"We Spaniards know a sickness of the heart that only gold can cure."
Greetings my fellow Adventurers,

My name is Megan Guyton and I will be your director for The Journey of Herñan Cortés. I am a third year at the beautiful University of Florida majoring in International Studies and minoring in French and Business Administration. I am also the Director of Conference Logistics for the UF Model United Nations Team here. I absolutely cannot wait to direct you through the turmoil and triumph that is the Journey of Herñan Cortés.

I have been doing Model United Nations for the past two and a half years competing at various conferences and being a Best Delegate Camp Counselor in the summer of 2013. This weekend I hope to lead through an experience that is both challenging and fun.

To those who have never been in a crisis committee or even done Model UN before, NEVER FEAR! My first committee in Model United Nations was a crisis committee, so I understand that what you are about to go through will be difficult and confusing. My staff and I have prepared this experience to be feasible for any set of skills. If you are feeling confused or lost at any time, my staff and I are fully prepared to listen and aid you where we can.

Position Papers are required. I’ve found that research can be both hindering and helpful; it simply depends on the person. However, these papers are for my staff to discover where you, as your character, wish our journey to end. For there many be one road but many paths. Please keep them at one to two pages. I look forward to meeting every one of you and beginning our journey!

Best Regards,
Megan Guyton
**Procedure**

We will be operating in a perpetually moderated caucus. Points or motions will be entertained after each speech or the conclusion of a topic-specific moderated caucus. All delegates must vote during a procedural matter, and these motions will need \( \frac{1}{2} \) majority to pass. Below is a general list and explanations of specific procedural matters.

**Point of Order**

A Point of Order may interrupt a speech and may be used when a delegate feels the Chair or another delegate is not correctly following the rules of procedure.

**Point of Inquiry**

A Point of Inquiry may not interrupt a speaker and may be used to direct a question to the chair to clarify parliamentary procedure or motions or to ask a question. Substantive analyses or speeches may not be made using a point of inquiry.

**Point of Information**

A Point of Information may not interrupt a speech and may be brought up by a delegate in order to either clarify a point or motion, or to bring substantive information to the notice of the Dais. No analyses or speeches may be made using a point of information.

**Point of Personal Privilege**

A Point of Personal Privilege may be raised when a delegate’s ability to participate in debate is impaired for any physical or logistical reason (for instance, if the speaker is not audible). In addition, this point may be used to bring up any issues with the conditions of the room, such as lighting or temperature. This point may interrupt a speech, and the Dais will immediately try to resolve the difficulty.
Right of Reply

The Right of Reply may be invoked in the rare case that a delegate feels his or her personal dignity or integrity have been deliberately offended. The delegate may raise his placard and ask the Chair for a Right of Reply, which will be judged at the Chair’s discretion.

Motion for a Moderated Caucus

A motion to enter into a moderated caucus must specify the topic of debate, the length of the caucus, and the time for each speech. Much of committee debate is expected to take place in moderated caucus.

Motion for an Unmoderated Caucus

A motion to enter into a moderated caucus must specify the topic of debate, the length of the caucus, and the time for each speech. Much of committee debate is expected to take place in moderated caucus.

Motion to Introduce Documents

A motion (must be made to introduce documents to the body in order for them to be discussed) to introduce documents to the body in order for them to be discussed. The document will be read out loud by the Chair or by the presenting delegate and be submitted for committee discussion if it has at least three signatures from delegates. If the document is a directive it will abide by the rules set forth below.

Motion for a Q & A Session

At the Chair’s discretion, after a document has been submitted for debate a delegate may motion for a question and answer session to ask questions of the document’s author(s). If the Chair approves this motion, the rules of debate will be suspended for a session whose length is subject to the Chair’s discretion.
Motion to Enter Voting Procedure

If a delegate deems that a document has been sufficiently discussed, he or she may motion to enter voting procedure. If this motion passes then debate will be suspended on that document and the committee will enter voting procedure.

Motion to Suspend Debate

At the end of a committee session a delegate may motion to suspend debate. If this motion passes then debate will be suspended and resume at the next committee session. This motion may be ruled out of order at the Chair’s discretion.

