

A.P. Human Geography

Introduction: Geography is everything and everything is geography.

AP Human Geography is a highly structured, very demanding college-level course. Students are required not only to thoroughly read the college-level text, but also to augment this material through research and reading of supplemental material. One of the primary objectives of this course is to expose students to all areas of information covered on the AP Examination in the spring. Thus it is imperative that a high-level academic environment exist and that the student is dedicated to learning, is highly motivated, and is willing to put forth both in and outside of the classroom the time and effort required for a course of this intensity. The format of the class is based largely on lecture/discussion presentations and the students will be required to take part in the class discussions. Students should remember that the grade earned for successful completion of this course is weighted, thus quality work is expected for all assignments and exams.

Textbook:

Rubenstein, James M. *An Introduction to Human Geography: The Cultural Landscape*. 12th ed. Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, 2015.

Course of study:

- I. Geography: Its Nature and Perspectives
- II. Human Population / Movement and Migration
- III. Cultural Patterns and Processes
- IV. Political Geography
- V. Agricultural and Rural Land Use
- VI. Industrialization and Economic Development
- VII. Cities and Urban Land Use
- VIII. Environmental study (JC Unit)

*(Unit sequence may be different than above)

Attendance: Students committing to the AP Program need to make EVERY effort to attend ALL classes; missing a day is much like missing a week of a regular course.

Homework: Expect nightly reading assignments. TAKE THESE SERIOUSLY! You will be lost during the lectures and discussions if you do a poor job of reading or do not do the reading at all. You will also fail the DAILY quiz that is based upon the previous night's reading. Some of the reading will take time as it is written at a college level and relates to matters you are not likely familiar with.

- **ALL** work **must** be completed for this class. There is no allowance for late work. Every assignment **will be** completed – grades will be given based upon the quality of work and its relationship to the due date.

Other Important Stuff: You need access to a computer and the Internet. Email is a great method of communication and I like to use it. You need to read a newspaper every day (you should read the *Casa Grand Dispatch* for local news but I am referring to you reading a paper like the *Arizona Republic*, *Wall Street Journal*, *USA Today* – something with national and international news. *Using an online news source is fine – use several of them*

Vocabulary: Each unit has a specific set of vocabulary words that you must learn. Each unit has a timed vocabulary quiz valued at ~40 points.

Exams: Each unit has an exam. The exam is comprised of 40-50 multiple choice type questions and 1-3 free response questions. You will learn how to craft appropriate responses and you will learn the proper format for writing free response answers that is best suited to success on the AP Exam in May.

IF you miss a class: You are responsible for submitting all work for this class – if you miss a day, you are still required to submit work that was due. **If you miss a reading quiz you are required to submit a copy of your written outline upon your return to class.** Avoid missing exam days. IF you know in advance that you will miss a day you should do the work in advance – this included tests and vocab quizzes. Do NOT make a habit of missing class.

Cheating / Plagiarism: Cheating on ANY assignment or task will result in a Zero, a referral, and dismissal from the AP class. All work should be original to you. The College Board takes cheating very seriously and so does CGUHS.

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Office hours: M-Th 7:45am – 8:00am
(or by appointment)

Unit 1 Geography: Its Nature and Perspectives

Topics: How do geographers describe where things are and why they are there?

Purpose of maps

Issue of projection

Issue of scale – to be applied throughout the semester – different scales tell different stories

Location, site, and situation

Regions – types (formal, functional, vernacular)

Culture defined and applied to geography

Globalization as a geographic concept – examples presented

Supplemental Reading:

True Maps, False Impressions: Making and Interpreting Maps

Kuby – ch. 1

Unit 2: Human Population / Movement and Migration

Topics: Population concentrations – where are the people on earth

Concepts of CBR, CDR, NIR

Demographic Transition Model – stages and examples

Population Pyramids – Web exploration: <http://www.census.gov/ipc/www/idbpyr.html>

Overpopulation examined: Malthus analyzed

Migration – why do people move? Push / Pull factors

Migration patterns and population shifts in history

Issues of illegal immigration, quotas, brain drain, refugees

Attitudes toward immigrants and immigration

Supplemental Reading:

