AP Human Geography

Mr. Schnee (E-108)

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Class Canvas page: <https://ucps.instructure.com/courses/192755>

(From apcentral.collegeboard.org): AP Human Geography introduces students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use and alteration of 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. According to surveys of comparable curricula at four-year colleges and universities, it is **equivalent to a one-semester introductory college course**.

**Students successfully completing the course will:**

* Use and think about maps and spatial data
* Understand and interpret the implications of associations among phenomena
* Recognize and interpret at different scales the relationships among patterns and processes
* Define regions and evaluate the regionalization process
* Characterize and analyze changing interconnections among places

**Course objectives**

* To guide you through a systematic study of the patterns and processes that have developed human understanding, use, and adaptations of the earth’s surface.
* To learn and use the spatial concepts we develop, to interpret a variety of locations on the local, national and international levels using geographic terminology.
* To develop a geographic perspective through which we can view geography and current events.

**Textbook**

The principle resource we will draw from is ***The Cultural Landscape - An Introduction to Human Geography*** by James M. Rubenstein – ***Twelfth Edition***, Pearson 2017.

***This book is available online (you will receive the class code a.s.a.p.) AND as a hard copy. You will be given the option to have a hard copy to keep for the semester OR just use the online version.***

**Absences:**

We will follow the WHS and Union County policies in regards to absences. In our class, you are responsible for the work you have missed due to an absence. Plan to turn in all work that was due on the day missed at the time you return and prepare to ask the teacher for the work that was missed. It is your responsibility to get your make up work to and from your teacher in a timely manner.

**Grading:**

Points are earned by performance on various assignments, projects, quizzes, and tests. Your final grade will be calculated by the total amount of points earned divided by the total points possible. Grades will consist of participation *in class* ***and*** *online*, quizzes, tests, homework (reading assignments and outlines), and various classwork. In addition, you will take the UCPS Common Assessments for American History throughout the year, and of course, the AP Exam in May.

**Grading Scale:**

A 100-90

B 89-80

C 79-70

D 69-60

F Below 60

Please keep in mind that I do not curve grades on tests, quizzes, assignments, or exams.

**Online Interaction:**

Canvas will be the primary platform for this class. Daily streaming of the class will be through the link found on the Canvas page under “Today’s Class” every day. It is expected that you interact through Canvas on a regular basis in order to stay up to date and have the most success possible in this class. Be respectful of each other. Follow proper etiquette online similar to how you would treat others and want to be treated in-person. *We will collectively become more accustomed to this style of learning and engaging as we go, so please do the best you can to be patient and kind toward one another (including me).*

**Plagiarism:**

I take plagiarism very seriously in my class. Please refer to your Academic Honor Code for plagiarism policies. Be reminded that whether you give your work to someone else to copy, or are copying from someone, both parties will be charged with plagiarism. Penalties for plagiarism in this course strictly follow WHS policy. Most written work will be done in class, but other assignments may be turned in on turnitin.com. If you are not familiar with the site, please take time to look at it before turning in your first online assignment.

## **Exam Format**

### Section I

**Multiple Choice** — 75 Questions | 1 Hour | 50% of Exam Score

* Define, explain, and apply geographic concepts
* Interpret geographic data

### Section II

**Free Response** — 3 Questions | 1 Hour, 15 Minutes | 50% of Exam Score

Questions may require that students:

* Synthesize different topical areas
* Analyze and evaluate geographical concepts
* Supply appropriately selected and well-explained real-world examples to illustrate geographic concepts
* Interpret verbal descriptions, maps, graphs, photographs, and/or diagrams
* Formulate responses in narrative form

***Exam Day: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 @12pm***

*May the fourth be with you on this day….*

**----------------------INFORMATION SPECIFIC TO MR. SCHNEE’S CLASS:-----------------------**

**Regular Classroom Procedures:**

1. **Homework:** Every 4-5 school days, we will study one new chapter of the textbook. In order to actively participate in class, you need to keep up with your reading. There will also be other complementary readings to read and assignments assigned and potentially other digital resources digitally resourced. Some weeks, outline notes for the text will be required. Other weeks, comprehension questions, essay prompts, or discussion points will be offered as homework assignments. These will be checked regularly and collected on the days of tests. Furthermore, you will be assigned AP Classroom Progress Checks for each unit of study approximately every 2 weeks. These will count as a participation and homework grade, not necessarily for correctness.
2. **DAILY warm ups:** These will be at the start of every class and will consist of some discussion, questions relating to previous or upcoming content in class, or free-response prompts/test practice.
3. If you wish to use the restroom, get some water, or leave the room for any reason, you must try your best to go before or after class. In the event you absolutely *have* to go during class, wait for an appropriate time to ask, then go and return as efficiently as possible. ***Follow the arrows in the hallways to travel.***
4. Cell Phones. I would love for you to have it with you at all times and trust that you won’t be distracted by it; however, I have noticed an overwhelming majority of people over the years struggle, either in this class, on the exam, or both when they are consistently using their phones during meaningful classroom time. So, you ***will keep your phones AWAY in your bags for the entire class***.

**\*\*\*More procedures will be added as we go throughout the semester, but the above are for everyday reference and adherence.**

**MAKE-UP WORK**

It is ***YOUR RESPONSIBILITY*** to ask about and make-up all missed assignments, quizzes, and tests. Failure to complete make-up work will result in a failing grade. There are exceptional circumstances under which allowances may be made. They will be dealt with on an individual basis. Please check with Mr. Schnee when you return to class after each absence. Bottom line: you are responsible for all work related to this class.

