AP Human Geography Syllabus

Instructor: Michael Hanakahi Jr. Room: P-21

Phone: (808) 305-3778 Email: [mrhanakahi@gmail.com](mailto:mrhanakahi@gmail.com)

The Advanced Placement course in geography gives high-ability students the opportunity to earn college credit in geography while attending James Campbell High School. More importantly, the content of an AP Geography course helps students develop critical thinking skills through the understanding, application, and analysis of the fundamental concepts of geography. Through AP Geography, students are introduced to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of the Earth’s surface. Students will employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to analyze human social organization and its environmental consequences. Students will meet the five college-level goals as determined by the National Geographic Standards. They also learn the methods and tools geographers use in their science and practice.

In preparation for the AP Geography examination, this course cover the following areas:

nature & perspectives, population, culture, politics, agriculture, urbanization, industrialization, and environmental/social issues.

There will be regular small quizzes and at least one practice AP Exam each term. There will also be at least one essay and several small projects due each term.

AP students in social studies classes are required to participate in National History Day, a large project spanning both the 2nd and 3rd terms.

The general themes of AP Human Geography are as follows:

--Geography is fundamentally concerned with the ways in which patterns on Earth’s surface

reflect and influence physical and human processes.

--Geography looks at the world from a spatial perspective—seeking to understand the changing spatial organization and material character of Earth’s surface.

--Geographical analysis requires a sensitivity to scale—not just a spatial category but as a

framework for understanding how events and processes at different scales influence one another.

--Geography is concerned not simply with describing patterns, but with analyzing how they came about and what they mean.

--Geography is concerned with the ways in which events and processes operating in one place can influence those operating at other places.

The overall goal of AP Human Geography is to introduce students to the study of geography as a social science by emphasizing the relevance of geographic concepts to human problems.

The standards covered will be both the Hawaii Content and Performance Standards (HCPSIII) and the Common Core Content Standards for social studies.

Textbook: deBlij, Fouberg and Murphy, Human Geography: People, Places and Culture tenth ed, Wiley and Sons, Inc, 2012.

Ancillary Text: Kuby, Michael: Human Geography in Action, John Wiley and Sons, Inc, 2007.

There are many ancillary readings that will be assigned by the teacher throughout the year, as well as a unit in extensive test prep in the fourth quarter leading up to the AP Exam.

There is no specific pacing guide, as the course will adjust to current global news and events to take advantage of learning opportunities. Some units/projects will go longer than others depending on the level of mastery demonstrated by the class as a whole.

One fourth of your grade is awarded for keeping an interactive notebook. In your notebook you will keep notes and vocabulary on the right hand pages and as homework, you will do a nightly review of the day’s notes and complete left side activities on the left-had page on the off days. A list of possible left-side activities will be provided for you. Notebooks will be graded approximately every two weeks.

You must also complete a weekly current event. Current events are to be completed by the first meeting of the week each week of the term. We are on an A/B Block schedule, so it is up to you to know when your current events are due. For full credit, each week you should find a news article from any available news source about an issue/concept we covered in the previous week. A current event must include:

* Citation (when/where did the article originate) including author and publication/website.
* A brief summary of the article. Brief means short and to the point. Simple 5-W’s will suffice as long

as the thoughts are complete.

* An analysis of the article: this is the most important part. You must complete a detailed analysis including who is affected and how, along with predictions, opinions, and suggestions with rationale. This does not have to be long, but it has to be well-reasoned.

Socratic Seminars are mandatory and assigned. In order to receive credit in the Socratic seminar you are

assigned to, you must achieve at least 5 tally marks in the following score sheet:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Making a  relevant  comment | Using evidence to support position. | Asking clarifying  questions. | Recognizing  contradiction by another. | Irrelevant  comment/Not  paying attention.  (minus points) | Monopolizing,  Interrupting, or  Attacking.  (minus points) |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

Grading: Students are graded on a scale of 1-4

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 4- Mastery | 3 - Meets | 2- Approaching | 1- Needs improvement |
| Mastery is determined when student work shows that the student not only understands the content, skills and ideas, but can use them in real-world application and think critically about them. Scoring anything above a 3.49 is considered an “A”. | A student meets the requirements when they are able to show understanding of the content, skills and ideas and the purpose of studying the content, skills and ideas a 3 is considered a “B”. | A student is approaching when they can properly identify and use the basic content without help from the teacher, but do not take their understanding to higher levels of thinking (Bloom’s Taxonomy/Marzano/Costas) a 2 is a passing grade, “C” | A student will receive below the score of 2 if they fail to show understanding of basic concepts used in Geography. Improper/lack of use of concepts, skills does not earn a passing score. Anything under the score of 2.0 is an “F”. Students receiving a low score can redo the assignment for an improvement up to 3.49 |

There are four grading categories, each worth 25% of the overall grade:

Classwork- This will be a category with a lot of assignments in it reducing the weight of the category, but classwork is necessary to show mastery of information and allow for group collaboration and discussion.

