AP Human Geography



Boca Ciega High School

Ms. Darbois

darboisn@pcsb.org

Welcome to Advanced Placement Human Geography! This is an advanced placement class and I will treat you as a student planning to excel in college. Study skills and writing assignments included in this class will prepare you for future high school and college courses. Please be sure to read the entire syllabus, as this will affect the rest of the school year.

#### Course Description

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

#### Goals

On successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

* *Use and think about maps and spatial data sets.* Geography is fundamentally concerned with the ways in which patterns on Earth’s surface reflect and influence physical and human processes. As such, maps and spatial data are fundamental to the discipline and learning to use and think about them is critical to geographic literacy.
* *Understand and interpret the implications of associations among phenomena in places.* Geography looks at the world from a spatial perspective—seeking to understand the changing spatial organization and material character of Earth’s surface.
* *Recognize and interpret at different scales the relationships among patterns and processes.* Geographical analysis requires a sensitivity to scale—not just as a spatial category but as a framework for understanding how events and processes at different scales influence one another.
* *Define regions and evaluate the regionalization process.* Geography is concerned not simply with describing patterns but with analyzing how they came about and what they mean. Students will see regions as objects of analysis and exploration and move beyond simply locating and describing regions to considering how and why they come into being—and what they reveal about the changing character of the world in which we live.
* *Characterize and analyze changing interconnections among places.* At the heart of a geographical perspective is a concern with the ways in which events and processes operating in one place can influence those operating at other places. Students will better understand that relationships among places are constantly changing, and they will understand how and why change occurs.

Teaching Strategies

The class will be comprised of lecture, group activities, videos, and projects. The class text will be supplemented with articles from various sources to help students make connections to the material. The Rubenstein textbook will be the primary source for students however; there will be extensive use of other textbooks to supplement vocabulary.

## Topics Covered

We will cover a lot of interesting information in this course. The aim of this AP course is to provide students with a learning experience equivalent to that obtained in most college introductory Human Geography classes. Content in this course is focused on input and problem solving activities and fieldwork. Content will be geared for development of critical thinking skills. Human Geography has many allied fields to which it is related. Allied fields to be included in this course are: political science, demography, anthropology, sociology, history, psychology, economics, regional economics, language, religious studies, urban social science, and urban planning. Reading strategies, study skills, map skills, analytical strategies, time management, note taking, test-taking strategies, and current events will all be covered in this course.

This course will be divided into **seven units**. They include:

* Unit 1: Thinking Geographically
* Unit 2: Population and Migration Patterns and Processes
* Unit 3: Cultural Patterns and Processes
* Unit 4: Political Patterns and Processes
* Unit 5: Agriculture and Rural Land-Use Patterns and Processes
* Unit 6: Cities and Urban Land-Use Patterns and Processes
* Unit 7: Industrial and Economic Development Patterns and Processes

**Materials:**

**Required Text:**

1. Rubenstein, James M. ***The Cultural Landscape: An Introduction to Human Geography: Eleventh Edition***. New Jersey: Pearson. 2014
2. **AMSCO Advanced Placement« Human Geography Student Edition Softcover** Advanced Placement Human Geography, 2020 Edition: Click [Perfection Learning Website](https://www.perfectionlearning.com/social-studies/advanced-placement/human-geography-ap-exam-prep.html) to purchase your own copy of the 2020 AMSCO book

**Required Supplies:**

* 1 black/white composition notebooks – for FRQs
* 5” spiral notebook for taking notes
* At least 2 different color highlighters
* Pens and Pencils
* Markers
* Colored pencils
* Glue stick
* Bring your laptop with you when I tell you to

**Grades Grading Scale**

**FRQs** 35% A+ 90-100

Focused Notes/Vocab 30% A 80-89

Tests/Quizzes 35% B 74-79

 C 70-73

 F 0-69

## I will only discuss grades by appointment after school or during lunch. Appointment only. Class time is for instruction. If you think a mistake has been made in averaging your grade, email me to request a time to meet and we can discuss your grade. DO NOT message me on FOCUS.

## DISTRICT AP FINAL EXAM POLICY

* *Students are required to take the first semester exam for AP, IB or AICE courses. An AP, IB or AICE exam will be taken in lieu of a teacher developed final (semester 2) exam in those designated courses.  In such case, the student must still attend his or her regular subject area classes for structured activities and/or projects until the end of the grading period.*

*In the event that the student does not sit for the AP, IB, or AICE exams accompanying the coursework during the school year, a final exam grade of zero (0) will be entered.  For AP, IB, or AICE exams administered after the last day of the school year, final grade for the course will be determined within one day of the exam date.*

