

AP Human Geography (Grades 9-12)

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Office Hours: Before school, lunch, and after school (by appointment)



Introduction to AP Human Geography (APHUG)

This two semester course that consists of topics drawn from seven interrelated units of study outlined in the *AP Human Geography Course Description* booklet published by the College Board. The purpose of the course is to utilize geographic processes and perspective to systematically study and understand the following concepts:

Unit/Topic/Weeks	Textbook Chapters: <i>Human Geography, AMSCO/Perfection Learning</i>
1. Geography: Its Nature and Perspectives	Ch. 1 The Spatial Perspective; Ch. 2 Patterns and Processes
2. Population	Ch. 3 Population Distribution; Ch. 4 Population Growth and Decline; Ch. 5: Causes and Consequences of Migration
3. Cultural Patterns and Processes	Ch. 6 Concepts of Culture and Diffusion; Ch. 7 Language and Culture; Ch. 8: Religion and Ethnic Landscape
4. Political Organization of Space	Ch. 9: The Shape of a Political Map; Ch. 10: Territory, Power, and Boundaries; Ch. 11: Globalization
5. Agriculture and Rural Land Use	Ch. 12: The Development of Agriculture; Ch. 13 Agriculture Regions; Ch. 14: Rural Land Use Patterns
6. Industrialization and Economic Development	Ch. 15: Industrialization and Economic Structure; Ch. 16: Economic Interdependence; Ch. 17: Measures of Development
7. Cities and Urban Land Use	Ch. 18: Urban Location Theory and Interaction; Ch. 19: Urban Land Use Models; Ch. 20: Urban Challenges

AP College Goals: The topics studied in an AP Human Geography course should focus on the following five college-level goals listed below and on successful completion of the course students should be able to:

- Use and think about maps and spatial data sets
- Understand and interpret the implications of associations among phenomena in places
- Recognize and interpret at different scales the relationships among patterns and processes
- Define regions and evaluate the regionalization process
- Characterize and analyze changing interconnections between places

Frequently Asked Questions: *What is Human Geography? Isn't that just the study of locations of countries? Isn't that a Freshman class?*

Although we will be studying the globe and the location of nation-states, the focus of the class will involve the study of the impact that human beings have had on their world over the course of time. You can think of it as a history/geography course that is taught thematically rather than chronologically—focusing on understanding particular regions of the globe through the study of geography. AP HUG is an elective offered to **ALL grade levels of student, 9-12**. It is open to anyone interested in the study of geography and wanting to earn college credit through the AP program.

Description

This class introduces students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and organization of the earth. Students will employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine human organization of space. This AP Human Geography class teaches spatial relationships at different scales ranging from local to global.

This class is designed to meet AP standards and requirements (these can be found on the AP College Board website). The class will prepare students to take the AP Human Geography test in the spring. **STUDENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO PREPARE FOR AND TO TAKE THE AP TEST.**

*I will be available for students by appointment before school and during lunch.

Students will be strongly encouraged to participate in any **AP Boot Camp in the summer and **Cram Sessions** offered before the exam which will be given in April and during class time.

AP Human Geography Expectations

1. Students will come to class prepared and ready for engagement.
2. Students will complete independent work outside of class and know that the pace of learning will be faster regular classes. (Remember—this is a college level class.)
3. Students understand a high level of independent study is required on their part.
4. Students will meet deadlines for assignments.
5. Students will seek extra help when needed and will prepare diligently for the AP exam.
6. **Students will meet with teacher, parent, and counselor before dropping or changing classes. (See contract)**
7. Students will be assessed frequently with AP release test items and timed tests.
8. Students will approach coursework with open minds and positive attitude.
9. Students will need around 1 hour outside of class everyday if they spread out the work appropriately.
*We will be covering a chapter every week so the pace will be quicker than regular classes.
10. Students will need to read around 40-50 pages of text per week. You need to read carefully and thoughtfully and take notes as you read. You will also have to study regularly, especially vocabulary and maps.
11. Students will have quizzes over each section and exams for each chapter/unit of study. Exams are a combination of a multiple choice and essay (FRQ) questions. The questions are designed to be challenging and AP style.
12. Students will read numerous primary sources and supplemental readings throughout the course.

GRADING SCALE: 90 - 100 = A 85 - 89 = B+ 80 - 84 = B 75 - 79 = C+ *These grades will be modified per the AP grading scale. ** The grade you earn in the class is not affected by your AP Test score	GRADING PERCENTAGES: Your grade will consist of the following: 45% Tests and Quizzes 25% Homework and Classwork 15% Projects 10% Participation
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Texts:

*We will be **2 textbooks: AMSCO/Perfection Learning** will be our primary textbook (on PowerSchool or Handouts) and the De Blij book (book you were issued), and other AP Human Geo. texts.

Palmer, David *Human Geography: Preparing for the Advanced Placement Examination*. Perfection Learning, Des Moines, IA, 2016 (AMSCO/Perfection Learning) [I strongly advise buying a copy. I will provide handouts in class.]