Motion to Adjourn Debate

At the end of the final committee session of GatorMUN XII a delegate may motion to adjourn debate. If this motion passes then debate at this committee for this conference will be adjourned and committee business will be concluded. This motion may be ruled out of order at the Chair’s discretion.

Motion to Split Directive Clauses

A motion may be made to split an already introduced directive into its component clauses, so as to vote on each clause separately. A 3/4 majority is required for a motion to split directive clauses. If this motion passes, then a motion may be made to enter voting procedure to vote on each clause separately. This motion is subject to the Chair’s discretion.

Communication during Committee

Delegates should feel free to write personal notes to their fellow committee members. These notes should pertain to the committee and will be the primary way of communication for delegates during formal debate.
Delegates may also write to the chair with questions regarding procedural issues of the committee, as well as a wide range of personal inquiries. Delegates should free to write to the chair on any issue that would improve the committee experience. This could range from a clarification of portfolio powers to substantive questions.

If delegates deem it fit to communicate with individuals or entities not currently present in committee, they may write notes directed to such members specifically. Such notes are to be addressed to “crisis” and passed to the dais. Such notes will receive timely responses.

Note: Due to the nature of the committee, timing of notes and replies will be handled differently than they would be in a “normal” crisis. For instance, if Diego, the cook, wished to write to his sister in Europe while the ship is docked in Havanna, Cuba, this note will take longer to return than a note to person in the city of Havanna.

**Directives (Private and Public)**

Directives are to be used as powerful tools that are at the disposal of individual delegates. Consequences of actions carried out in this manner will be told to the group as a whole, through crisis updates and note responses throughout the committee. These could significantly influence the turn of events.

A **Private Directive** is a set of instructions from a particular member of the committee to his staff, directing them to execute specified actions. These may be issued to take action that is within a delegate’s power at any time during session, and should be done through the use of crisis notes. Crisis staff will decide if the request will be granted and then the delegate will be informed of the results.
A Public Directive is a document that is worked on by a delegate, or number of delegates, has a set number of signatories, and will be formally introduced before the committee through the use of a motion. It details an action the committee will take and will be voted upon by the delegates. Press releases from the committee will operate in the same way.
23 October 1518

My Dear Cortez,

As you may know, we are in a race against time. Over the past years, the new world is being carved up, claimed by those who wish to be the reigning power in this world. As a fellow Spaniard, I hope that you share my belief that our nation must come out supreme. The Portuguese and the British are rapidly catching up in this endeavor, and we must not let them pass our glorious country in the dust.

I am appointing you as the Captain-General of this expedition into Mexico. You have enough wealth to provide for your journey, although I myself will provide you three ships, Santa Rosa, San Miguel, and San Felipe. These boats will have just returned from Grijalva’s expedition, which I am sure you have heard of. This mission is to create new trade alliances and claim the land for the glory of his majesty, King Charles V. You are to proceed with friendly relations to all natives of the Yucatan, unless there is cause for action. The king has approved my decision to appoint you as we both feel you have leadership skills and drive to bring the best success on this journey. King Charles V will be sending a representative for your journey in order to monitor your progress and keep the monarchy’s best interests at heart. Of course, I expect to be kept up to date on the journey as well. I have my ways of learning information even if you don’t tell me directly. Also, do not forget that it was I who gave you this appointment. I can just as easily take it away.

Best of Luck,
Governor Diego Velásquez
Welcome My Friends and Crew,

Congratulations on joining the quest of a lifetime! Below, you will find all you will need to know for the journey: a short history on exploration, a short biography on your captain, a brief letter on the area to which we travel, a list of supplies (to be discussed in further detail at our first meeting), and a list of the crew. Read it well, for your life may depend on your knowledge of it.

A Short History on Exploration

My friends, this is a marvelous age in which we live. I have included this portion so that we may learn from the greatest explorers of all time and the bumbling fools, who tripped their way into luck.