**LATE WORK**

Assignments that are late will always be accepted, however 10% will be subtracted for each day an assignment is late. The highest grade you can receive after an assignment is 5 or more days late is a 50%. Exceptional circumstances will be dealt with on an individual basis. I do not accept any missing or make up work 1 week prior to the start of Finals Week (for both first and second semester). Plan accordingly. This is a college prep class, with that being said, students must be responsible enough to meet deadlines.

**Class Rules:**

1. Be Prepared – have all necessary materials for the day out when the bell rings, work from bell to bell, and do all necessary work for the class
2. Be Engaged – hold your head up with your neck, phones and headphones away, only work on my class’s work, and eyes ears and minds focused.
3. Be Mindful of Others – respectfully share your opinions and respect others’, think before you speak
4. Be Hungry (a.k.a.: No Food…just keeping with the “Be” theme) – it is distracting, messy, and could trigger allergic reactions.

**\*\*\*School Rules: We will follow all school and district rules that have been laid out for you in your student handbook.\*\*\***

**Technology Use:**

1. Chromebooks/Computers are ONLY to be used when directed to research a topic or complete other **class-related** work
2. Phones: (see “Regular Classroom Procedures”, number 4)
3. Since this class is 100% online, it is understood that you will be using technology most/all of the time. The main goal is to make sure it is being used for this class in a respectful and purposeful manner.

**Supplies:**

**Tutoring**

**Is available every FRIDAY until 3:00pm and after school as requested (most likely virtually at this point).**

1. Pens & pencils
2. Colored pencils
3. Highlighters
4. A notebook (composition is sturdiest, but spiral notebooks are OK too).
5. A binder and/or folders to keep pertinent materials for class in.

**Parent “Signature”:**

*Parents/Guardians, please* ***send me an email containing your contact information*** (Michael.schnee@ucps.k12.nc.us) and any other information you think I should know to help your student in my class*. I will use your email as confirmation that you have read this syllabus and I will give your child credit for completing this assignment. If you need anything, please feel free to email, call, or schedule a visit.*

*Structure of the curriculum:*

***Weeks 1-9: Cultural Geography***

**I. This is Geography – Chapter 1**

A.) Key Issues

1.) How do geographers describe where things are?

2.) Why is each point on Earth unique?

3.) Why are different places similar?

4.) Why are some human actions not sustainable?

**II. Population & Health – Chapter 2**

A.) Key Issues

1.) Where is the world’s population distributed?

2.) Where has the world’s population increased?

3.) Why is population increasing at different rates in different countries?

4.) Why do some regions face health threats?

**III. Migration – Chapter 3**

A.) Key Issues

1.) Where are migrants distributed?

2.) Where do people migrate within a country?

3.) Why do people migrate?

4.) Why do migrants face obstacles?

**IV. Folk and Popular Culture – Chapter 4**

A.) Key Issues

1.) Where are folk and popular leisure activities distributed?

2.) Where are folk and popular material culture distributed?

3.) Why is access to folk and popular culture unequal?

4.) Why do folk and popular culture face sustainability challenges?

**V. Languages – Chapter 5**

A.) Key Issues

1.) Why are languages distributed?

2.) Why is English related to other languages?

3.) Why do individual languages vary among places?

4.) Why do people preserve local languages?

**VI. Religions – Chapter 6**

A.) Key Issues

1.) Where are religions distributed?

2.) Why do religions have different distributions?

3.) Why do religions organize space in distinctive patterns?

4.) Why do territorial conflicts arise among religious groups?

**VII. Ethnicities – Chapter 7**

A.) Key Issues

1.) Where are ethnicities distributed?

2.) Why do ethnicities have distinctive distributions?

3.) Why do conflicts arise among ethnicities?

4.) Why do ethnicities engage in ethnic cleansing and genocide?

**VIII. Political Geography – Chapter 8**

A.) Key Issues

1.) Where are states distributed?

2.) Why are nation-states difficult to create?

3.) Why boundaries cause problems?

4.) Why do states cooperate and compete with each other?

**IX. Food & Agriculture – Chapter 9**

A.) Key Issues

1.) Why does development vary among countries?

2.) Why does development vary by gender?

3.) Why are energy resources important for development?

4.) Why do countries face obstacles to development?

***Weeks 10-14: Political/Economic Geography***

**I. Development – Chapter 10**

A.) Key Issues

1.) Where did agriculture originate?

2.) Why do people consume different foods?

3.) Where is agriculture distributed?

4.) Why do farmers face economic difficulties?

**II. Industry & Energy – Chapter 11**

A.) Key Issues

1.) Where is industry distributed?

2.) Why are situation and site factors important?

3.) Why does industry cause pollution?

4.) Why are situation and site factors changing?

**III. Services & Settlements – Chapter 12**

A.) Key Issues

1.) Where are services distributed?

2.) Where are consumer services distributed?

3.) Where are business services distributed?

4.) Why do services cluster in settlements?

**IV. Urban patterns – Chapter 13**

A.) Key Issues

1.) Why do services cluster downtown?

2.) Where are people distributed within urban areas?

3.) Why are urban areas expanding?

4.) Why do suburbs have distinctive problems?

**V. Careers in geography / conclusion**

**VI. Review for AP Exam**

* Expect Homework daily
* Expect a quiz multiple times per week and a test every week or two.
* Tests, Quizzes, Classwork, Homework, and Projects are all graded based on POINTS, not weights. Each 6-week term counts as 25% of your final grade.