

**AP Human Geography**  
Course Syllabus (**Magnet**)

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Advanced Placement & College Board:

The Advanced Placement Program® is a cooperative educational endeavor between secondary schools and colleges and universities. Since its inception in 1955, the Program has provided motivated high school students with the opportunity to take college-level courses in a high school setting. Students who participate in the Program not only gain college-level skills, but in many cases they also earn college credit while they are still in high school. (College Board, AP Central)

AP Human Geography Course:

In May 2001, 3,272 trail-blazing students took the very first exam in AP Human Geography. The exam covers a one-semester introductory college course in human geography. The exam is conducted as follows:

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

*Course Goals:*

- *use and think about maps and spatial data.* Geography is fundamentally concerned with the ways in which patterns on Earth's surface reflect and influence physical and human processes.
- *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. (AP Human Geography Course Description)

*Course Outline (w/percentages on exam):*

1. Geography: Its Nature and Perspectives (5-10%)
2. Population (13-17%)
3. Cultural Patterns and Processes (13-17%)
4. Political Organization of Space (13-17%)
5. Agricultural and Rural Land Use (13-17%)
6. Industrial and Economic Development (13-17%)
7. Cities and Urban Land Use (13-17%) (AP Human Geography Course Description)

*Course Materials:*

Text – *The Cultural Landscape: An Introduction to Human Geography*, by James M. Rubenstein (9<sup>th</sup> ed., 2007)

Text – *Human Geography: Landscapes of Human Activities*, by Jerome D. Fellmann (6<sup>th</sup> ed., 2001)

Supplemental Workbook – *Human Geography In Action*, by Michael Kuby (2007)

Articles – *Annual Editions: Geography 22<sup>nd</sup> Edition*, edited by Gerald R. Pitzl (2007)

Video series – *The Power of Place: Geography for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, Annenberg Media (Cambridge Studios, 2003)

Atlas – *The Atlas of World Geography*, Rand McNally (1997)

#### Websites –

1. Teacher's Blog,  
[http://northcobbhs.blogs.com/auld/ap\\_human\\_geography/index.html](http://northcobbhs.blogs.com/auld/ap_human_geography/index.html)
2. Rubenstein Companion Website,  
[http://glencoe.mheducation.com/sites/0002222010/student\\_view0/chapter1/multiple\\_choice\\_quiz.html](http://glencoe.mheducation.com/sites/0002222010/student_view0/chapter1/multiple_choice_quiz.html)
3. Human Geography in Action Student Companion Website  
<http://bcs.wiley.com/he-bcs/Books?action=index&itemId=1118422570&bcsId=8089>
4. Power of Place Video Streaming/Program Descriptions  
<http://www.learner.org/resources/series180.html#>
5. AP Central – Human Geography  
[http://collegeboard.com/student/testing/ap/sub\\_humangeo.html?humangeo](http://collegeboard.com/student/testing/ap/sub_humangeo.html?humangeo)

#### *Necessary Supplies:*

- ✓ Dedicated section in binder (minimum 1 ½ inches) – Students should be prepared to organize their notebook by unit to include vocab lists, lecture notes, in-class activities, and supplemental readings.
- ✓ **Index cards/holder (for vocabulary each unit) BY SECOND WEEK**
- ✓ **Review Book (Kaplan's, Barron's, Princeton Review, 5 Steps to a 5) BY 2<sup>nd</sup> WEEK**
- ✓ Colored Pencils, ink pens (more than one color), and pencils – These are necessary for the completion of various maps, note-taking, and test-taking (Grademaster & free response).
- ✓ Notebook paper (college-ruled/lined) – Students will be engaged in note-taking for at least part of every class meeting.
- ✓ **Computer/printer access** – While having this access at home is most beneficial, students without it are required to find alternative avenues. Websites above, especially the teacher's blog will need to be visited almost, if not, daily. Suggestions: media center (before/after school or during lunch), friend/neighbor's house, teacher's classroom (before/after school – clear time with teacher beforehand).

#### *Classroom Policies & Procedures*

1. Daily attendance. Please do not schedule appointments of any kind that will keep you absent from class during our meeting time. We are attempting to complete an entire college-equivalent course in one high school semester. With block scheduling, absences could prove extremely detrimental to your grade and success on the AP exam. Missed work in terms of worksheets/readings can be found in the daily folders located in the hanging folders in the red crate. Getting them is your responsibility after turning in your yellow excused note on my podium. Missed notes are yours to get from a classmate.
2. Nightly reading. Your understanding of vocabulary and concepts in this course require nightly reading. I'll strive to keep the amount of reading manageable, but you've got to commit to completing it. Readings will come from the texts and article compilation noted above.
3. On-time assignment completion. All assignments are due at the beginning of the period on the due-date given if in paper form. All emailed assignments are due at or before 11:59pm on the due date. Late work deductions will be 20% per day for the first two days with a maximum score of 60% when turned in any day after that. Email to: coachauld@gmail.com
4. Food policy. Eating will be determined by instructor based on schedule. Drinking pop, water or other bottled beverages sold at school will be allowed. Restroom passes will not be given. Documented medical conditions or emergencies will be the only exceptions.