In the glorious year of 1492, Lord Cristóbal Colón saw this beautiful new world of ours. He went on to find many islands and lands full of riches waiting to be discovered. As the most devout of you may know, His Holiness, Pope Alexander VI, carved the world up between the Portuguese and ourselves through the Papal Bull Inter Caetera. His reasoning in this was to eliminate any trouble that could arise from claims on similar territories (Collis).

Lord Cristóbal Colón landed in Hispaniola on the 5th of December 1492. The first settlement, the fort of La Navidad, was created during this first voyage, only to be destroyed by natives. The second settlement to be made was called La Isabela, which also died out soon after its creation. The capital of Hispaniola, Santo Domingo, was placed under the control of Nicolás de Ovando after Lord Colón was removed from governorship. In my humble opinion, I did not see anything wrong with Lord Colón’s governorship. However, Nicolás de Ovando
is a much better governor than Velásquez can ever hope to be. Lord Colón was a great explorer and pioneer of our time.

In 1511, it was decided that the island to the north must be subdued under the orders of the Viceroy of the Indies. I led that expedition under Governor Diego Velásquez’s name since he was too old to go into battle himself. It was a simple and easy enough task. I was awarded control of the island under the watchful eye of Velásquez after the natives were decently subdued. (Collis, 23)

Two have been to the land to which we travel. Both, in my honest opinion, are the biggest fools of them all. The first was Cordoba in 1517, an interesting man with peculiar habits. Cordoba sailed a bit further south than I wish to. Perhaps, the heat is the cause for his misfortunes. He stayed with a chieftain of peoples who were rudimentary, at best. Sooner or later, he was attacked by another people and was forced to flee. He did however make it back with several pieces of gold and stories of a land called “Mexico” to the north (Wood, 23).

The second was Juan de Grijalva, a sniveling shred of a man who would never last in a true gentleman’s battle. In 1518, Grijalva was appointed captain general of the voyage. His first action as a leader was to land at a deserted village! If you’re going to land somewhere, at least make sure it is populated! From what I’ve heard, the city was quite beautiful. However, one must gather supplies from someone when landing has occurred. He traveled to a hostile place that didn’t want him to stay and fled when they threatened him with drums. What kind of man, I ask, runs when threatened with drums? However, he did flee to the place where I hope to land, Veracruz. He tells me that the island of sacrifices (his name, not mine) in front of the city shouldn’t scare me because they no longer use it. I laughed in his face at such a thought. They met a friendly people in the city, one who is under the power of a faraway empire, Mexico (Wood, 24).
A Short Biography on Your Captain

I was born in Medellín during the year of 1485. My father, Martin Cortés, was in charge of a small division in the army (Morris, ix). He was a man of great strength and discipline. At the age of fourteen, I was sent off to University of Salamanca to become a scholar (Morris, ix). In my personal opinion, the life of a scholar is akin to that of a monk, a quiet life that does not stimulate the mind and senses. Of course, you all can see how that turned out. At the age of sixteen, I wandered about, even trying to join Gonsalvo de Córdoba in Italy (Morris, x). By nineteen, I had decided to make my way to the West Indies. I knew by then that I was destined for a life that was called to arms and adventure. The West Indies was much more promising than the settlement of Spanish in Naples as it promised gold and riches beyond dreams. When I reached the Port of San Domingo, I was in luck and found myself under Diego Velásquez fighting the natives. My fighting skills impressed him so much that I was granted a bit of land and some natives to grow crops (Morris, xi). During that time, I was appointed Public Notary of Azúa, a settlement near Santo Domingo (Collis, 23). It was a dignified position, one of great importance and worthy of my years at University. In 1511, I commanded a group to go and take control of the neighboring island to España (Collis, 23). I was made Alcalde of the new settlement, Santiago, on this island and have remained since until my appointment (Morris, xii).
Rumors of the Yucatan

Since I came to this brave new world, rumors have reached my ears of great treasure and a far more terrifying race to the west. I have delved into finding out more, yet no man reveals any whereabouts of the race or treasure. I have interviewed those from the previous two expeditions to the Yucatan. I have delved into finding out more, yet no man reveals any whereabouts of the race or treasure. After many failed attempts to extract the truth from these sailors, I was very near giving up. I had settled my bill with the tavern owner and began to walk out the door when I was beckoned by a man hidden in the shadows of the tavern. I made my way over to his table in the corner, far from those who would dare to eavesdrop. Once seated, I was asked by the man if I was the Señor Cortés who was traveling to the new world. I admitted that yes I was he. Then I was regaled with the most glorious story. The following encounter is written below. All that I ask is this: no one except those on this quest in my inner circle must know of its existence. I trust you will ensure that knowledge of what lies in following pages will not fall into the wrong hands.

He began, “Señor Cortés, from what I have been told, you are searching for the truth of the Yucatan. If this is true, I implore you to desist your quest. It will cause you more pain than wealth and glory. Many of those to whom you speak do not know of its mystery because the natives feared too much the people who controlled them.” I demanded he reveal what mystery could be so frightening as to inspire such fear in the heart of men.

“Very well, I will outline what I know of the mysteries the Yucatan holds. In exchange, you must never share what I am about to share for it would mean my death. Their eyes follow us everywhere. Hopefully, this will persuade you to stop your journey. To prove that what I speak is true, here is my contract from the voyage of Grijalva.” At that, I declared him to be a man paid by
Grijalva to dissuade me from my quest. I stood up to walk away, however he grabbed my arm to stop me. As I pulled my hand away, I felt a heavy coin in my palm. I raised the coin up to my eyes to see a image of a stoic man in a many feathered head dress. It was not of Spanish origin as the coin was crudely cut and the image was not of the world we know.

"This is a token of the eagle warriors," he said. I sat back down still examining the fascinating coin. I asked him where he received the coin. He replied that in his time with Grijalva they had encountered traders at the mouth of a river and he joined the party, bearing many gifts to trade. As Grijalva traded with the natives, he was pulled aside by a young scarred man. To his surprise, the man spoke rudimentary Spanish taught by none other than our Geronimo de Aguilar. The man gave him the token and then told him this tale.

"I am a descendant of this ancient and great race. This race split many years ago into different parts. Some went to live in the mountains to the north; some lived by the sea to the east; others lived in the marshlands to the west. The peoples to the west in the marshlands built a great city, Water Mountain. They became so strong, yet scared. They feared the others in the mountains and by the sea. So they attacked. They flew down like eagles from their water mountain and attacked the others. Some were destroyed; others relented and gave into the eagle warriors. These men with whom you trade are the eagle-warriors. I come from a village close to the sea. I believe that the elders of my village thought it would protect us from the eagle warriors. As years passed and rumors of the great race to the west grew, I knew that this race must be stopped. I did not act until the day they came to our village. The eagle warriors were looking for a young boy to take with them to their great city. If we did not grant their requests, our village was to be destroyed. The elders of my village gathered the young men and chose my son. After the eagle warriors had left, I gathered up the warriors of my village. We followed the men and fought them
until not one was left alive. We returned to my village only to find it aflame. For you see, the eagle's eye reaches everywhere. My punishment for attacking the eagle warriors was to watch my village burn and my family die.

I have now told you of the brutality of the eagle warrior race, and now for the treasure. Whatever treasure they may have comes with the stain of blood. Many tribes and villages have fallen at their feet. I do not doubt that their treasure is vast and glorious. It is their ability to part with it that concerns me. My word of warning: everything with the eagle warriors comes with a price. Just beware that you are able to pay it when the time comes."

At this point, I interrupted him asking him if he knew anything more of the eagle-warriors. He replied that they were some of best warriors which he had ever fought against. During the telling of his tale, he was visibly anxious, constantly looking around as if someone, somewhere, knew of his treachery to these people. As the trading drew to an end, I was still unsatisfied with my information on this race of eagle-warriors. I extracted a promise from him to meet later that night to finish his tale. He ended the conversation with this statement, "Even here I see movement in the shadows. I fear that they may have known of you long before you knew of them."

Later that night, I rowed myself to shore in a small skiff. I walked to the meeting point and was astonished when he did not show up. I returned to that place every night for the next four nights. He still did not show up. As we continued on, we reached the Island of Sacrifices. When we went into the temple on the island, I recognized his face as one of the deceased. I took that as a warning that we must never return to this new land. Ever since that night, even here in España, I feel the shadows watching me just as he did. I know that since I have revealed this story to you, they will come for me as they came for him."

I sat there astounded at the tall tale, which I had just heard. Could it be true? I thought. I asked him if
he believed the tale the man had told him. He replied, “That man knew that he would pay with his life, yet told me anyways. Thus, I hold his story to be true.” We sat in silence for a few minutes. I was still reflecting on the information when he stood and said his final warning.

“Beware the eagle-warriors, Cortés. For now, they will watch you too.” And with that he turned on his heel and disappeared through the door of the tavern. I have since tried to locate this man, but he seems to have vanished into the night air. I will leave it to you whether to believe this tale of “all-seeing eagle-warriors”. Of two things, I am certain. First, a great and vast treasure exists out there to be claimed. Second, there is a powerful race that exists somewhere in Mexico. I hope that we may be able to reason with them or, if they prove to be too much of a threat, eliminate them.

**List of Supplies**

Three Ships gifted by His Majesty through Governor Velásquez

| Santa Rosa | San Miguel |
| San Felipe |

Eight Ships commissioned by myself

| Catalina | San Luis |
| Santa Ana | Santiago |
| Rosa | Princessa |
| San Antonio | San Francisco |

Gifts for the Natives

| Various cloths and clothing | 10 crates |
| Various Jewels and trinkets | 3 barrels |
| Handcrafted Furniture | 20 pieces |
| Horses | 16 |
## Weapons

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Falconets</td>
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<td>Muskets</td>
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<td>Halberdiers</td>
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## Food

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<td>Honey</td>
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<td>Dried Meat</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hard Cheese</td>
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## Miscellaneous Supplies

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<td>Rope</td>
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## My Crew

**Carlos García Osobrino - Navigator**

Carlos García Osobrino was born in Lisbon to a Portuguese merchant. While he was still very young, his mother passed away, leaving him and his younger brother to their father. His father seeing no point in keeping the remainder of the family apart left only a few trustworthy servants to care for the business headquarters in Lisbon and took his family to sea. Carlos spent the remainder of his childhood amongst the sailors and sails. His favorite place to be was out...
under the stars. He quickly learned how to use a cross staff, astrolabe, nocturnal, lead line, and much more. Carlos became even more experienced than his father’s navigator by the age of 16. At the age of 20, his father died leaving his business to his sons. Since Carlos’ brother, Alaminos, disliked life at sea, he chose to run the business from Lisbon while Carlos ran the ships. After a difficult journey, Carlos came back to Lisbon to find that his brother had taken over the family business, leaving him nothing. Carlos decided to leave the old world for the new and traveled to Española. During his time here, he has become close friends with the navigator Alaminos. I trust Carlos will prove to be an excellent navigator for our journey.

Francisco López de Gómara—Biographer

As a good friend of mine, Francisco is joining this journey as the historian of the adventure yet to come. He comes out of loyalty to me, although he has admitted that he is excited for what is to come. Francisco López de Gómara grew up in the city of Seville, watching as explorers came to and from with their majestic ships. As a boy he knew every ship name and its intended destination. He studied at the University of Alcalá and entered the priest hood. Others think that this is the reason for his biased account of the proceedings thus far. His faith to the church and myself has blurred his writing as he experiences history. However, his position does gain him an inside knowledge of everything as people are willing to spill anything for recognition. I know that Francisco writes the truth and nothing but nothing the truth.
Geronimo de Aguilar – Translator

Geronimo de Aguilar might be one of the most important people on our expedition, well besides myself. Born in Écija, Geronimo was raised in a home overlooking the Convento de la Santísima Trinidad y Purísima Concepción. When it came time for him to choose his profession, Geronimo chose to dedicate his life to God. In 1508, he heard of the expeditions to the new world and gladly joined. When he first arrived in the new world, he was amazed by God’s artwork. In 1510, a dispute broke out and Geronimo traveled with several others to Santo Domingo. Alas, they were shipwrecked and captured by natives. Only Geronimo and one other survived. They both adapted to the native ways; the other man taking a wife. Geronimo exchanged his knowledge of our Lord God and the Spanish language for the skills he needed to survive. Geronimo was discovered living with the natives by Grijalva and brought back to Santo Domingo. Because of his extensive knowledge of the native race, he will be our translator and guide to their ways.

