**AP Human Geography [APHUG] Student Syllabus – Mr. Kolodinski**

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**Primary textbook:** The Cultural Landscape, 11th [AP] ed. By Rubenstein, Pearson Pub., 2014

**Course Overview:** AP Human Geography is a yearlong course that focuses on the distribution, processes, and effects of human populations on the Earth. Topics of study include spatial analysis of population, migration, culture, language, religion, ethnicity, political geography, economic development, industry, agriculture, and urban geography. Geographic models and their applications are explored. Case studies from around the world are compared to the situation in both the United States and California. Students will be prepared to take the AP exam as scheduled during the month May.

The course is taught as a seminar, which means that students are to be actively engaged in the learning process by completing ALL assigned readings prior to class and fully participating during class activities. The information presented in this course is a reflection of the AP Human Geography Course Description created by the College Board, which goes beyond the textbook’s Table of Contents. See [www.apcentral.collegeboard.org](http://www.apcentral.collegeboard.org) for more information.

**Course Goals:** By the end of the course, students should be more geo-literate, more engaged in contemporary global events, more multicultural in their viewpoint, and more aware of their role in global citizenship and environmental stewardship. In order to accomplish these goals students will:

* Conduct a systematic study of the processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of the Earth’s surface
* Learn about and employ the methods of geographers, including: mapmaking / collection, representation and interpretation of spatial data; landscape interpretation and appreciation; and academic communication in both oral and written form.
* Apply spatial concepts, geographic vocabulary, and landscape interpretation to a variety of locations and situations both around the globe and locally. Special attention will be given to working with local data, local examples, and local stories with comparisons when possible.

**Classroom Activities:** AP level activities will include instruction and practice in the following:

* Reading, understanding, and interpreting maps
* Analyzing and interpreting graphic data; e.g. charts, graphs, diagrams
* Reading, analyzing, and responding to written material; e.g. news articles, websites, primary sources
* Mapping, interpreting, and responding to spatial data sets
* Analyzing and interpreting landscape via direct observation of local phenomena, photographs of more distant locations, aerial photographs, and satellite imagery
* Understanding the history, application, and limitations of major geographic models
* Using academic language and vocabulary in both oral and written form

**Assignments & Grading:** Final Grade is based on the following four criteria

1. Required assignments (homework and classwork) = 25%

2. Multiple Choice Assessments (tests and quizzes) = 25%

3. Written Assessments (formal free response questions) = 25%

4. Diligence, Effort and Active Participation = 25%

**Planned Reading Schedule for The Cultural Landscape (textbook) and AP Exam prep:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Timeframe | Textbook Chapters | College Board Topics |
| Q1 | Chapter 1: This is Geography  Appendix: Map Scale and Projections | Geography: Its Nature and Perspectives |
|  | Chapter 2: Population and Health  Chapter 3: Migration | Population and Migration |
| Q2 | Chapter 4: Folk and Popular Culture  Chapter 5: Languages  Chapter 6: Religion | Cultural Patterns and Processes |
| Q3 | Chapter 7: Ethnicity  Chapter 8: Political Geography  Chapter 10: Food and Agriculture  Chapter 9: Economic Development | Political Organization of Space  Agriculture and Land Use  Economic Development |
| Q4 | Chapter 11: Industry and Manufacturing  Chapter 12: Urban Services and Settlement  Chapter 13: Urban Patterns | Industrialization  Cities and Urban Land Use |
|  | Review for AP Exam [TBA] | Practice Analysis Skills,  Multiple Choice and Free Response Writing |
| May 14 | AP Human Geography Exam | All of the above |

**Earning Your Grade:**

Once graded, assignment value points / percentages will be converted to a 40 point scale and entered into the grade record as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Proficiency Level | Grade Range | Grade Entry |
| Advanced | A range | 3.6 – 4.0 |
| Strong | B range | 3.0 – 3.5 |
| Basic | C range | 2.0 – 2.9 |
| Developing | D range | 1.0 – 1.9 |
| Not Proficient | F range | 0.0 – 0.9 |

**Supplemental Readings:** Students will read and process articles from a variety of relevant publications, newspapers, and websites to supplement their textbook.