

# AP Human Geography Course Syllabus

Instructor: L. Gould  
Room 315

Email: Lisa.gould@browardschools.com  
Phone: 754-321-2000 Ext 3055

## Course Description

- “The purpose of the AP 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 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” ([www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)).

## Course Goals

*"Education is what survives when what has been learned has been forgotten."*  
~B. F. Skinner

- Students will become familiar with the seven key concepts of human geography: Location, Space, Place, Scale, Pattern, Region, and Interconnection.
- Students will analyze the effects of change over time, diffusion, and location on the various geographical themes.
- Students will learn and use extensive geographical terminology.
- Specifically, students will identify the effects of globalization on the seven key themes of human geography.
- Students will recognize the variations amongst scale and the effects had on patterns and data.
- Students will create, use, and interpret maps and spatial data sets.
- Students will become familiar with specific nations and larger regions and the effects on and interconnection with the larger world.
- Students will be prepared to, and are strongly encouraged, to take the AP Human Geography examination with the goal of achieving a score of three, four, or five in an effort to earn college credit.
- **The examination date is Friday, May 12, 2016**

## Instructional Units

- APHG will be broken into seven main instructional units and students will complete the following activities to reinforce the unit principles.
  - Geography, Its Nature and Perspective AND Globalization (5-10%)
  - Political Organization of Space (13-17%)
  - Population and Migration: Locally and Globally (13-17%)
  - Agriculture and Rural Land Use (13-17%)
  - Industrialization and Economic Development (13-17%)
  - Cities and Urban Land Use (13-17%)
  - Cultural Patterns and Processes (13-17%)

## AP Human Geography Examination Information

- Test Format: The test is broken into two sections, each worth 50% towards the student's total score. The exam lasts approximately 2 and ¼ hours (135 minutes). The first section is a Multiple Choice section consisting of 75 questions; students will receive 60 minutes to complete this section. The second consists of three Free Response Questions (Essays). All questions must be answered and students will

receive 75 minutes to complete this portion of the exam. The student can earn a score of 1-5 on the exam, though the student should aim to achieve a 3, 4, or 5 if he wishes to receive college credit for the course.

	% of Grade	Number of Questions	Minutes Allotted
<b>Section I</b>	50	75	60
<b>Section II</b>	50	3 Essays	75

### Assessment

*“Your grades are a reflection of your effort. They are earned, not given.”*

As a student of APHG, you will be expected to engage in numerous activities and assessment methods throughout the course of the semester. Full participation and completion of each activity will be necessary to ensure success in this class. **Grades are based on a total point system.** Grades are broken into the following categories within this grading system:

- Quizzes/Tests
- Homework
- Projects
- Debates
- Participation (Effort **and** Attitude)
- Final Exam

### Classroom Guidelines

1. **Take responsibility for your own learning and your own actions.**
2. Be in class, prepared with all required materials, and ready to work once the bell has rung.
3. **Follow directions** the first time they are given and do not interrupt when someone else is speaking.
4. **Be respectful** of teacher and fellow peers at all times.
5. No food, drink, or gum will be permitted in the classroom. Keep cell phones in your bag or pocket.
6. **Learning is a cooperative process.** Please plan on participating regularly and please stay on task as to not disrupt personal learning and the learning environment of fellow classmates. Please remember that a portion of the final grade is dependent upon frequent participation in class.
7. Students are not permitted to complete work for another class during APHG class time. If you are found doing so, the work will be taken, destroyed, and contact will be made with the other teacher.

### Attendance

Regular attendance is expected and necessary to be successful in this class. Please remember a portion of your grade is based on participation. Please note that all assignments missed as result of an UNEXCUSED absences will be marked ‘0’ and will not be allowed to be made up. Please see the student handbook for further guidelines on attendance expectations.

### Tardiness

Tardiness is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Students are expected to be in class and seated when the bell rings at the end of the passing period. Frequent tardiness will result in a drop in one’s participation grade.

### **Homework Policy**

- **The quality of one's homework is a direct reflection of one's care and commitment for the course. Please remember to always turn in your very best work.**
- Please have all homework completed and ready to hand in when the teacher requests it. If it is not handed in/an excuse is given you will receive a grade of '0'
- No homework will be accepted that is sloppy, has scratch outs, is torn, or is on frayed paper. You will receive a reduction in your grade if you fail to follow this guideline.
- Save all homework unless otherwise noted by the teacher.

### **Late Policy**

Please have homework ready to hand in when teacher asks for it. This requires the student to pay attention to directions and have homework completed on time. If homework is not handed in and/or an excuse is provided, it will automatically be marked late.

- **Late work will not be accepted.**
- If you miss a class period due to illness or an excused absence, it is **your** responsibility to contact the teacher for missing work.

### **Test/Quiz Policy**

- All tests will be announced ahead of time allowing students ample time to review, prepare, and seek assistance if necessary. If you miss a quiz/test due to extenuating circumstances or illness please contact the instructor to arrange a time either before or after school to make it up. Students must make up tests within **three (3) days** or a grade of zero will be assigned.
- The teacher reserves the right to conduct pop quizzes.

### **Plagiarism/Cheating**

- Plagiarism and/or cheating of any kind is considered a most serious offense. Should a student be found guilty of plagiarism or cheating, the student will receive an immediate '0' for the assignment. In addition, the student will be referred to the administration to address this violation of the school's academic code.
  - Should a student not understand something he should not copy another person's work. Rather he should ask the teacher for assistance.
  - Please use the APA format unless otherwise noted.

### **Required Course Materials**

- *The Culture Landscape (10th edition)*, 2011), James M. Rubenstein
- An Atlas (Some will be made available in class, however it is recommended each student has his own for homework use). Check out *Goode's World Atlas*.
- School issued assignment notebook
- A notebook, binder (with dividers), and a writing utensil.

### **Supplementary Resources (These will make your life a lot easier, I promise!)**

- [http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/ap/sub\\_humangeo.html?human\\_geo](http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/ap/sub_humangeo.html?human_geo) (College Board Website-linked to APHG homepage)
  - This is the APHG College Board website. It will tell you anything you

need to know about the course and the exam, as well as offer study tips and sample test questions/previous AP exam questions (Specifically FRQs). Bookmark this page ASAP and refer back to it on a regular basis.

- <http://bcs.wiley.com/hebcs/Books?action=index&itemId=0471679518&bcsId=3139> (Text book companion)
  - This is the companion website to your text book. Also bookmark this website ASAP as it offers a number of resources to help you review material and study for tests.
- <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/index.html>
  - This is an excellent website to procure information regarding any state that exists. It touches on everything from economy to population to climate. You will be using this site on occasion throughout the semester.
- <http://www.census.gov/> (US Census Bureau)
  - This is one of the most important resources we will use this semester. In other words, know it, use it, love it, and bookmark it because we will be referring to this quite frequently.
- [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/saff/main.html? lang=en](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/saff/main.html?lang=en) (Census Fact Finder)
  - This is one of the most important resources we will use this semester. In other words, know it, use it, love it, and bookmark it because we will be referring to this quite frequently.
- <http://www.census.gov/ipc/www/idbnew.html> (International Data Base)
  - Very useful when we get to age/sex pyramids. This site will also provide you with an insane amount of statistical information on most countries throughout the world.
- <http://www.utexas.edu/depts/grg/sanders/GRG305/glossary.htm> (Online glossary)
  - An online glossary that provides a detailed explanation for many of the required terms we will be covering this semester.
- <file:///Volumes/AP%20Human%20Geog%2007/AP%20Human%20Geography/APHG%20CD/General/Links/Human%20Geography.htm> (HG Links Page)
  - Offers a variety of links on any and every key theme and topic we will be covering this semester. Great for research and supplementary material

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I UNDERSTAND AND HAVE READ THE COURSE SYLLABUS. Due by 8/25/16.

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

I UNDERSTAND AND HAVE READ THE COURSE SYLLABUS WITH MY CHILD.

Parent/Guardian's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_