Pedro de Alvarado – Captain of the Guard

Fresh from his last expedition, Pedro de Alvarado is a well-seasoned warrior. Pedro de Alvarado was born in Badajoz to the son of a nobleman. He was raised with the knowledge that with great power comes great responsibility. Each day he watched his father care for his neighbors and aspired to grow up just like his father. Pedro was sent to go and fight in Italy when a terrible thing occurred. He was involved in a bar fight where a man was killed. Pedro fled from Spain to the New World in order to escape the disgrace he placed upon his father. Ever since that day, Pedro has lived his life with the guilt of this man’s death on
his conscience even though he knows not whether he himself killed the man. He recently accompanied Grijalva on his expedition to the Yucatan. Alvarado was honored with the role of revealing the news of the existence of great riches to Governor Velásquez. Rumor has it that his story was so well-spoken, it made the Governor cry. Alvarado is a man of few words. However, you can rely that those words will be of the utmost importance.

Miguel Santiago – First Mate
Of Miguel Santiago, I hold the utmost respect. He grew up on the streets of Castro Verde as an orphan. When he reached the age of fourteen, he made his way across the country to Setúbal. Miguel lived there for a couple of months until he heard talk of the new world and the riches it holds. Lying about his age, Miguel traveled to España as a deck hand, looking for a new life. While there, he worked his way up the ranking order of the nautical world, gaining the respect of many men. In 1511, he joined me in subduing the natives in Santiago. He has been one of my closest friends ever since. I asked him to be the first mate of my head ship the Catalina. He will be at my side at every point in our journey. I know that if any dares to threaten my life, he will be the one to lay down his to save mine.

Diego Alejandro Gomez – Steward
I met Diego Alejandro Gomez during my time in Cuba. I stumbled into his tavern in the Port of San Domingo exhausted one rainy evening. Diego was born in España prior to the Spanish settlement. Diego’s mother was brought in as a cook in the household of Velásquez. Thus, Diego and Cristobal de Olid grew up as great friends. It was discovered as Diego reached adulthood
that he had a talent for cooking. Velásquez set Diego up with a tavern of his own in the Port of San Domingo, where he has become a well-known entity on the island. Diego will be in charge of overseeing the cooking, distribution of food, and the food supply. Diego also has many friends on the island whom are either helping to supply us with plenty of food or joining our journey.

**Theodor von Feuerstein– Ambassador**

Theodor Feuerstein was born in Vienna to a wealthy family, who served the Hapsburg family. After attending the University of Vienna, Theodor returned to royal court to attend the young Charles V. Theodor followed the young man to Spain where he was chosen to travel to the new world in order to supervise our expedition for his majesty and provide decision-making on his majesty’s behalf. Theodor arrived in España soon after Grijalva sailed in 1518. Theodor will be joining us as the voice of His Majesty, King Charles V. His role in this expedition is to inform the king of any new lands and to ensure that his majesty’s best interests are kept at the heart of our journey. Stories have been told that Theodor takes his job very seriously and will stop at nothing to serve his master, Charles the V.

**Santiago de Cadiz– Master at Arms**

I am honored to have Santiago on our journey as our Master at Arms. I am sure that he will keep order and call for trials, if absolutely necessary. Santiago was born in Cadiz to a wealthy merchant class family. Rumor has it that when Santiago was a mere boy, he
fought off five boys who were trying to steal a horse. He fought the boys all the way to the city limits and rode the horse back to the stable where the stablemaster graciously thanked him. He attended the University of Salamanca to become a judge. For ten years, Santiago has served Cadiz, exacting justice fairly and swiftly. He recently moved to Santa Domingo in España where he has enacted justice since 1508. Santiago will stop at nothing to seek justice. A word of warning to any who gets in his way: he will always succeed.

