

AP Human Geography



2019-2020

Instructor: Dalton Savage
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Planning Period: 6th Hour

Room: 302 FA
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Course Overview

AP Human Geography is a yearlong course aimed at mirroring the experience of a college level introductory course. The primary focus throughout this course will be to identify, interpret and explain the distribution processes and effects of human populations on Earth. This course has been developed in accordance to the course outline and curricular requirements found with the *AP Human Geography Course Description* published by the College Board. Our units of study will include the nature and perspectives of geography, population, migration, cultural patterns and processes, political organization of space, agricultural and food production, industrialization, and cities and urban land use.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, students will have developed the skills that enable them to:

- To learn about and employ the methods of geographers including the interpretation and creation of maps, observation skills, gathering and interpreting data, and technical writing.
- To understand and explain the changing spatial organization of the Earth's surface and how humans interact with it.
- To recognize and interpret the relationships among patterns and processes at different scales of analysis.
- To develop a geographic vocabulary to characterize and analyze the interconnections among places.
- To analyze evidence to support an argument through both written and oral expression
- To develop a geographic perspective with which to view the landscape and understand the world today through current events

AP Human Geography Test Information

The AP Human Geography exam consists of:

1. Multiple Choice Questions (60 Multiple Choice Questions, 50% of total exam score): Students will have 1 hour to complete this portion. Each question will have 5 choices.
2. 3 Free Response Questions (FRQs), (50% of total exam score): Students will have 75 minutes to answer these questions. FRQs take reflection time before you respond. FRQs also take a significant effort to write.

Students taking this class may be able to receive college credits for passing the test; however, as with all AP courses, each individual college and university makes the determination whether or not to accept the passing test score in lieu of college coursework. Colleges and universities do look carefully at transcripts. AP coursework and attempting to pass the test rank very high in admissions consideration at impacted and competitive institutions and programs. AP course grades are weighted to reflect a greater level of achievement in terms of GPA and rigor in coursework. More information and resources regarding the AP Human Geography Test can be found on the “AP Human Geography Home Page” on the College Board website. The 2020 AP Human Geography test will be given on Tuesday May 5, 2020. A mock exam will be given in April to give students an opportunity to practice taking the AP exam.

Class Supplies

The following materials are required:

- Textbook-
 - Rubenstein, James M. *The Cultural Landscape: An Introduction to Human Geography*. 11th ed. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall. 2014
 - De Blij, H.J., Erin H. Fouberg, and Alexander B. Murphy. *Human Geography: People Place and Culture*. 10th ed. New York: John Wiley & Sons, 2012.
- Chromebook- charged and ready to use each day in class
- 1.5-2 in. three-ring binder and dividers (students should divide their binder by the 7 Units we will study)
- Paper
- Headphones for use in class
- Highlighters
- Blue/Black pens
- Internet access at home or school (students may use the Memorial library)
- Note Cards

The following materials are optional:

- AP Human Geography exam test prep books (cost varies on Amazon) - These will be beneficial for students to use to review class content and prepare for the AP test.
- World map for students to include in their binder for reference

Additional Texts for reading and consultation

- Kuby, Michael, Patricia Gober, and John Harner. *Human Geography in Action*. 6th ed. New York: John Wiley & Sons, 2013.

Additional Resources:

- Current Newspapers/Magazines will also be used to illustrate course content and to provide specific case studies from the local, state, national, and regional and global levels. Those include: *The New York Times*, *The Guardian*, *The Washington Post*, *The Economist*, *TIME*, *Newsweek*, *BBC News*, and *National Geographic*.

Internet Resources:

- As prescribed by the teacher; examples include but not limited to
 - *Frontline* video series, *National Geographic*, *CIA Fact Book*, US Census Bureau, *Annenberg Video Series*, as well as others assigned by the instructor.

Requirements: Students are expected to:

- Keep one notebook in a three ring binder.
- Keep all of their materials organized in a chronological order by unit. This type of organization will make it much easier to prepare for class discussions, activities, tests and the final AP exam.
- Complete ALL assignments whether reading, writings, projects, demonstrations
- Read in their entirety ALL readings whether in the text, handouts, or documents will be read.
- Show RESPECT, exercise COURTESY to all members of the class at all times, and value and practice HONESTY

Class Policies

- Students are expected to be in their seats when the bell rings, working on the bellringer assignment. Tardies are not acceptable and will be handled according to the school's policies.
- Students may not bring food or drinks into the classroom, with the exception of bottled water.
- No hall passes will be given during the first ten minutes nor the last ten minutes of class.
- When a hall pass is given, students must sign in and out.
- If a student is absent from school, it is the STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY to ask what material or work was missed and to be completed.
 - If a student misses a reading quiz, it must be made up after school in my room within TWO days of the student's return. The majority of daily assignments and class activities will be posted on Canvas or the AP classroom platform. Reading quizzes, major writing assignments, tests and other large assignments MUST be made up in my classroom, under my supervision. Students should plan absences accordingly when possible and in the case of an unavoidable absence, students should plan to make-up major assignments in my classroom before or after school.
 - If a student misses a test, that test MUST be made up according to district guidelines in a timely manner, or the test grade will be a zero. Arrangements to make up tests need to be made prior to student absences, in the case of school activities and immediately upon student return, in the case of illness, family emergencies or unforeseen circumstances.
- Students are expected to be prepared for class with all necessary materials (notebooks, pencil or pen, text) and to turn in all written assignments ON TIME!!!! A 50% deduction will be taken after the first day an assignment is late. After 5 days, the grade will be a zero.
- Students are expected to read ALL material assigned - in other words be PREPARED for class.
- Students are expected to take notes during lecture/discussions.

- As students will have access to digital information using their Chromebooks, cell phones/smart watches are strictly prohibited during class. If a student uses their cell phone/smart watch without permission, or uses their Chromebook inappropriately during class could have their technology confiscated and sent to an administrator per board policy.
- Cheating is not tolerated, and any assignments, reading notes, quizzes, tests, or essays where a student is found to be cheating will result in an automatic 0. If a student is caught cheating more than once, a parent conference will be required. It is imperative that students do their own work and are completely focused on this course to ensure their success on the AP test.

I want all of us to be successful and enjoy the class and one another. I am looking forward to a productive and interactive year with each of you. I am thrilled and honored to have you in my class.

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Tardy Policy:

If you are not in the classroom when the bell rings you are considered tardy, The following procedures will be followed.

- After Third Tardy a phone call home will occur
- After Sixth Tardy a phone call home and you will be assigned detention
- After Ninth Tardy an office referral will given

Grading Policy - A Point System

All graded experiences will be given a numerical grade based on a point system. In order to arrive at an average, the student's total earned points will be divided by the total possible points that have been earned. There will be numerous grades per semester. These graded experiences will include but are not limited to: guided reading assignments, FRQs, quizzes, 7 major exams, debates, presentations, simulations, projects, etc.

Evaluation

Grading Scale

90-100 A

80-89 B

70-79- C

60-69 D

0-59 F

Tests and Projects 40%

Each Test will be worth 100 Points. Several of your exams will be comprised of both Multiple Choice and Essay. On these particular Tests the MC will be worth 100 Points and the Essay will be worth an additional 50 Points. There will be 3-4 Tests within each semester,

There will be 2 projects assigned each semester. These projects are worth 100 Points. More information will be given at a later date.

Quizzes: 20%

Typically a quiz will be administered 1-2 times a week to ensure that students are keeping up with text readings. Please note that quizzes may contain material that was covered previously in an effort to recall important information that may be on the AP Human Geography Exam.

Daily/Homework 20%

Free Response Questions- Daily Work

Miscellaneous Assignments- Daily Work

Miscellaneous assignments may include, but are not limited to, map work, timelines, assigned readings, notebook assignments, vocabulary cards, guided reading questions, debates, seminars, and class discussion

Semester Test 20%

AP Human Geography Calendar

Unit 1

August 19-
August 29- Test

Unit 2

September 4 -
October 2- Test

Unit 3

October 4-
November 5- Test

Unit 4

November 7-
December 12- Test

Unit 5

January 7
February 4- Test

Unit 6

February 6
March 5-Test

Unit 7

March 9
April 9- Test

Review

April 13-May 4

AP Test- May 5
Start @ Noon

A Special Note to Parents

I am very excited about the new school year and want each parent to know that I am only an email or phone call away.

I strongly believe that education is a "family affair". Therefore, it is always helpful when there is interest at home in student activity and progress in the class. Inquire often what your son or daughter is talking about or studying in AP Human Geography. Remember that in this college level, students can count on having homework nearly every day.

- It is important to read the syllabus. Here is where you find information on class policies, units of study, the AP course, class expectations, etc.
- College Board Web Site: www.collegeboard.com. Here you can find information about AP credit, other AP offerings, and information about the exam.
- AP Human Geography covers only the last 50 years, but the class is not just about content knowledge, it is also about crucial skills needed to pass the AP exam. You will be hearing a LOT about essays and essay writing.
- Workload can be overwhelming at times – parent support is important.
- We have discussed how to take notes from reading in class. It is important that students do their nightly reading assignments free from distractions (no texting, listening to music, television, etc.).
- I highly recommend your student purchase a review guide for the exam.
- Remember your child must pass the class as it is required for graduation. There are no “drops” from an AP class. Please have your student see me early if they are having issues with the class.
- This class will be rigorous and challenging, but it will also be fun.

It is my wish that each student will be successful, but I can only work from one end. Students and parents must take responsibility on their end as well. If we work together, success is assured. Please feel free to write a note or letter telling me about any special things that I should know about your son or daughter.

Study sessions for the AP exam in May will begin after we return from spring break in April. All students are encouraged to attend.

Conferences and Study Sessions

I will be available for individual parent conferences upon request. Students and parents are requested to make an appointment with the instructor in advance of the date they wish extra help or conference. I can be reached by email at dalton.savage@edmondschools.net Email is my communication of choice.

Please sign below and return so that I am aware that you have read this syllabus as well as the schedule for the course. It is a good idea for you to know where your child keeps the syllabus and unit schedule so that you may refer to it if there is an absence, or if you have questions throughout the year.

I am looking forward to an enriching and exciting year.

THANKS SO MUCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT! AND LET'S WORK TOGETHER SO THAT EVERYONE WILL RECEIVE A SCORE OF 3 OR BETTER ON THE AP EXAM IN MAY!

Dalton Savage

Parents and students, please sign and return this page by Friday, August 23rd.

I have read the AP Human Geography syllabus on Canvas in its entirety and understand the requirements of this course.

Student Name:

Student Signature:

Parent/Guardian Signature:

Parent/Guardian Email Address(es):

Parents, please indicate below if there is anything else you would like for me to know about your student.