opening of C. Asian caravan
         routes under Mongols, & post Mongol development of Mediterranean
galley trade W/ Constantinople, Beirut, & Alexandria brought profit to Venice. Increase in sea trade also brought profits to Genoa in Med. & cities of Hanseatic League in Baltic & North Seas.

iii. Flanders profited from woolen textile industry; towns of Champagne benefited from location on major trade route through France & trade fairs sponsored by nobles.

iv. Textile industries developed in England & Florence. Europeans used water wheels & windmills in textile, paper, & other industries.

b. Civic life

i. Some cities are city-states, others are autonomous from local nobility: thus, better able to respond to changing market conditions than Chinese or Islamic cities. Eur. cities also offered citizens more freedom & social mobility.

ii. Most European Jews lived in cities. Subject to persecution everywhere but Rome; blamed for disasters like Black Death, expelled from Spain.

iii. Guilds regulated practice of/access to trades. Women rarely allowed to join, but did work in unskilled non-guild jobs in textile industry and food & beverage trades.

iv. Growth in commerce gave rise to bankers like Medicis of Florence & Fuggers of Augsburg, who handled transactions for merchants, church, & kings/princes. Because Church prohibited usury, many moneylenders were Jews; Christian bankers got around it by devices like asking for "gifts" in lieu of interest.

c. Gothic cathedrals

i. Masterpieces of late medieval architecture & craftsmanship. Distinctive features include pointed Gothic arch, flying buttresses, high towers & spires, gargoyles, and large interiors lit by huge windows.

ii. No formal training in design & engineering - architects learned through mistakes.

III. Learning, Literature, and the Renaissance

a. Universities and scholarship

i. After 1100, Greek & Arabic works on science, philosophy, & medicine available. Manuscripts translated & explicated by Jewish scholars & studied @ Christian monasteries (primary centers of learning).

ii. After 1200, colleges & universities emerged. Some established by students; most were teaching guilds established by professors to
oversee training, control membership, & fight for interests of profession.

iii. Universities usually specialized: Bologna, law; others medicine or theology. Theology most prominent discipline; theologians sought to synthesize rational philosophy of Greeks with Christianity in an intellectual movement called scholasticism (they were called scholastics).

b. Humanists and printers
i. Great writers included Dante Alighieri (*Divine Comedy* - vernacular Italian - journey through 9 levels of Hell, purgatory, & entry to Paradise) and Geoffrey Chaucer (*Canterbury Tales* - Middle English - rich portrayal of lives of everyday people in late medieval England).


iv. Influence of writers was increased by development of printing press. Johann Gutenberg perfected it in 1454 (*1*st work, Bible). By 1500, his press & 200+ others produced at least 10 million printed works.

c. Renaissance artists
i. 14th-15th century artists built on work of more natural paintings of Giotto as they developed a painting style that depicted Greek & Roman (classical) gods/themes and scenes from daily life. (There was still a lot of religious art, just not ONLY religious themes.) Realistic style also influenced by Jan van Eyck & Flemish school’s development of oil paints. Leonardo da Vinci (*Last Supper, Mona Lisa*) and Michelangelo (*David, Pieta, Sistine Chapel ceiling & Last Judgment*) were two famous artists. (Others included Raphael, Titian, Donatello, Brueghel, Holbein…)

ii. Artists studied human anatomy. Techniques included *sfumato*, *chiaroscuro*, perspective… (LOOK THESE UP!!)

iii. Wealthy merchant & clerical patrons like the Medicis of Florence and the Church contributed to the development of Ren. art. Artistic &
intellectual developments did not stop in Europe; the university, printing press, & oil painting spread worldwide.

IV. Political and Military Transformations

a. Monarchs, nobles, and the church

i. 13th-cen. states were ruled by weak monarchs whose power was limited by modest treasuries, regional nobility, independent towns, & church.

ii. 2 changes in weaponry undermined utility (& economic position) of knights: Armor-piercing crossbow and firearms.

iii. King Philip the Fair of France reduced the power of the church when he arrested Pope Boniface & installed a new French pope at Avignon (Babylonian Captivity), but monarchs still faced resistance (especially from stronger vassals). In England, Norman Conquest of 1066 consolidated/centralized royal power, but kings still found power limited by pope & by nobles, who forced the king to recognize their hereditary rights as defined in the Magna Carta (signed by John in 1215).

iv. Monarchs & nobles often had marriage alliances. One effect was wars over inheritance of far-flung territories. Long-term, these wars strengthened the monarchs & led to establishment of territorial boundaries.

b. The Hundred Years War


ii. English had early victories @ Crecy & Agincourt (Henry V).

iii. Joan of Arc led the French to victory @ Orleans.


c. New monarchies in France and England

i. Post-100 Years War monarchies had stronger central gov'ts, more stable national boundaries, & stronger representative institutions. English & French monarchs both consolidated control over nobles.

ii. New military tech. (cannon, hand-held firearms) meant castle & knight were outdated. New: professional standing armies of bowmen, pikemen, musketeers, & artillery units.

iii. New sources of revenue needed to pay for armies. Taxes on land, merchants, & church.
iv. By end of 15\textsuperscript{th} cen., power shift away from nobility/church toward monarchs. Process not complete, & monarchs still limited by nobles, church, & representative institutions (English Parliament, French Estates General).

d. Iberian unification

i. Spain & Portugal emerged as strong centralized states through process of marriage alliances, mergers, warfare, & \textit{Reconquista} from Muslims. Reconquest offered nobility large landed estates where they could grow rich without working.

ii. Reconquest took place over several centuries; picked up after Christians put Muslims on defensive after 1212 victory.

iii. Portugal completely established 1249. 1415, Portuguese captured Moroccan port of Ceuta, gaining access to trans-Saharan trade.

iv. In Iberian Peninsula, Castile & Aragon united in 1469 w/marriage of Isabella & Ferdinand. Muslims driven out of last stronghold @ Grenada in 1492. Spain then expelled all Jews & Muslims; Portugal also expelled Jews. (Bad move – loss of business class hurt economy.)

V. Conclusion

a. The people of the Latin West proved adept at using natural resources, but they were unable to prevent overpopulation, famine, and plague.

b. The basic political, military, economic, intellectual, and cultural characteristics of the modern West emerged between 1200 and 1500.

c. During these centuries economic growth and the use of technology borrowed from points farther east put the Latin West in a position to project its military power and culture abroad.