

AP HUMAN GEOGRAPHY

INSTRUCTOR: *Lance Davis*

2012-2013 SCHOOL YEAR

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE INFORMATION

Among the main topics of study this course focuses on the distribution, processes, and effects of human populations on the planet. Official units of study include environmental geography, regional geography, population, migration, culture, language, religion, ethnicity, political geography, economic development, industry, agriculture, and urban geography with a focus on geographic models and their applications. The main purpose of the course is to utilize geographic processes to systematically study and understand spatial patterns that are evident in the world in which we live.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Primarily this course, AP® Human Geography, is designed to introduce students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, human use, and human alteration of the Earth's surface. Students will learn about and employ the methods of geographers. These include observation, mapmaking, data gathering and reporting, and technical writing. Students will also learn how to employ spatial concepts, geographic vocabulary, and landscape interpretation to a variety of locations and situations around the globe as well as in local areas. Overall, students will develop a geographic perspective in their manner of thinking with which to view the landscape of the world and better understand current events. Students are also expected to have mastery of all World Geography TEKS in the Texas Social Studies curriculum framework. Specific TEKS for the course can be located at:

<http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/rules/tac/chapter113/index.html> and

<http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/rules/tac/chapter118/index.html>.

TEACHER INFORMATION

Lance Davis

AP Human Geography/World Geography

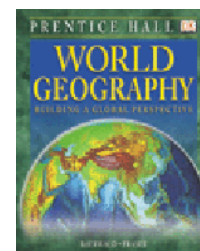
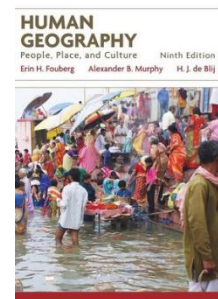
Conference: 1st Period

Email Address: lancedavis@misdmail.org

TEXTBOOK

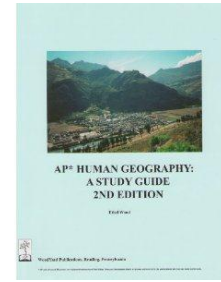
Primary Texts

- *Human Geography: People, Place, and Culture*, Erin H. Fouberg, Alexander B. Murphy, H. J. de Blij, 9th Edition. Hoboken, NJ. John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 2010.
- [*World Geography: Building a Global Perspective*](#), Thomas J. Baerwald, Celeste Fraser, Online Edition. Upper Saddle River, NJ. Prentice Hall, 2003.
<https://www.pearsonsuccessnet.com/snpapp/login/login.jsp>
Class access code: 96B28C45E0537DFA8B9F



Supplemental Text

- *AP Human Geography: A Study Guide*, Ethel Wood, 2nd Edition. Reading, PA. Wood Yard Publications, 2009.



Highly Recommended Texts (choose 1)

- 2012 or 2013 Kaplan AP Human Geography Study Guide
- 2012 or 2013 Princeton Review AP Human Geography Study Guide

MATERIALS

Required Materials: Three-ring binder (at least 2”), 5 subject dividers, 3 x 5 note cards, notebook paper, blue or black pen(s), #2 pencils.

Requested Materials*: Box of Kleenex, EXPO® dry erase marker for class set.

**All requested materials will not be returned at the end of the school year, and these are NOT mandatory supplies. Your generosity is greatly appreciated ☺*

COURSE CALENDAR/SCHEDULE

Each student will be given a tentative six-week course calendar at the beginning of each six-week grading period. This calendar will include classroom topics, homework due dates, as well as quiz/test dates. Time management is essential to success in Advanced Placement courses. Please take advantage of these calendars and prepare well in advance for tests and quizzes. **These dates are tentative and subject to change.**

ATTENDANCE/TARDIES/ID/DRESS CODE

All students in this class will be subject to all MHS policies, as stated in your MHS Student Handbook. These policies (*including dress code*) will be strictly enforced.

CLASS PARTICIPATION

Students will not be graded on class participation. However, it is expected that students ask and be able to answer questions about topics. Any class behavior that is distracting in any way to the educational environment of the class will not be tolerated.

MISSED EXAMS/ASSIGNMENTS

Exams and Quizzes: If you are absent the day of an exam/quiz, you will make it up at the beginning of the next class period. If you are absent the day before a test/quiz, you must still take the test. The only way a student can be exempt from a test/quiz on the published day is if he/she is absent two of the three class periods prior to the test.

Late work is *not* accepted in Advanced Placement courses. Work turned in after the due date will receive **no credit**.

If you are absent the day an assignment is due, you **MUST** turn in it in the **next** day. Being absent is not an excuse for not knowing something is due. If you know you are going to be absent for a school-sanctioned activity, you are responsible for asking for your work in advance.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Acts of academic dishonesty (copying, cheating, plagiarism) will be dealt with swiftly and severely. MISD rules on academic dishonesty are explained in the Student Handbook. Any form of cheating will result in a zero, parent conference, and potentially a recommendation for removal from the course.

GRADING POLICY

Philosophy:

Given the premise that all students can learn, MISD administrators and teachers believe that grade reporting should focus on student growth and learning in a climate of high expectations. Instructional emphasis should be placed on the accomplishments of defined district goals. Grading and reporting should be both formative and summative in nature and should utilize both formal and informal processes. Schools are accountable for structuring learning experiences, teaching processes, planning and evaluations, and utilization of materials, resources, and time to result in optimum student learning. The Mansfield Independent School District educational stakeholders envision a learning experience for each student based on the fundamental premise of student success.

Weighted Categories:

- Tests/Major Assessments will count 60% of each student's six-week grade.
- Quizzes/Minor Assessments will count 40%, and will be derived from other sources of student achievement as determined by the teacher.

Students will take at least one major assessment each six weeks. Students may also have one or more major assessments each six weeks, at the teacher's discretion. Students will have a wide variety of minor assessments during each six weeks, including daily grades, writing assignments, chapter quizzes, etc. Different weights will be given to the 2nd category based on the difficulty and time involved in completing the assignment (example: some assignments may only count 25 points, while other assignments may count 250 points, or assignments can be individually weighted).

Test Retakes-Minimum Requirements:

Teachers will provide students the opportunity to be successful. In the event students fail to exhibit proficiency on the major assessment or tests, they will be encouraged to participate in the re-teaching/retesting process designed and determined by the teacher.

Students will be allowed to demonstrate proficiency of learning objectives by means of a retest for a maximum of 70% of the original score possible.

Students will have to make arrangements with the teacher to retake or redo a major test/assessment. (This does not include final semester examinations.)

All retakes must be completed prior to subsequent tests and/or the end of each six week grading period. Students are encouraged to attend tutorials.

Mid-term or final exams **are not** to be included in the retake/retest process.

"Re-Taking Other Major Assessments/Projects"

For re-takes of other major assessments, the student will have the opportunity to re-take the assessment based on the original grading requirements. Per MISD policy, the highest grade a student can get in the re-take system is a 70.

End Of Course Exams

All 9th and 10th graders and any middle school student taking courses for high school credit will take EOC tests this year.

Semester grades for this course will be calculated as stated above.

The EOC exam will count as 15% of the final course average and will be calculated as follows:

First semester grade = 42.5%
Second semester grade = 42.5%
EOC exam = 15%

Parents & Skyward access:

If you have computer access I strongly encourage you to establish account. This can be done through the Mansfield ISD Website and it allows parents and students to keep track of their grades, attendance, and lesson plans. It is an excellent resource.

iPads:

The use of the iPad is at the sole discretion of the classroom teacher. Students must, at all times, adhere to classroom and district guidelines with regard to the use of electronic equipment. Failure to follow these rules will result in disciplinary action. The iPad may or may not be used on a daily basis and students do not have a “right” to use the equipment at all times.

SCOPE & SEQUENCE

The course is divided into two semesters. Each semester is divided into three six week grading periods. We have 32 weeks of instruction prior to the AP test (with the week of the test dedicated to AP Test review & prep). This outline by no means shows everything which will be covered in the course, nor will it show exact dates, only estimations on how long it will require to teach various chapters. I firmly believe flexibility is required in the planning of any high school course so I prefer guidelines as opposed to specific day by day dictates. The following dates serve only as a guideline:

*****All dates are tentative & subject to change*****

FIRST SEMESTER

Unit 1	Physical Geography & Introduction to Human Geography August 27 to September 24
Unit 2	Population, Migration, & South/East/South East Asia September 25 to October 26
Unit 3	Culture, Language, & Sub Saharan Africa October 27 to November 25
Unit 4	Religion, Northern Africa, Middle East, & Central Asia November 25 to December 21

MID-TERM EXAM: Week of January 14-17

SECOND SEMESTER

Unit 5	Political Geography, Agriculture, & Latin America January 22 to February 14
Unit 6	Industrialization, Development, Europe, & Russia February 15 to March 22
Unit 7	Urbanization, the United States, & Canada March 25 to April 18

Review for STAAR & AP Exam April 19 - May 16(as test scheduling allows)

World Geography STAAR (EOC) Exam: TBA

AP Human Geography Test: May 17th

FINAL EXAM: TBA

TUTORING SCHEDULE

Tutorials are available before school in the mornings by appointment only.

AVAILABLE STUDENT SERVICES

The MHS library and Mansfield Public Library are both valuable available student services in terms of resources and computer access. If students need specific outside help in any way, he or she needs to talk to the instructor about these issues.

Lance Davis
AP Human Geography/World Geography
Mansfield High School

August 23, 2012

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Please review the syllabus with your child, and have your child return it signed the next time they attend class. Thank you for your attention to this matter and feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have. The primary form of communication (easiest way) is email. Please make sure that you, the parent, have a valid email (that you frequently check) in the school's system. Additionally, I am always available for a conference or phone call if requested.

Sincerely,
Lance Davis



I have reviewed and understand the Human Geography syllabus.

X _____
Student Signature

Date _____

X _____
Parent/Guardian Signature

Date _____