**Advanced Placement Human Geography**

**Mrs. Kendall Nickerson**

**2012-2013**

**Course Description:**

 AP Human Geography is an introductory college course in human geography. The aim of an AP course is to provide the student with a learning experience equivalent to that obtained in most college introductory human geography courses. The purpose of the AP Human Geography course is to introduce students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of the Earth’s surface. Students will analyze human social organization and its environmental consequences. (AP Human Geography, 2007 The College Board)

**Course Text Book**:

An Introduction to Human Geography: The Cultural Landscape: 10th edition by James M. Rubenstein

***Note***: loss of this book will result in inclusion on the debt list. This book will be required for you to bring each day to class.

**Ancillary Materials:** If you know that you struggle with reading, I would also suggest “AP Human Geography Flash Cards” by Barron’s. These can also be found online. Any AP Review Book found at a local bookstore or library can also help so far my favorite is by Ethel Wood.

**Expectations:**

Reading is essential and required. This is a ninth grade class, but since it is Advanced Placement, it will be taught at a **COLLEGE** level. Students are expected to have homework **EVERYNIGHT,** multiple choice tests, essay tests, essay writings, and graphing and mapping will be incorporated throughout the course on a per chapter basis.

**Grading:**

 Unit Exams = 50%

Quizzes = 25%

 Binder (Classwork/Homework) = 25%

**Materials:** 3 ring binder (at least 1 in) Dividers (at least 5 tabs)

College ruled paper Colored Pencils

 200 index cards Pens, pencil, highlighters

**Absences:**

If you are absent, you have 3 days to see me for make - up work – this is Hillsborough County Policy. See the Student Handbook for further details concerning the county absentee policy.

If you are absent on the day of a pre - announced quiz, test, or homework assignment, you will make - up that assignment on the day of your return.

**School business absences** must be pre - approved by me, all assigned

work must be completed and submitted within 24 HOURS of the missed class. Again, no late work will be accepted after 24 HOURS from when you and I discuss the make –up work.

**All tests and quizzes must be made up within three days of the absence**. THIS IS A COLLEGE LEVEL COURSE EVEN MISSING ONE DAY IS VERY DETRIMENTAL TO YOUR LEARNING.

* Course Pacing:
	+ With the exception of the first chapter, all chapters will follow a consistent two week pattern. It is up to the student to be consistently cognizant of where we are in a given chapter and what we are doing on any given day. Granted, unforeseen circumstances may slightly alter the pattern, but this is a rare occasion and the teacher will make announcements in class and in class. Below is the typical two week regimen that students will experience in APHG:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| MLecture/Notetaking(Review Chapter Test FRQ) | TLecture/Notetaking | WLectureClose/Major concept review | RQuiz – K.I. 1+2Cornell Notes Outline 1 DueMap Activity | FC.F.AVideo Case Study |
| M2Current Event Article/Activity/Discussion | T2Quiz – K.I. 3+4Cornell Notes Outline 2 DueMap Activity | W2Practice Free Response Question / Review for Unit Test | R2MCQ Unit Test for current chapter | F2Review MCQ Unit Test / Take FRQ Unit Test |

