

CLASS REQUIREMENTS

Class: A.P. Human Geography
Text: Human Geography Landscapes of Human Activities
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Teacher: Mr. Schiffmacher
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Overview

Where in the world are we? Where am I? Where is it? Where are you now? Geography answers all of these questions. In this class we will study geography and we will study its impact on human development and the development of society and civilization. Geography is more than where is Uzbekistan? This class will answer that along with why humans settled in Uzbekistan, and how geography influenced their development.

This a college level course. The exam taken by students at the end of the year, is based on a curriculum equivalent to a one-semester introductory course in Human Geography. The curriculum has five goals which are based on the National Geographic Standards.

The particular topics studied in an AP Human Geography course should be judged in light of the following five college-level goals that build on the National Geography Standards developed in 1994. On successful completion of the course, the student should be able to:

- 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. As such, maps and spatial data are fundamental to the discipline, and learning to use and think about them is critical to geographical literacy. The goal is achieved when students learn to use maps and spatial data to pose and solve problems, and when they learn to think critically about what is revealed and what is hidden in different maps and spatial arrays.
- 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. One of the critical advantages of a spatial perspective is the attention it focuses on how phenomena are related to one another in particular places. Students should thus learn not just to recognize and interpret patterns, but to assess the nature and significance of the relationships among phenomena that occur in the same place and to understand how tastes and values, political regulations, and economic constraints work together to create particular types of cultural landscapes.
- 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. Thus, students should understand that the phenomena they are studying at one scale (e.g., local) may well be influenced by developments at other scales (e.g., regional, national, or global). They should then look at processes operating at multiple scales when seeking explanations of geographic patterns and arrangements.
- Define regions and evaluate the regionalization process
 - Geography is concerned not simply with describing patterns, but with analyzing how they came about and what they mean. Students should see regions as objects of analysis and exploration and move beyond simply locating and describing regions to considering how and why they come into being -- and what they reveal about the changing character of the world in which we live.
- Characterize and analyze changing interconnections among places
 - At the heart of a geographical perspective is a concern with the ways in which events and processes operating in one place can influence those operating at other places. Thus, students should view places and patterns not in isolation, but in terms of their spatial and functional relationship with other places and patterns. Moreover, they should strive to be aware that those relationships are constantly changing, and they should understand how and why change occurs.

GRADING POLICY

Your grade for my class is determined by the following format

60% of your grade is your exam average

- Any exam missed because of a legal absence will be made up the next class period. Any student missing an exam due to an illegal absence will be penalized 20% of the exam grade.

20% of your grade is your quiz average

10% of your grade is your homework average

- Late Homework will not be accepted after one day. All late homework will be penalized 20% of the homework grade.

10% of your grade is your class participation and attendance average

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

Being prepared and participating is intricate to this class. Students will be in class and ready to begin when the bell rings not after. Any student who is late will have points deducted from their class participation average. Students will be respectful to other students in the class and to the teacher. You are not to eat in class so please do not ask to. You must bring all required notes and outlines to class everyday please do not ask to go to your locker after class has started. This is a college level class and you will be expected to act accordingly.

MATERIALS

You must have a notebook for notes and class work, I have no preference to the type just as long as you have the same one all year. However you must have a separate outline-key term notebook that is to be used only for my outlines and key terms this book will be collected and used for open book quizzed given weekly in class. Student will be responsible for outlining every chapter in the text. You will use this outline for class activities as well as for open book quizzes. This process will also prepare you for the A.P. Exam given in May.

Students Name _____

Students Signature _____

Parents Name _____

Parents Signature _____