Notebooks- Your interactive notebook is an integral part of your path to passing the AP exam. You must constantly review and revise your notes throughout the year to keep your memory curve high. Your notebook will be checked 6-8 times per term, making it heavily weighted.

Tests/Quizzes- We will have constant small quizzes and a few larger exams. The small quizzes are for memory and accountability; the large exams will be practice AP Exams, using AP style questions and FRQ’s. Tests will carry a heavier weight than qizzes, and the whole category will have a heavier weight than classwork.

Projects/Essays- There will be a few larger projects/essays per term. There will be at least one large essay per semester. This category will have only 4-6 items, making it heavily weighted.

Please be proactive in your grades. There is no extra credit and late-work will not be accepted 1 week after the due date or during the last week of the term.

Supplies

* Paper
* Pen or Pencil
* Comp book or Spiral notebook, (college rule)

EXPECTATIONS

There is one true expectation that shall be noted as the primary focus of our class: Respect.

I believe there are three categories for this. First and foremost respect yourself. Secondly, respect others. Lastly, respect the world around you. If you follow these three forms of respect you will not only succeed in our class, but you will also succeed in life.

As a serious student you will:

l. Be prepared by completing readings and assignments on time.

2. Make use of Credit Club and after school tutorial to catch up with school work.

3. Do your best work in a timely manner to ensure timely posting of grades. No work turned into class means a Zero (NG or 0) for that assignment.

4. Late work (starting on post due date) will be penalized 1 (one) letter grade upon arrival up to 1 (0ne) week of due date; anything turned in after this will not be accepted and be a zero (NG or 0).

5. Take notes on readings, lectures, films, and assigned outside class activities.

6. Come to class on time. Students who are late will be required to get pass/tardy slip.

7. Bring all materials to class on a daily basis: textbook, pen, and papers.

8. Use Webgrader to keep track of grades.

IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE UP YOUR MISSED WORK.

General Class RULES

* No talking while the teacher is speaking in class.
* NO Cell phone use, texting on Cell phones, game devices, iPods (MP3 Players) allowed as soon as class begins and ends until you are RELEASED from class. All of these items are contraband at JCHS.
* Dress Tops are required to be worn in class per JCHS requirements.
* No sunglasses in class
* No use of profanity
* NO Eating in class;
* Drinking water is allowed as long as you put the container after use in a recycling bin or take it with you.

CONSEQUENCES for failing to follow rules:

First Offense: verbal warning

Second Offense: detention or electronic device is kept until end of class in my locked desk

# Third Offense: detention, counselor conference and notify parents (Saturday School)

Fourth Offense: referral to Vice Principal

EVALUATION

Grades will be determined by your performance on exams, timely completion of written work and projects, and participation in class activities.

Late work will be docked according to previously stated expectations. Students must have doctors or parental/guardian excuse to have this omitted. Time limit with excuse before points are deducted is three days.

The following rubric scale will be used for assigning grades: Letter Percent Rubric

Exceeds all of the criteria in all essential assignments A 100 (4)

Meets the criteria with minor mistakes A 99-90 (3.99-3.5)

Meets most of the criteria in all of the essential assignments B 89-80 (3.49-3)

Working towards the criteria in all of the essential assignments C 79-70 (2)

Well below the criteria of most of the essential assignments F 69-50 (1)

Well below the criteria of most of the essential assignments and

Unable to retake assignment F 49-0 (.5)

In order to pass this class, students must submit all essential assignments and pass and earn at least a “C” in their overall grade.

Cut on dotted lines and turn in bottom portion.

Syllabus has been read by parent and student: Both you and your guardian/parent must sign below

I acknowledge the requirements of Mr. Hanakahi’s class and the student signed below will abide by the rules, guidelines, and requirements of this class.

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

Parent Signature Print name of Parent Date

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Student Signature Print Student Name Date

DUE Monday August 3, 2015 Student Contract Signed by Parent and Student

Mr. Hanakahi reserves the right to add, remove, or make special exceptions to syllabus on a case by case situation.