

# AP Human Geography Syllabus 2014-2015

## Description:

The purpose of the AP Human Geography course is to introduce students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of the Earth's surface. Students employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine human social organization and its environmental consequences. They also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their science and practice.

## Course Objectives:

- Students will be able to develop strong reading skills, behave like community leaders, and be aware of social justice issues relevant to their communities.
- Students will be able to **communicate effectively** in writing and orally.
- Students will be able to **think critically** and develop inquiry skills for their future.
- Students will be able to meet or exceed the College Readiness Standards.

## Course Outline:

The course is organized thematically into seven units. Attention paid to each unit is correlated to the coverage it receives on the AP exam and student interest. *The AP Human Geography Exam will be given on Friday, May 15, 2015.*

The units are:

1. **Geography: Its Nature and Perspectives** 2 weeks, 5-10% exam  
*Reading: The Cultural Landscape, Chapter 1*
  - A. Defining human geography
  - B. Basic concepts of geography
  - C. Methods and skills of geography
2. **Population** 5 weeks, 13-17% exam  
*Reading: The Cultural Landscape, Chapters 2 & 3*
  - A. Population patterns
  - B. Patterns and regional variations in demographics
  - C. Population distribution: local, regional, and global
  - D. Migration
3. **Cultural Patterns and Processes** 6 weeks, 13-17% exam  
*Reading: The Cultural Landscape, Chapters 4, 5 & 6*
  - A. Folk and Popular Culture
  - B. Language
  - C. Religion
  - D. Ethnicity
4. **Political Organization of Space** 4 weeks, 13-17% exam  
*Reading: The Cultural Landscape, Chapters 7 & 8*
  - A. Nations and States
  - B. Contemporary Political Patterns
  - C. Cooperation and Conflict

**Semester 1 Exam  
21, 2015**

**Wednesday, January**

- 5. Agriculture and Rural Land Use** 4 weeks, 13-17% exam  
*Reading: The Cultural Landscape, Chapter 10*  
 A. *Rural Land Use*  
 B. *Land Use Models*  
 C. *Science and Agriculture*  
 D. *Environmental Issues*
- 6. Industrialization and Economic Development** 4 weeks, 13-17% exam  
*Reading: The Cultural Landscape, Chapters 9, 11, 12 & 14*  
 A. *Economic and Development Models*  
 B. *Levels of Development*  
 C. *Major Industrial Regions*  
 D. *Industrialization and quality of life*  
 E. *Global Economy*
- 7. Cities and Urban Land Use** 4 weeks, 13-17% exam  
*Reading: The Cultural Landscape, Chapters 12 & 13*  
 A. *Patterns of Urbanization*  
 B. *Models of Urban Location*  
 C. *Models of Cities*  
 D. *Megacities*  
 E. *Suburbs*

**Review and AP Exam** 3 weeks (MAY 18)

Enrichment Activities / Independent Study 3 weeks

**Assessments**

Tests will be challenging, multiple choice questions based on reading assignments and 1-2 free response essay questions. These will be typed, 5 paragraph essays based on a clear thesis statement. Homework assignments will be assigned regularly, usually textbook readings or newspaper stories. Students will be evaluated on points earned out of the total assigned.

**Attendance Policy**

Students who are frequently absent or tardy will have a difficult time achieving success in the classroom.

**Late Assignment Acceptance Policy**

**No late work will be accepted after the end of the current unit.** If a student misses the assigned due date for any assignment (including projects) they may still hand in the assignment for half credit until the determined end point of the current unit (as determined by the teacher-if you have a question, ask.) "Make-Ups" for unit tests or assessments must be made up outside of class on a date specified by the instructor. Arranging for make-up due to absence is the responsibility of the student and must be done within 1 week.

**How to Get Help**

If you are struggling in this class please let me know. I can help you in my free period during school or we can set up a time to meet after school.

**Materials Supplied by the Student**

Pen or Pencil  
 Binder to Store / Organize Handouts with dividers

**Student Responsibilities**

As a student, you are to ...

1. Attend class regularly and come on time.
2. Bring the necessary materials needed to participate in class.
3. Do homework nightly.
4. Maintain a class binder to organize handouts, assignments, and notes.
5. Participate in all class activities and attempt all assignments.
6. Complete all assignments that were missed due to absence from class.
7. **Ask for additional help when you need it.**

**Teacher Responsibilities**

As a teacher, I will...

1. Outline clear expectations prior to the start of projects and assignments.
2. Notify students of their academic progress on a regular basis.
3. Be available for conferences with students and parents.
4. Provide sufficient time and resources for students to complete assignments missed due to absences.
5. Arrange for additional educational support for students requesting it.

**Teacher Contact Information**

Email: [Humphre@lc-ps.org](mailto:Humphre@lc-ps.org)

Phone: (586) 493-5270, Ext. 2675

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By signing below, I acknowledge the responsibilities required for this course. The student, parent, and teacher agree to do everything within their power to make the student successful.

Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
           Print Name                      Sign Name

Parent: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
           Print Name                      Sign Name

\_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_\_\_  
           Telephone Number              E-mail Address

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
           Print Name                      Sign Name