

## Timeline for Mesoamerica

Time period		Culture
<i>Paleoindian</i>	up to 8000 BC	
<i>Archaic</i>	8000 to 1800 BC	
<i>Formative</i> (= <i>Preclassic</i> in the Maya area)	1800 BC to AD 150	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Olmec</b> (c. 1500 to 400 BC; southern Gulf Coast of Mexico)</li> <li>• <b>Veracruz culture</b> (AD 300 to c. 1000; Gulf Coast of Veracruz)</li> <li>• <b>Zapotec</b> (c. 600 BC to AD 900; Valley of Oaxaca)</li> <li>• <b>Teotihuacan</b> (c. 150 BC to AD 700; Basin of Mexico)</li> <li>• <b>West Mexico</b> (1500 BC to c. AD 900; northwestern Mexico)</li> </ul>
<i>Classic</i>	AD 150 to 900	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Lowland Maya</b> (AD 250 to 950; Yucatan peninsula, eastern Mexico, Belize, Guatemala, Honduras)</li> <li>• <b>Epiclassic centers</b> (e.g. El Tajin; Gulf Coast and Central Mexican Highlands)</li> </ul>
<i>Postclassic</i>	AD 900 to 1521	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Independent highland and lowland Maya kingdoms</b> (esp. Chichen Itza and Mayapan)</li> <li>• <b>Mixtec kingdoms</b> (c. AD 1200 to 1520s; Alta and Baja Mixteca)</li> <li>• <b>Zapotec kingdoms</b> (c. AD 1200 to 1520s; Valley of Oaxaca and south)</li> <li>• <b>Toltecs</b> (AD 900 to 1250; Highland Central Mexico)</li> <li>• <b>Aztecs</b> (AD 1325 to 1521; Basin of Mexico)</li> </ul>