Juan Sebastian de la Fuente—Clerk

Juan Sebastian de la Fuente was born in Coimbra. He grew up in his father’s store helping wherever he could. Being the oldest of 7, Juan Sebastian was tasked with the managing of money when his parents were out on errands for the store. By the age of 14, his parents placed him in charge of the store’s accounts. The store’s account doubled in his care. One of the town officials heard of the success that was occurring at the store and offered Juan Sebastian a position as a junior clerk in the town hall. By the age of 20, he had climbed his way to senior clerk and saved the town enough money to install a new statue in its center. Around this time, Juan Sebastian had grown bored of small-town life and left his tearful family for Lisbon. There he heard of the marvelous riches of the new world and paid his way to Española. He has since worked in the office of Velasquez supervising the many expenses of funding an expedition. He has come on recommendation of Velasquez and I welcome any man who can turn this journey into gold.
Felipe Delgado - Cartographer

Felipe Delgado has produced some of the finest maps, which I have ever seen. The accuracy with which he draws is remarkable. During my first year here in Española, I asked him for directions to the docks and he drew me a beautiful piece of art that perfectly details the route from the office of Velasquez. I am proud to say that I have it hanging above my desk to this day. Felipe was born in Évora to a master craftsman and his wife. After witnessing his family become bankrupt, Felipe knew that there must be another way to express his love for art and make support himself. Felipe at the age of 10 argued with a cartographer in order to gain a job for his father. The Cartographer eventually agreed and took on both father and son. Felipe began to learn the art of cartography from one of the best. Eventually, Felipe realized that he must move in order to gain work for himself and not take it away from his father. Felip decided prudently to travel to the new world where maps did not exist and would be important to the new explorers. I worked with Felipe in order to gain a replica of the island of Santiago and gladly will work with him again to create maps of our newest additions to the Spanish empire.

Lorenzo González Pajón - Barber

Born to a poor family, Lorenzo González Pajón grew up in Viana do Castelo, knowing exactly what he wanted to do with his life. After witnessing his mother lose three of his younger siblings, Lorenzo knew that he wanted to save lives. He threw himself into his work, slowly working his way to becoming a doctor. He is one of the most dedicated and determined men I have ever known. Living near the ocean, Lorenzo witnessed many men who fell ill with scurvy. He decided in 1499
to join the voyage of Alonso de Ojeda to the new world. Word has it, some men were left behind on an island as they were dying with scurvy. Lorenzo, not knowing what to do, fed them a strange orange fruit. They were completely cured. Lorenzo travelled on to España where he continued his cure for scurvy. He has worked with other plants and knows whether they are safe or deadly. Lorenzo is invaluable to this journey because of his knowledge on the local plants and the human body.

Alonso Barros Gomez - Contramaestre
Since a majority of our crew will be comprised of Arawaks, I have decided to enlist Alonso Barros de San Millan. Alonso Barros Gomez is a close relative of our dear Diego Alejandro Gomez. Alonso is the son of one of the Arawak chieftains who joined the Spanish when we arrived in España. Since I have arrived, Alonso has been invaluable to me. He has been my right hand man in all of my affairs. He is a respected man on the island, between both Spaniards and Arawaks. Alonso has created a name for himself in the Governor’s office as one of the most efficient Arawaks to have helped us. I am immensely happy that he joins us on this journey as our contremaestre. In this role, he will be working closely with the large numbers of men who accompany us and will recount our orders to the men as to keep chaos at bay. Alonso will be our first line of offense if there is to be a mutiny, which I doubt will happen.

Bernardino de Sahagun - Priest
Bernardino arrived in España with Governor Velasquez when he first came to the New World. Little is known of the early life of de Sahagun, as he tends to conceal his past. However, we know his views regarding the treatment of natives. Bernardino has been
in close contact since his arrival with the priest, Bartolomé de las Casas. His radical views have rubbed off on Bernardino, yet he is much more realistic about the situation in the Indies than de las Casas. When I was considering whom to bring on this expedition to keep the men’s spirits up, I heard a knock on my door. By the grace of God, Bernardino offered his services as a Priest to our expedition. He is very excited to bring glory to God and save many souls of the natives of the Yucatan on this journey.