5. Cheating. This act of cowardice and convenience will not be tolerated in any fashion. AP classes frequently require increased personal integrity of students asked to complete take-home exams or write papers. Every avenue of punishment available to me by the Georgia Department of Education, the Cobb County School Board, and the administration at North Cobb will be pursued to the extent allowable. Rumors heard by other students and/or teachers about cheating activities will be thoroughly investigated. All out of class written work will be process through turnitin.com to check authenticity.
6. Grading. North Cobb's grading scale (found in your student handbook) will be used to determine your final grade in this course. The AP Human Geography exam will only be used by colleges you may attend, not figured into your grade in this class. The following parameters will be used to determine your final grade:
  - a. Classwork (25%)
    - i. Human Geography in Action Online Activities – Students print necessary pages from website and turn in on assigned date. The internet and workbook will be used and necessary to complete.
    - ii. Concept Review & Thinking Spatially (companion website) – Scores will be submitted to the instructor after you have finished taking it for the first time. Completion grades will be given, so there is no incentive to cheat. Both will be due by the first Monday after a new unit has commenced (not including the first day of the unit).
    - iii. Map analyses. You will be asked to select various maps of interest to you and create intelligent observations linked to important concepts.
    - iv. Article reviews covering current issues relevant to each unit. “Test Your Knowledge” form on blog will be used on each.
    - v. Vocab & map quizzes, in-class activities, map creation, etc.
  - b. Unit tests (20%)
    - i. 50 objective questions. Administered in class on the same day in A/B class simultaneously. Graded on modified bell curve.
    - ii. Test corrections may be allowed before the next test is taken in class. Missed questions will be annotated/described using your texts.
  - c. Free response questions (20%)
    - i. Timed and given in class, 25 minutes/question.
    - ii. One or two will be given at the conclusion of each unit.
  - d. Comprehensive examinations (“comps”) (35%)
    - i. Format will mirror the AP exam. 75 multiple choice & 1/2 free response given entirely in class. Graded on modified bell curve.
    - ii. First will cover Units 1-3, second will cover 4-6, and the third will cover all seven units and be given a few days before the AP exam.
  - e. Student Learning Objective (SLO) Test (Replace Comp if higher!)

*Instructor's Expectations:*

1. Prepare and participate in this college-equivalent course like mature college-equivalent students.
2. Ask the instructor any question you may have before falling irretrievably behind.
3. Check the blog and read daily.
4. Take notes during lectures. To not do so is simply arrogant and rude.
5. Maintain the highest level of honesty and personal integrity at all times.
6. Be a student of your environment throughout the course – find examples in everyday life of the concepts being studied.
7. Always ask “Where is it?” and “Why is it?”.
8. Complete all review materials and participate in all review sessions (outside the school day).
9. Take the AP Test and represent yourself, the instructor, and your school well.
10. Have as much fun with learning as humanly possible.

## **AP Human Geography**

**Coach Auld**

Course Schedule (*subject to revision at any time*)

August 1/2 – First day of class. Introductions/expectations.

Begin Unit One: Geography: Its Nature and Perspectives

August 29 – Unit One Test.

August 30/August 31 – Begin Unit Two: Demographics and Migration

September 3 – Labor Day – No School!

September 24-28 – Fall Break

October 9 – Unit Two Test.

October 10/11 –Begin Unit 3: Cultural Patterns and Processes

November 6 – Election Day

November 13 – Unit Three Test.

November 14/15 – REVIEW Units 1-3 – In-Class

November 16 – COMPREHENSIVE EXAM Units 1-3

November 19-23 – THANKSGIVING BREAK – NO SCHOOL!

November 26/27 – Begin Unit Four: Political Organization of Space

December 21 - January 3 – WINTER BREAK – NO SCHOOL!

January 11 – Unit Four Test

January 14/15 – Begin Unit Five: Agricultural and Rural Land Use

January 15 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – NO SCHOOL!

February 15 – Unit Five Test.

February 18-22 – BREAK – NO SCHOOL! **COSTA RICA & PANAMA!!!**

February 25/26 – Begin Unit Six: Industrialization and Economic Development

March 26 – Unit Six Test.

March 27/28 – Review Units 4-6

March 29 – COMPREHENSIVE EXAM 2 Units 4-6

April 1-5 – SPRING BREAK – NO SCHOOL!

April 8/9 – Begin Unit Seven: Cities and Urban Land Use

May 6 – Unit Seven Test.

May 7/8 - Course Review for Final & AP Exam

May 9 - Course FINAL – COMPREHENSIVE EXAM 3 – All Units

May 10/13 – AP Exam Review

**May 14 - AP Human Geography Exam!! 12:00PM**

Mark your calendars now....AP Exam Review after school sessions.

Unit One - Tuesday 5/1      Unit Two - Thursday 5/3

Unit Three - Tuesday 5/8      Unit Four - Thursday 5/10

Unit Five - Tuesday 5/15      Unit Six - Thursday 5/17