* Textbook / Reading Assignments
	+ All students will be expected to read the Rubenstein textbook in its entirety. Chapters are roughly 40 pages in length and are split between four key issues. These issues are then halved in order to break up the chapter. The first two key issues must be read prior to the Thursday of the first week and the remaining two key issues must be read by Tuesday of the second week. This is easily accomplished by reading 6-7 pages each night, and should only take 20-30 minutes at the most.
* Cornell Note—Key Issue Outlines
	+ Students will be expected to complete Cornell Note outlines as they read through the chapter. Each outline should be a minimum of 4 pages (2 pages per Key Issue). These outlines will be due the same day as the reading check quizzes (first Thursday/second Tuesday). Students are encouraged to use these outlines to deepen their understanding of the material and to think about/compose questions for clarification. Each *fully* completed outline will be worth 25 points. Late outlines will not be accepted for full credit, unless it is due to an excused absence. ***For information regarding how to earn extra credit on each unit test, please see the Vocabulary Flashcard Information Sheet.***
* Internet Access / Edline/ Mrs. N’s Website
	+ Students will be expected to have internet access. The school district now uses Edline as a portal for students and parents to access information not only about DHS, but individual classes as well. I however, use my own website ([www.mrsnickersonsclass.weebly.com](http://www.mrsnickersonsclass.weebly.com)) to relay information about the class (changes in schedule, articles of interest) and to post all pertinent forms (blank Cornell Note sheets, other class forms, etc) and links to other websites that may be of interest/use to students and parents. **In an effort to reduce paper usage, students will be expected to print out their own supplemental materials**; anything that everyone will need (chapter notes, for instance) will be provided by me in class. I will also post a variety of additional optional study tools.
	+ In addition to accessing my website for materials (they will be posted under the AP Human Geo section) and website links (posted under the ‘Resources’ tab) students and parents can use Edline to access grade reports. I update my gradebook once a week *minimally*. In order to see the most current report, simply click the “Grades” folder in the “Contents” section and then click on your name; this will be more current than the grade listed in your “Private Reports” section.
* Overall Expectations
	+ There will only be one thing I will consistently ask for—your individual best. For the underclassmen—and freshmen in particular—this class will be challenging, especially if it’s your first Advanced Placement class. You may have been accustomed to getting by on your academic “ability” alone in the past, but this class will test your mettle and ***require sustained effort***.
* The Fine Print
	+ Learning is my favorite thing to do and my biggest goal is to teach you to love it to! For many of you your high school story is just beginning get to know yourself and the others around you, who they are, where they are from and why they are here. After all that is what human geography is about!

**Remember: I am here to help you succeed. Please know that my room is open to you at any time. Academic success is contingent upon your dedication and the amount of effort you put into the course. If you find yourself having difficulty, please talk to me and I will try to assist you in an effort to adjust your method of studying. I will walk with you the entire course I will not, however, carry you…this is a college level course requiring maturity, effort and the will and drive to be successful on your part.**

**Teacher Contact:** Please feel free to email me anytime.

**Email: kendall.nickerson@sdhc.k12.fl.us**

**Website:** [**www.mrsnickersonsclass.weebly.com**](http://www.mrsnickersonsclass.weebly.com)

**Parents please also note the best way to track your child’s progress is through Edline but you can, at any time, look through their notebook**

**which should contain organized notes as well as ALL of their graded class and homework assignments.**

**AP Test**

The format is as follows:

**Section I:** 75 multiple choice questions with 60 minutes to complete, **no guessing penalty, answer all questions = 50% of the exam**

**Section II:** 3 Free Response Questions (FRQ Essay), in 75 minutes **50% of the Exam**

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#### Miscellaneous

1. **No Bathroom Passes (school policy)**…If there is an Emergency you can be directed to the Clinic or
2. Student Affairs, a time stamped pass must accompany your pass back to my class.
3. **ANY Cell Phone** interruption **(I SEE IT…I TAKE IT)** or use will also result in a **25-point**

 **deduction**  from the students overall grade.

**PERIOD: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ NAME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Mrs. Nickerson’s APHG Confirmation Page**

By signing this I confirm that I have read and understand all the information in the above class info document for **AP Human Geography**

**Dear Parents/Guardians,**

**you are a crucial part of the success of your child**

 **in this advanced College level Class. Please take the time**

 **to provide information below and read the syllabus**

**carefully to fully understand your child’s commitment**

**to AP Human Geography.**

**\*\*\* HOMEWORK\*\*\***

**Please access your parent account on Edline by this Friday**

**(activation codes will be sent home with your student this Wednesday 8/22)**

**Please Print and Sign your name below**

**Due Friday August 26th , 2011**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**(Print Student Name)**

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

(Student Signature) (Date)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Print Parent/Guardian Name)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (P/G Signature) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(Date)

P/G E-mail Address (very important!!) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

P/G Telephone Contacts:

#1 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Print Name Telephone (Work or Cell)

#2 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Print Name Telephone (Work or Cell)

Any comments or questions? (Please list any special circumstances I should know about your child or feel free to email me)