**Martin Lopez – Engineer**

Martin has one of the most brilliant minds I have ever seen. Born and raised in Girona, he apprenticed as a carpenter under his father, Gonzalo. As his experience grew, so did his need to travel. Martin longed to travel to the West Indies and seek his fortune there. Martin traveled to Barcelona and found work as a shipbuilder. Martin became one of the best shipbuilders in Barcelona. By 1513, Martin had decided to start on his way to the new world. Before they reached España, they stopped in Santiago. Martin realized that the new settlement would have a great need for a carpenter and applied. I have since been fascinated by his work and am grateful that he has agreed to join us. He built the Santa Rosa, San Miguel, and San Felipe, so he is familiar with their individual needs. He will lead a small team of carpenters, who are to design bridges, boats, and wagons for transportation and also to fix anything that may break along our way.

**Antonio Ruiz de Montoya, Supplies Master**

Antonio Ruiz de Montoya was born in España many years prior to the Spanish settlement. He worked as a chief official in the Arawak community. Antonio was
given the position of divvying up supplies to those who couldn’t provide for themselves. After the Spanish Settlement, Antonio worked for the priests where he learned Spanish and how to keep accurate accounts. He did so well keeping accounts for the Catholic Church that the priests have praised him in his efficient division of goods to the poor. Antonio is a very devout Catholic, almost more so than some Priests I knew in Spain. Antonio Ruiz de Montoya decided to join us in the company of Bernardino de Sahagun. He came under one of the best recommendations of the Catholic Church in San Domingo. He will be in charge of Supplies for our journey and distributing them as he sees fit.

**Francisco Gutiérrez—Captain of the Santa Rosa**

Francisco Gutiérrez will be joining us after his recent expedition with Grijalva. From what I am told, Francisco was highly involved in the exploration of the new territory and made crucial decisions that brought the explorers home. He was born in Española and spent the latter of his young adulthood in the household of Velásquez. Francisco speaks of Velásquez in a high regard and holds many of the same opinions. He fought with me when the island of Santiago was brought to peace and proved himself to be a fierce warrior. He made quick decisions, which, while costing some their lives, brought us to victory. Francisco is here under recommendation of Velásquez because of his extensive knowledge on the area to which we are headed. Francisco will be in charge of the Santa Rosa, one of the ships provided by Velásquez himself. Hopefully, Francisco will live up to Velásquez’s bragging.
Gonzalo de Sandoval - Captain of the Santa Ana

Gonzalo de Sandoval is a man of noble birth; and, he will not let you forget it. He was born in Seville to a very wealthy family and lived off their generosity until he decided to fight in Italy. After two years, Gonzalo realized that the Old World was worn and spoken for. He joined a ship to España and headed to the new world. Gonzalo fought with me in the conquering of Santiago. He is fearless and vicious in the face of battle, as if he has something to prove? After his service, he was granted a plot of land and slaves in Trinidad. When I first began to call men to arms, I was wary of including Gonzalo because of his vicious nature which could get us into trouble. He has sworn to me on his family name that he will keep his head under control. God Help Us if this man loses his temper...

Cristóbal de Olid - Captain of the San Luis

Cristóbal was born in Zaragoza to a wealthy family. After the death of his mother, Cristóbal and his father joined Diego Velásquez’s journey to España. When his father died in a skirmish with a group of Arawaks, Cristóbal was taken in by Velásquez. From my understanding, the next few years were some of the unhappiest of Cristóbal’s life. His only relief was his long talks with Diego as he cooked in the kitchens of Velásquez. When Diego was sent to create his own life as the owner of a tavern, Cristóbal was sent to replace Grijalva in the expedition to the Yucatan, which only shows the Governor’s fickleness. Unfortunately, Cristóbal’s ship ran a foul of a hurricane and returned to the Port of Trinidad where he remained until Diego alerted him of our journey.
Citations


