Course Description

AP Human Geography is a yearlong course that focuses on the distribution, process, and effects of human population on the planet. Units of study include cartography, population, migration, culture, ethnicities, language, religion, politics, economic development, industry, agriculture, services, and urban geography. Emphasis is placed on the geographic models and theories and their application. Case studies from around the globe are used to compare the situations in the United States, locally and worldwide.
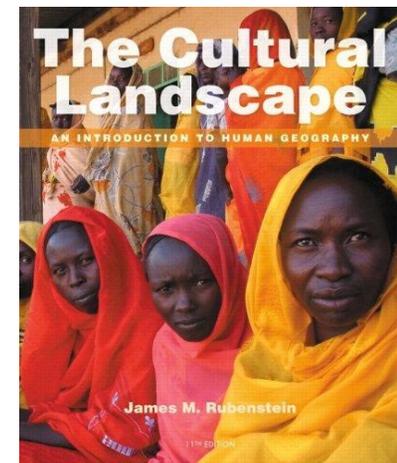
AP Human Geography

MSD of Pike Township

Andrew Snider

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Human Geography is an AP course that offers college credit if students receive at least a 3 out of 5 on the AP exam. It is an extremely interesting course that covers a broad range of topics. Students are given several supplemental resources such as colored pencils, composition notebooks and a workbook called Cracking the APHG Exam. The picture below is the cover of the text book for this course.

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Course Objectives

To introduce students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of the Earth's surface.

To learn about and employ the methods of geographers, especially including observations, mapmaking, data gathering and reporting, model implementation, and technical writing.

To employ spatial concepts, geographic vocabulary, and landscape interpretation to a variety of locations and situation around the globe and in local areas.

To develop a geographic perspective with which to view the landscape and understand current events.

Teaching Strategies

My course is structured around five main activities:

Discussion of key terms and concepts via lectures, study guides, and vocabulary assignments

Examination of case studies using the Kuby text, The Power of Place DVD's, and the Choices Program simulations

Practice of key geographical skills through examination of maps, newspaper articles, etc.

Practice of timed written expression via free-response questions

Analysis and/or implementation of geographic models including the Malthusian Theory, the Demographic Transition Model, Population Pyramids, the Gravity Model, Von Thunen's Isolated State Model, Weber's Least Cost Theory, the World Systems Theory, the Development Model, and the Urban Models (Central Place, Concentric Zone, Sector, Multiple-Nuclei, Galactic City, and the Latin American City model).

Course Grades:

40% Tests

25% Projects

35% Homework/Vocab