**EXPECTATIONS – CLASS WORK**

* **ASSIGNMENTS** - Assignments this semester will include a variety of reading, handouts, projects, journals, presentations, scrapbooks, papers, portfolios, map skills, and study skills. All assignments are expected to be turned in on time and complete. To receive full credit for an assignment, it must be complete, written in **blue/black ink or standard pencil** (no colored pens or pencils for written assignments – keep those for maps), legible, neat, organized, and turned in on time.
* **LATE WORK** – ***I do NOT accept late*** ***work*** unless the student and I have discussed the reasons as to why an assignment might be late prior to the due date. It is still at my discretion whether or not I allow an assignment to be late or not.
* **MAKE-UP WORK** - Please see the student handbook regarding make-up work.
	+ **It is your responsibility to obtain any work missed**.
	+ **IF YOU ARE PRESENT DURING ANY PART OF THE SCHOOL DAY, YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR TURNING IN ANY ASSIGNMENTS THAT ARE DUE BEFORE YOU LEAVE SCHOOL. (This includes projects and papers. All assignments means ALL assignments!)**
	+ **IF YOU ARE ABSENT DURING CLASS, BUT PRESENT DURING ANY OTHER PART OF THE SCHOOL DAY YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR COLLECTING MISSED ASSIGNMENTS!**
* **CHEATING** - will not be tolerated. Copying any type of work is considered cheating, even if it is only homework. Cheating will result in a grade of zero and an administrative referral. Bottom-line – don’t cheat!
* **PLAGIARISM** - is a form of cheating. Plagiarism is defined as using or passing off the ideas or writings of another as one’s own. Plagiarism will also result in a grade of zero and an administrative referral.

**EXPECTATIONS - BEHAVIOR**

* **LANGUAGE/RESPECT** – Language that is derogatory or could be construed as slander or intolerant of others, WILL NOT be accepted in class. We will be learning about and discussing topics related to race, ethnicity, religion, and social issues. We must learn how to be open-minded to ideas presented in this class and respectful of ideas that are different or foreign to our own. This is how we become educated, tolerant, compassionate human beings. Neither will language that is crude or unacceptable in a school setting.
* **RESPONSIBILITY** – You are responsible for yourself and your materials. Do not place blame on others when you are not prepared. Make sure that you come to class every day with the required materials and assigned work.
* **ON TIME** – Tardies disrupt the class; therefore it is in the best interest of the class that every student is on time to class. Please read your student handbook (agenda) so that you are knowledgeable on the school’s tardy policy. **Along with the school’s policy, students will have 10 points deducted from their participation grade for each tardy.**
* **ATTENTIVE** - While students are in class it is expected that they be actively listening to what is being presented, whether it is coming from the teacher, another student, guest speaker, or video.
	+ If during a presentation your pencil breaks or you need to blow your nose, wait for a break in the presentation and then complete your task. Do not get up in the middle of presentations to sharpen pencils, get tissue, etc… Come prepared – have an extra pencil, if your nose is runny have tissue at your desk, use the restroom before class.
* **RESPECT** - Students are expected to respect those around them (this includes teachers, peers, and staff), other’s possessions, and school property.
* **SAFETY** – Students are expected to behave in a manner that is not a hazard to others. Throwing items, leaning back in chairs, rough housing, etc… are not appropriate behavior for the class.
* **FOOD/DRINK** – Students are encouraged to bring a clear water bottle to class. All other food and drinks need to be consumed in the student center before coming to class. If you have a medical condition that requires you to have food or a special drink, the nurse will inform me and I will speak to you individually so that we can set up a plan that works best to maintain your health.
* **DRESS** – Students are expected to read the student handbook regarding dress code. Please do not come to class with a hat or inappropriate clothing. It’s not something that bothers me, it’s just a school/district rule so please, let’s follow it.
* **BATHROOM** – Students are required to use common sense when they need to use the bathroom. They are to take the bathroom pass, use the bathroom, and return promptly. Students should not use the bathroom when I am lecturing, during a class presentation, or take 10 minutes unless there is an emergency.
* **ELECTRONIC DEVICES –**
	+ Cell Phones – Due to the large disruption that cell phones have caused students will be required at the beginning of each class to turn off/silence their cell phones and place them in their backpack. I’m serious. I don’t want to see them out. You may, with my permission, use your phone at appropriate times. I will let you know when the time is appropriate.

Contact Information

* You or your parents are welcomed to contact me via email.
	+ Ms. Darbois – darboisn@pcsb.org
* You may also set up a conference during the week but please email me to organize a convenient time.

*Please click your appropriate Block to complete and sign the Google form, acknowledging you have read the syllabus and AP Course Acknowledgment below*

* [Period 3](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/15pmIQaiAxauA13JmpT2BIu7mzYsCEzlNbzNHzzi3n5k/edit?usp=sharing)
* [Period 5](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1ZCKGTQnYdgGa3r58xVw4g1o6IYYBrjqXuifY6ou48oI/edit?usp=sharing)
* [Period 6](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1Mkpgrho_Tjjx1kXQkZnBLnLFZNRp8DfABe9zza5n-NM/edit?usp=sharing)
* [Period 7](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1_fsMM9ByjuEhQVQP_-i9naenBJmrJY1OJ8ss880m8t8/edit?usp=sharing)
* [Period 8](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1dVkrDTstme5ZX6kmpBnv8hQJwyw-JVneid_uY-g5Wlo/edit?usp=sharing)



Student Signature: Student Name:

Parent Signature: Date: