

What is AP Human Geography?

Do you know why Africa is 14 times larger than Greenland but looks so much smaller on a map?

Do you know why 106 baby boys are born on average for every 100 baby girls?

Do you know why most antibiotics in the US are given to farm animals, not to humans?



Successful AP Human Geography students:

- ✓ willing to do work outside of class, come prepared daily, ready to discuss with peers
- ✓ have time management and organization skills so that they are able to break long term assignments into smaller chunks
- ✓ are rarely a distraction in class and understand the value of appropriate behavior in the classroom
- ✓ enjoy travel and current events
- ✓ read at or above grade level--A good quick test is whether you know what most of these words mean: *political, economic, standard of living, per capita, embargo, tariff, and incentive*
- ✓ care about learning
- ✓ are attentive in class and willing to seek help from the teacher
- ✓ are rarely absent or tardy
- ✓ ready to work in a team environment

Evaluate yourself on each of these on a scale of 1-5. If you score less than a 3 on more than 2 of them, you need to reconsider taking this course. Come talk to Mrs. S or with one of your 8th grade teachers

Why should you take AP HuG instead of the regular Geography / World Cultures course?

- ☆ You learn about intriguing topics such as immigration, ethnicity, why economic conditions are vastly different around the world, the implications of climate change, and elements of popular and folk culture. AP HuG is a true social studies course.... But on a DEEPER level. There is very little history!
- ☆ It teaches you skills you'll need in college, such as note taking, time management, and how to learn independently.
- ☆ You can earn college credit if you score high enough on the AP exam.
- ☆ It **prepares you for additional advanced courses** and can help you stand out in college admissions.

Who should consider taking the regular Geography course instead of AP HuG?

- ☆ students who need the teacher to give them specific questions to answer in order to prepare for tests/quizzes
- ☆ students only taking an AP course for the grade and boost in overall GPA

What do we do in AP HuG?

- ➡ Units include population and migration; culture; economic geography; and political geography.
- ➡ Homework consists of reading and note taking (notes may be used on reading quizzes); map assignments; and short projects, including website design that demonstrates application of units throughout the year.
- ➡ Successful students spend a minimum of 3-4 hours a week on AP HuG assignments and understand that until the assigned reading is done, you should be telling mom that yes, you have homework!
- ➡ In class, we do short activities like the March Madness of Human Development, have small group discussions, and watch and discuss short videos. There is very little lecture. Students are expected to read outside of class and come to class with questions and ideas about the reading.

What is the summer assignment for this course?

There is not an official summer assignment. If you would like to preview the course, take a look at the [College Board quick course description](#).

Here are links to [Ted Talks](#) and [articles](#) that will help you set a foundation for entering the course.

[Seterra.com](#) offers a host of map quizzes which will be helpful as you enter the year (we do not spend time in class learning map locations - it will be necessary to have a working knowledge of where continents, countries, landforms, waterforms, and major capitals are in the world.)

So, while there is not an official summer assignment, you may want to look through these resources. When the year gets started, we move quickly and will enjoy the topics, activities, and events of the year.

PLEASE EMAIL ME AT ANY TIME IN THE SUMMER IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS.