

## **AP® Human Geography Syllabus**

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. We will also complete writing assignments to prepare you to take the AP Human Geography test in May. There are seven main units of study: Nature & Perspective, Population/Migration, Agriculture & Rural Land Use, Cities & Urban Land Use, Industrialization & Development, Political Geography, and Culture.

### **I. Classroom Policies and Procedures**

#### **A. Materials**

1. 3-ring binder (2-3" recommended)
2. 1 spiral note book
3. a blue or black ink pen **AT ALL TIMES, I WILL NOT PROVIDE WRITING UTENSILS**
4. a #2 pencil for major tests, **I WILL NOT PROVIDE PENCILS FOR TESTS**
5. 3x5 cards for flashcards
6. A Human Geography Review book – semester 2

Optional materials but highly recommended

7. Highlighter tape
8. Iscore5 App on android and IOS

#### **B. Grading Policy**

##### **1. CATEGORIES & WEIGHTS:**

- i. Tests – 50% (Multiple choice, Writings, Major assignments)
- ii. Projects – 20% (interviews, PowerPoints, presentations etc.)
- iii. Daily grade – 15% (class assignments, daily quizzes, etc.)
- iv. Homework – 15% (SQ3Rs, Cornel notes, reading guides, map journals, etc.)

##### **2. LATE WORK POLICY**

- i. It is the student's responsibility to obtain any missing work, including from absences, from their classmates or the teacher. Please do this before or after school.
- ii. In the event that a student has misplaced an assignment, extra copies will only be given out as long as they are available (teacher doesn't make extra copies just because a student lost theirs). **They will also be available through the website**
- iii. If absent, missing work is due within 5 school days of the student's return for full credit. Work not turned in by this date will result in a grade reduction of 20% of grade earned.
- iv. Work will be accepted up to 5 days after IPRs have been released. IPRs are released every 3 weeks.

##### **3. Homework**

- i. **THERE WILL ALWAYS BE HOMEWORK.**
- ii. Students will be expected to complete all homework outside of class. This will include, but is not limited to, reading the AP Human textbook, articles, projects, study groups, etc. **Not completing homework will seriously impact a student's grade.**
- iii. Homework is due the following class period, quiz at the beginning of class over it.
- iv. If you are absent, please see late work policy.

4. MAKE UP TESTS/ Test Re-TAKES/ DAILY GRADE RE-DO

- i. Make-up tests must be taken within 5 days after the absence. Make-up tests will be given in tutorials by making an appointment with the teacher. Failure to make up the test within the given time frame will result in a ZERO given.
- ii. If you make a 69 or below, you are entitled to a re-teach opportunity by completing test corrections during tutorial hours. Please see your teacher for details.
- iii. Re-Tests will be given under the following criteria:
  1. All homework for test must be completed.
  2. Student must attend tutorials for a re-teach opportunity.
  3. Re-test tests will be given in tutorials by making an appointment with the teacher
  4. Re-tests MAY be in a different format than original test
- iv. Students can redo a failing daily grade assignment but may be subject to reteach work prior to the correction opportunity. The second attempt can be recorded up to a 70 and must be completed within 5 class days of receiving the original grade.

C. Expectations

1. Be prompt, be prepared, be polite, be productive, be positive
2. Each student in my class is expected to work hard, try their best and aim high. Every student is capable of high-quality work. I expect every student to comply with the school and classroom rules and policies. I will not tolerate any student disrupting their or another student's learning environment.
  - i. Misbehavior will result in the following consequences:
    1. First Offense: Verbal Warning
    2. Second Offense: Student-Teacher Conference before/after school
    3. Third Offense: Contact Parents
    4. Fourth Offense: Detention
    5. Fifth Offense: ReferralConsequences may be skipped based on severity of behavior

D. Privileges

1. Cell Phones - Cell phones are permitted in class for educational purposes at the TEACHERS discretion. If allowed by teacher, cell phones can be used to look up information to answer questions, or help with in class research. This is a privilege and will not be granted unless the class is behaving extremely well. If I find you are abusing your phones I will take them away in accordance with school policy.
2. Food and Drink - Food and drink are NOT allowed in class. Any food or drink brought into the classroom will be thrown in the trash. See-through water bottles with a lid containing water are the only exception.

E. Contact Information:

1. Email is the easiest way to get a hold of me: [alan.cardon@pfisd.net](mailto:alan.cardon@pfisd.net)
2. Tutorial Hours: Wednesday 4:20-5:25 and Thursday 4:20-5:25 (Late Bus provided T-Th)
3. Go to our website! [cardongeography.com](http://cardongeography.com)
4. Remind: Text (@chsaday) (@chsbday) 81010 to receive text message alerts
5. School Phone #: Use this only as a last resort. 512-594-1014

Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome to Advanced Placement Human Geography! For some of you, AP Human Geography is your first experience in AP. Because of this, I wanted to provide a little background on the class and how I work.

AP classes are college level classes offered in high school. Students will take a comprehensive exam in May and have the opportunity to earn college credit throughout their high school career. This is not an easy class; in fact it will probably be the most difficult class your child has taken to date. However, I will do everything in my power to make it as pain-free as possible.

For many of your students, you will see quiz and test grades much lower than you are used to seeing. This is quite common and nothing to be concerned about. While we have trained ourselves to think a 50 is an F, in reality, it is common at the AP level. My class is structured in such a manner that if your child does all their homework, takes advantage of extra credit opportunities, and participates in class, it is quite easy to earn an A, even if they have low test scores. **However, completing work, on time, is essential.**

We will be covering controversial and often disturbing information as part of the AP curriculum. I make every attempt to make the material age-appropriate and unbiased, while making sure your student has the necessary information. Also, I make every attempt to provide multiple viewpoints when discussing certain topics. For example, we will look at illegal immigration as a positive, something that is required for our economy but the next day we will explore the negative issues surrounding illegal immigration.

I will be showing a number of documentaries and videos in class that are rated PG, PG-13 and NR – not rated. I screen all of the videos to eliminate anything that is inappropriate, but please be aware that we will often be studying other cultures that have different standards than we do. Please sign the attached permission form so that your child can watch these videos.

In order for your child to be successful, it is important that you and I have an open relationship. If you ever have a question, comment or concern or just want to let me know what is going on in your child's life, please feel free to contact me. The best way is via email, as there is not a phone in my classroom. I try to get back to everyone within 24 hours, even if it is to tell you I got your email and am looking into the situation.

I have very high expectations of my students. Students are expected to come to class on time and prepared everyday with both materials (a writing utensil and notebook) and assignments completed. I also expect my students to actively participate in class and make the most of their time in class. In order to maintain an academic focus, I require that students follow behavioral expectations. These include, but are not limited to, arriving to class on time, listening and remaining quiet when the teacher is speaking, not using electronic devices or eating in the classroom, and refraining from showing disrespect to others.

Please take this opportunity, once again, to view the Course Syllabus sheet. Students are expected to keep up with the assignments and projects that are assigned in and outside of class and you are welcome to make a copy for yourself in order to monitor your child's assignments.

After reviewing the information, please provide me with your contact information and sign below indicating you and your child understand the requirements for this course. I would like your child to return this page to me. Thank you for your time and support and please do not hesitate to call or e-mail me at any time. My contact information is provided above in the letterhead.

I look forward to getting to know you and your child this school year! Thank you.

### Copy to Keep

#### Definition of Plagiarism

- a. The unattributed use of another person's work- including that of another student- constitutes plagiarism, which is cheating. If you are using another person's words, they must be placed in quotation marks. If you are paraphrasing another person's ideas, your source must be cited. Whether deliberate or not (due, perhaps, to inadequate note-taking), plagiarism is an extremely serious violation of the John B. Connally and Pflugerville Independent School District rules. It is also a violation for any student to act as an accessory to the plagiarism.
- b. **Cutting and pasting material off the Internet without acknowledgement constitutes plagiarism. It is of course no less serious to steal ideas and words from this source than from any other, and such a violation of the rules will be treated accordingly.**
- c. The use of a paper or essay from an internet term paper site constitutes plagiarism.

#### Definition of Unauthorized Aid

It is not permissible in this class to turn in work that has, in any form, been submitted in another class. This includes, but is not limited to, homework, essays or parts of essays. If you cheat by breaking this rule, then you will receive a zero for the assignment, be required to attend a parent conference to confess your sins and be sent to the principal's office with a referral, and may be further penalized by exclusion from academic organizations such as National Honor's Society.

In this class, unauthorized aid would also include but not be limited to the following: allowing another student to copy your work, the use of papers from previous years, and the use of textbooks or notes during exams without prior approval. If there is any doubt in your mind, ask the teacher; ignorance will not be accepted as an excuse.

## To Be Turned Back into the Teacher

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### Please read and sign the following.

I have read and understood the policies of this class relating to plagiarism and unauthorized aid, and I agree neither to plagiarize nor to use unauthorized aid.

Print Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

I acknowledge that I have read and reviewed with my parents/guardians the above AP Human Geography syllabus and agree to abide by the rules and procedures stated in those pages.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ I prefer to be called \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

We have received information about the requirements for this course outlined above and in the separate syllabus. Should you need to contact me/us about my/our child in AP Human Geography, you can reach me/us by:

Parent/Guardian(s) Name(s):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Work phone #s: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone #s: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone #s: \_\_\_\_\_

Email addresses:

\_\_\_\_\_

I am comfortable speaking English. Please circle one: Yes No

If not English, my preferred language is: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(Parent or Guardian signature)