

# Video Guide: American Imperialism Explained

Video: <https://youtu.be/lya5aV2Vhvk>

**Key Concept 7.3.I.A:** “Imperialists cited economic opportunities, racial theories, competition with European empires, and the perception in the 1890s that the Western frontier was “closed” to argue that Americans were destined to expand their culture and institutions to peoples around the globe.”

<b>Motives for U.S. Expansion</b>	<b>NOTES FROM THE VIDEO</b>
<b>CLOSING OF THE FRONTIER</b> motives were based on the idea that the American frontier was “closed” by 1890. No place left for the nation to expand <b>except</b> overseas.	
<b>ECONOMIC</b> motives include the desire to make money, to expand and control foreign trade, to create new markets for products, to acquire raw materials and cheap labor	
<b>POLITICAL</b> motives were based on a nation’s desire to gain power, to compete with other countries, to expand territory, to gain prestige by winning colonies, and to boost national pride (nationalism) and security.	
<b>MILITARY/STRATEGIC</b> motives were based on the desire to acquire military bases and strategic positions to economic/political interests around the globe.	
<b>IDEOLOGICAL</b> motives were based on the belief that the white race was superior, that other cultures were “primitive” or “savage”, Americans should “civilize” peoples in other parts of the world.	

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