Fouberg, Murphy, de Blij, *Human Geography: People, Place and Culture*, 10th Edition. John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York, NY, 2012. [Issued to all students by the librarian]

Required Materials:

In class the student will need a 3-ring Binder, 7 sheet protectors or dividers, paper, highlighter, pen, pencil, red pen, and colored pencils.

For AP Exam review, I would suggest students invest in the AMSCO/Perfection learning review book, but there are also good books from Barron's, Prentice Hall, and other companies.

MAKE-UP WORK

It is **YOUR RESPONSIBILITY** to ask about and make-up all missed assignments, quizzes, and tests. Failure to complete make-up work will result in a failing grade. There are exceptional circumstances under which allowances may be made. They will be dealt with on an individual basis. It is my expectation that you will check **Haiku/Powerschool** prior to your return to class when you return to class so you will be aware of any missed assignments BEFORE you return to school.

LATE WORK AND GRADES

Assignments that are late will always be accepted, however 10% will be subtracted for each day an assignment is late. The highest grade you can receive after an assignment is 4 or more days late is a 50%. Exceptional circumstances will be dealt with on an individual basis. I do not accept any missing or make up work 1 week prior to the start of Finals Week (for both first and second semester). Plan accordingly. This is a college prep class and students must be responsible enough to meet deadlines.

*If a student's overall grade quarter grade is a 'D' or 'F' (64% or below) for the quarter, it is required that the student and parent/counselor meet with the teacher to discuss progress.

Students will need to make time to sit down with the teacher to discuss grades because there will not be time to discuss grades during class time.

ATTENDANCE POLICY AND TARDIES

Your attendance is important and expected. Truancies in this class will be handled in accordance with ELMO policy. Students are expected to be on time to all classes. Students who arrive late to class will be expected to have a tardy pass, a late pass, or a pass from a teacher or administrator.

Classroom Policies: Students are expected to respect other's opinions, boundaries and property.

Work Habits: It is my expectation that you will be on time, have required materials, stay on task, complete readings prior to classroom discussion and activities, participate in classroom activities, and come prepared for all quizzes and exams.

Academic Honesty/Attitude: Any sort of academic dishonesty, intentional or accidental, will not be accepted in my classroom. All forms of cheating, copying, or plagiarism will result in a zero, phone call home and possible referral depending on the severity. Poor behavior or attitude will be reflected in your participation grade.

Other Information

- The AP Exam will occur in May.
- This is a timed exam, it is a combination of multiple choice and essay questions.
- The exam will cover the entire textbook (1 semesters of study).
- College credit is possible if a high enough score is achieved on the exam. (A 3 or higher is passing.)
- There will be a significant review period prior to the national exam, this will involve independent study, starting two months prior to the national exam.
- There are lots of resources available for our AP Human Geography course to help you review and better understand the material being covered.
- Students are strongly encouraged and expected to take the AP Exam. It is a great opportunity—I speak from personal experience on this. (Ask Mrs. Karich)

What you need to know for the AP Exam:

Written by a committee of college and university professors, the AP exam is "final assessment" of the AP course and provides students with the opportunity to earn college credit. Exams are scored by college professors and AP teachers using scoring standards developed by the committee.

AP Exam Grades: The scores on the free-response questions are combined with the multiple-choice questions; the weighted raw scores are summed to give a composite score, which then is converted to a grade on AP's 5-point scale (3 and above are qualified and can be used toward college credit depending on the college/university's admission and graduation requirements).

AP Exam grades of 5 are equivalent to A grades in the corresponding college course. AP Exam grades of 4 are equivalent to grades of A-, B+, and B in college. AP Exam grades of 3 are equivalent to grades of B-, C+, and C in college.

**** The Instructor reserves the right to make any necessary adjustments to classroom policies and calendar, as issues may arise that require changes during the course of the semester.****

Helpful Reminders—How to be Successful in AP Human Geography

1. Use the Remind App, PowerSchool, and Google docs to keep up with assignments.
2. Read the book several times before the test.
3. Make flashcards on actual cards or utilize Quizlet to prepare for quizzes. You will also be responsible for studying maps. You may also want to use the iScore5app. (Optional--\$4.99 app to use before test.)
4. Write down all of your assignments in a planner or a calendar.
5. Keep track of quizzes and tests. Study nightly rather than at the last minute.
6. Come to class regularly and engage in class activities and discussion.
7. Review your notes regularly and make it a point to not simply just write facts down, but study them regularly.
8. Keep up with the news with the help of CNN 10 Videos and other news shows.
9. Don't just memorize definitions. Be able to apply vocabulary.
10. Visit the College Board website and utilize it for review and if you have any questions about the AP test.
11. Understand and practice writing FRQs so that you can write effectively come test time.
12. Realize that Mrs. Karich is there to make connections, answer questions, and to promote discussion, not to go over everything that is in the book or drill everything into your head. It is your job to study independently and add to your knowledge through participation in various class activities. You will be as successful in AP HUG (AP Human Geography) as you choose to be.

I am looking forward to a great year with all of my amazing AP HUG (AP Human Geography students). Let's get started.

