Course Introduction

This course in AP Human Geography is designed to explore the impact of people on the physical landscape of the world and how they leave evidence of that impact in the form of the cultural landscape that we see throughout history and in the present. Included in this course are examinations of such topics as to include the basic terms and concepts related to Geography, as well as Population, Migration, Culture, Language, Religion, Ethnicity, Political, Economic and Resource Geography. Units will be organized following the guidelines of the textbook that is provided to students for this class. The course will culminate in the College Board AP Exam, given in May of each school year, with an additional final exam given in class based on the material examined throughout the year that will count for the student's final grade.

Course Materials

Student Textbook

Fellmann, Jerome E. <u>Human Geography: Landscapes of Human Activities</u>. 9th ed. New York City, NY. McGraw – Hill 2007

Supplementary Texts/Materials/Resources

Rubenstein, James M. <u>The Cultural Landscape: An Introduction to Human Geography</u>. 10th Edition Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall. 2010

De Blij, H.J., Alexander B. Murphy, and Erin H. Fouberg. <u>Human Geography: People, Place and Culture</u>. 8th ed. Hoboken, New Jersey: John Wiley & Sons. 2007.

<u>The Power of Place: Geography in the 21st Century</u>. Burlington, Vermont: Annenberg Media Corp. 2003.

Edmodo Online Class room site – Distribution of class notes, maps, charts, diagrams and images related to topics discussed throughout the course.

Course Organization

Students in this course will meet for a full school year, utilizing a combination of a six-period school day (60min. for each period). Students are responsible for maintaining a record of all of their assignments in a style of their choice (electronic, three-ring binder, spiral bound notebook), and each unit will be maintained in its own section. Elements of the notebook include any and all of the following; in-class assignments, vocabulary terms and quizzes, take-home assignments and projects, chapter/topic outlines, tests and any other additional handouts or student notes. Most of the information used will be found in the Unit packets that students will receive at the beginning of each unit of study. Each unit will be broken down according to the chapter divisions of the text that is provided to the student. The course is set up with six, six-week long units. Units will vary in the number of chapters addressed and will culminate with a Unit test. Unit tests will be broken into two pieces; a Multiple Choice test consisting of at least 50 questions and at least one Free Response Question. Tests and FRQs will be given during 60 minute, with students limited to 25 minutes to respond to the FRQ prompt given. Some units may also include additional projects and out-of-class assignments designed to allow the students to examine how the principles covered in class can apply to their lives, and as references for specific historical examples of the topics addressed in class.

General Information:

- Best way to contact me: harrelin@fultonschools.org
- Students will be responsible for copying homework, quizzes, tests, projects, and important
 deadlines into their agendas on a regular basis. Students will also receive a monthly calendar of
 upcoming major assignments, activities, and due dates.
- With ample notice, I am available most mornings to help students from 7:45-8:30 and after school by appointment only. Email or see me to set up a time in advance.

<u>Class Policies</u>: The instructor, the students and their parents will abide by the rules and procedures in the student-teacher-parent handbook. General classroom rules include:

- All major assignments submitted for grading must be typed or completed in blue/ black ink is required.
- <u>All materials</u> (pen, binder, notebook and <u>textbook</u>) must be brought to class daily. Students will not be allowed to return to their lockers for such items. The teacher will not be responsible for work not completed due to student's failure to bring materials.
- Students' binders must be kept specifically for this class and must be kept up-to-date, containing all completed work, including handouts and notes.
- Students will be expected to take notes during class. Information delivered via lecture, discussion, or group activities are fair game for quizzes and other forms of assessment. The student is responsible for taking these notes and for obtaining information missed due to
- Students will be required to submit work on the due date. Late work will be accepted 1 day after the due date and is counted 30% off. Any days after that the grade will start at 50%.
- Self-discipline and good manners are expected; therefore, students are expected to be attentive, polite, and participatory. Student behavior must contribute positively to the learning environment of the classroom at all times and be respectful of class discussions.

<u>Absences/Make-up Work</u>: *It is the student's responsibility to complete all work within the prescribed time.* The following rules will be strictly enforced. Please refer to the Student/Parent Handbook for a complete description of the policy.

- Late homework will be accepted only in the case of an excused absence.
- If you are in the building but miss class for any reason (TAG, special event, etc.), you must turn in any assigned work that day or it will be subjected to late penalties. If you miss a quiz or test under these circumstances, you should be prepared to take it the next class period.
- Missed assignments due to <u>unexcused</u> absences (other than homework) will be accepted with a
 penalty of ten points per day late. The maximum score attainable for work made up due to an
 unexcused absence is 75%.
- Missed tests, quizzes, or presentations that were assigned before the student was absent will
 be due the day the student returns to school. Assignments that were not known will be due
 according to Fulton County policy one day's grace for each day absent. Failure to make up the
 work according to these rules will result in a grade of zero.
- Work missed due to an <u>excused</u> absence will have the same number of days absent to make up the work. No penalties will be imposed as long as the work is made up in the timeframe outlined here. As stated above, missed tests, quizzes, or presentations that were assigned before the student was absent will be due the day the student returns to school. Assignments that were not known will be due according to Fulton County policy one day's grace for each day absent. Failure to make up the work according to these rules will result in penalties.
- The instructor will NOT remind the student of work (including papers or tests) that needs to be made up. It is the sole responsibility of the student to ask for make-up work and to provide late or missing work to the instructor.
- NOTE: In the event a student is absent on the day of a test or other major assessment, it will be
 at the teacher's discretion to offer an alternative assessment in order to insure the integrity
 and fairness of graded work throughout the course.

<u>Tardy to Class</u>: Students are expected to be in their seats and prepared for class instruction when the bell rings. See student handbook for policy regarding consequences for excessive tardies.

<u>Video Viewing Guidelines</u>: Within the curriculum there is the opportunity for teachers to incorporate different forms of technology into the classroom. One of these forms of technology is showing clips of related movies or related movies in their entirety. Any video rated PG-13 or above will have prior

approval of administration. If you have any concerns about video viewing, please indicate that concern to the teacher via email.

Grading Scale and Weighting:

<u>NOTE</u>: Per Fulton County policy, 7 honors points will be awarded to the students' average on the <u>final report card</u> of the semester, not on progress reports. These points will be awarded <u>ONLY</u> if the student is passing the course with a 70 or above. If you have questions about weighted vs unweighted grades, please see your counselor.

A=100-90 B=89-80 C=79-70 F=69-0

- o 50% Major Assessments: Tests and FRQ's
- o 20% Quizzes
- o 15% Projects and Classwork
- o 15% Final Exam (1st Semester); Final Work (2nd Semester)

<u>Northview Recovery Procedure</u>: Opportunities designed to allow students to recover from a low or failing cumulative grade will be allowed when all work required to date has been completed and the student has demonstrated a legitimate effort to meet all course requirements including attendance. Students should contact the teacher concerning recovery opportunities. Teachers are expected to establish a reasonable time period for recovery work to be completed during the semester. All recovery work must be directly related to course objectives and must be completed ten school days prior to the end of the semester. Teachers will determine when and how students with extenuating circumstances may improve their grades.

Honor Code: As explained in the student handbook, cheating is defined as "the giving or receiving, in any form, information relating to a gradable experience." Violations of the honor code will result in a zero for the assignment, plus an honor code violation form placed in the student's disciplinary file. Read the Student/Parent handbook carefully to fully understand what constitutes a violation.

Upon teacher request, students may be required to email essays, research papers, or other written work to turnitin.com. The website checks the submission for plagiarism, provides a receipt for the student to give to the teacher, and reports to the teacher that the student's work was not copied from any source. Students will be trained on the use of turnitin.com in the first week of school. Students who do not have email access at home may use the computers in the media center.

Plagiarism is an Honor Code Violation: Acts of plagiarism can include, but are not limited to:

- using words or ideas from a published source or the internet without proper permission;
- using the work of another student (e.g., copying another student's homework, composition, or project in entirety or in part)
- using excessive editing suggestions of another student, teacher, parent, or paid author.

Unless noted by the teacher <u>ALL</u> work completed for this course is considered <u>individual</u>. Copying other students' work (HW, CW, tests, etc) and working on assignments (inside or outside of class) with other students will be considered as a violation of the honor code. Plagiarism on any project or paper at Northview High School will result in a zero for the assignment and an Honor Code Violation Report. Unless directly stipulated by the teacher, collaboration on written work is not acceptable. Students who willingly provide other students with access to their coursework or homework are also in violation of the Honor Code.

<u>REMINDERS OF CLASS POLICIES:</u> In order for us to be successful this year in our preparation for the AP Exam it is imperative that we adhere to the following rules. As these are the most commonly broken rules and problems that students face in this class, I want to reiterate...

- Getting to class on time each day
- Having all materials needed for class: book, binder, pen, spiral notebook
- Writing in PEN
- <u>Turning in all assignments on time! This includes homework, essays, projects, etc. DO NOT get</u> in the habit of turning in work late!!
 - o In the event of a major assignment (i.e. paper, project, etc) you need to make sure you turn it in on the day it is due, even if you are absent. In the case of long-term assignments all work is due on the assigned date regardless of field trips, excused absences, etc. You may send work in with a friend or drop it by the front office, but make sure you are responsible for turning in all work on the day it is due.
- Keep up with your calendar!!! You never know when we may have a "surprise" homework check or quiz. It doesn't matter if you are absent (sick, field trip, whatever) you are expected to keep up with the calendar and participate in whatever assignment we are doing in class. There should be no excuses like "I was sick yesterday and didn't read" or "I was on ______ field trip and didn't bring my book". You have your calendar in advance and can always read ahead.

Learn to Read More Effectively: You can read more effectively by doing the following:

Read actively; don't just look at the words. If you spend a half-hour "reading", but are unable to recall anything when you are done, you have wasted your time. Pause to self-check for understanding after each page. Do not ignore pictures, diagrams, tables and sidebars in your textbook. These features serve to make the text more interesting and may include important information. Take notes as you read. If you can condense a 30-page chapter to a few pages of good notes, it is going to be much easier to review.

Course Outline

Each Unit will last for roughly six weeks. Units will culminate in a Unit test (Multiple Choice and FRQ). Units will vary in the number of textbook and supplemental text chapters addressed.

Unit One - Basic Concepts

Textbook Chapter 1 – Introduction: Some Background Basics

Unit Two -Human Interaction and Population

Textbook Chapters 3 (Spatial Interaction and Spatial Behavior) and 4 (Population: World Patterns, Regional Trend)

Unit Three - Culture and Identity

Textbook Chapters 2 (Roots and Meaning of Culture), 5 (Language & Religion), 6 (Ethnic Geography) and 7 (Folk & Popular Culture)

Unit Four - Economic Geography

Textbook Chapters 8 (Economy: Primary Activates), 9 (Economy: Secondary & Tertiary) and 10 (Patterns of Development and Change)

Unit Five - Agriculture (Rural Land Use), Industry and Services (Intro to Urban Land Use)

Textbook Chapters 10 (Agriculture), 11 (Industry) and 12 (Services)

Unit Six - Cities and Urban Land Use

Textbook Chapters 11 (Urban Systems and Urban Structures) and 12 (The Political Order of Space)

During the final few weeks prior to the AP Exam, time will be dedicated to a comprehensive review for the exam, including taking practice exams and writing FRQs. The weeks following the AP Exam will be dedicated to preparing for the Final Exam given as the last element of students' in class grades.