Newton's First Law of Migration: The Gravity Model

Kuby ch. 4

One Billion and Counting: the Hidden Momentum of Population Growth in India *Kuby ch. 5*

Unit 3: Cultural Patterns and Processes

Topics: Cultural geography introduced

Folk vs. Pop Geography – definitions and terminology

The Amish examined

The geography of food

Folk regions, folklore regions, folk medicine, folk housing / architecture

Folk ecology

The threat popular culture represents to folk culture

Globalization of popular culture

Images / maps / examples of folk and pop culture examined

The geography of language

Diffusion of language, language families, language distribution, language trees

The geography of religion

Distribution and diffusion of religion

Origin of religions (special emphasis on: Christianity, Islam, Buddhism, and Hinduism)

Holy places

Religious organization of territory and space

Religious conflict (special emphasis on Middle East)

Ethnicity

Distributions of Ethnicities

Race vs. Ethnicity

“Separate but equal,” White Flight, Apartheid

Nationalism

Ethnic clashes – regional to global

Ethnic cleansing

Supplemental Reading:

Layers of Tradition: Culture Regions at Different Scales

Kuby ch. 2

Unit 4: Political Geography

Topics: The concept of the “state”

Problems of defining states – special emphasis on Korea, China and Taiwan, Israel

Colonialism and imperialism

Centripetal and centrifugal forces

Supernationalism - Devolution

Shapes of states / boundaries examined

Electoral geography – gerrymandering

Nationalism

International Organizations: UN, OPEC, NATO, EU

Civil War

Terrorism – “stateless” enemies

Supplemental Reading:

Do Orange and Green Clash? Residential Segregation in Northern Ireland

Kuby ch. 12

Breaking Up is Hard to Do: Nations, States, and Nation-States

Kuby ch. 13

Unit 5 + 7: Agriculture and Rural Land Use + Urban Geography

Topics: Where did Agriculture originate? How has it evolved?

Identify agricultural hearths and regions

Relationship of farming to other businesses

Subsistence vs. commercial agriculture

Mixed crop / livestock farming / ranching

Environmental factors / land management

Access to markets

Von Thünen's Model

Food supply issues – case study: Africa-a food supply crisis

Public service

Services in rural settlements

Rural settlement patterns

Central Place Theory

Location as a concept of the market

Rank-size rule

Primate cities

World cities: ancient → modern

Downtowns

Central Business District

Retail service

Land cost – rent issues

Rise of suburban businesses

Urbanization

Social differences between urban and rural settlements

City (central city)

Metropolitan statistical area

Concentric zone model / Sector model / Multiple nuclei model

US cities vs. European cities

Inner-city issues: redlining, urban renewal, public housing, homeless, poverty, crime

Suburbs

Peripheral model

Density gradient

Sprawl

Culture of the car / commuter societies

Supplemental Reading:

Food for thought: The Globalization of Agriculture

Kuby ch. 8

Take Me Out to the Ball Game: Market Areas and the Urban Hierarchy

Kuby ch. 9

Reading the Urban Landscape: Census Data and Field Observation

Kuby ch. 10

Unit 6: Industrialization and Economic Development

Topics: Economic indicators of development

MDC vs. LDC

GDP

The geography of gender as it relates to economic development

Globalization – technology issues and the quest for economic power

Development through self-sufficiency

International Trade: Rostow's development model examined

Maquiladoras in Mexico

Distribution of Industry (case study: US Manufacturing)

Site and Situation factors as related to location of factories

Labor

Supplemental Reading:

Rags and Riches: The Dimensions of Development

Kuby ch. 7

Unit 8: Patterns and Processes of Environmental Change

Topics: Managing resources

Protecting the environment

Pollution: air, water, land

Fuel dependency

Politics of oil

Nuclear energy

Solar energy

Global warming

Conservation issues

Supplemental Reading:

Preserving the Planet: Human Impact on Environmental Systems

Kuby ch. 14