

AP Human Geography
Ivy Collegiate School
2021-2022

Department: Social Sciences
Email: socsci@ivycollegiateschool.org

Time: Th 9:00 – 11:00
Place: 805

Course References: This is a list of various useful books that were used in the construction of the course. You are not required to purchase all of these, but they may be useful for occasional consultation. (Note: They are available in the restricted library.)

- Paul L. Knox and Sallie A. Marston, *Human Geography: Places and Regions in Global Context*, Pearson, 7th ed., 2016. **REQUIRED.**
- Ethel Wood, *AP Human Geography: A Study Guide*, WoodYard Publications, 4th ed., 2018.
- David Harvey, *The Enigma of Capital & the Crises of Capitalism*, Oxford University Press, 2nd ed., 2010.
- Mike Davis, *Planet of Slums*, Verso, 2006.
- Paul L. Knox, *Atlas of Cities*, Princeton University Press, 2014.

Objectives: This course explores the relationships between people and the places they inhabit. It adopts a geographic framework for understanding societal and ecological change, emphasizing the analysis of patterns and processes. Students will learn how to define populations based on their demographic characteristics, how to analyze their movements, discover how political processes influence them, and how humans have transformed and adapted to their environments over time. The course also introduces students to critical philosophies and socioeconomic theories that attempt to explain human behavior, global connections, and historical changes. Students will discuss case studies and primary sources to better understand the dynamics of human geography and its framework. Students should have an interest in the social sciences and be prepared for a high amount of reading and writing. This course is comprised of three "Big Ideas":

- BIG IDEA #1: Patterns & Spatial Organization
- BIG IDEA #2: Impacts & Interactions
- BIG IDEA #3: Spatial Processes & Societal Change

Notes on AP courses: AP courses culminate in an examination in May with scores ranging from 1 to 5 (5 - Extremely well-qualified; 4 - Well-qualified; 3 - Qualified; 2 - Somewhat qualified; 1 - Not qualified). Students are expected to devote additional time beyond their normal class and homework hours to preparing for this examination. While time for instructor-led review is always allotted during the Spring semester, it is important that students begin their review independently and early. At ICS, AP courses have an additional component in the requirement of the completion of a Capstone Project at the end of the year (in lieu of a traditional Final Examination). More details regarding the Capstone Project(s) may be found below.

AP Human Geography Outline:

Week One Geography matters

- Tools and methods of human geography
- Spatial analysis
- Regional analysis

Week Two The changing global context I

- World-system
- Core and periphery regions
- The international division of labor

Week Three The changing global context II

- Imperialism
- Neocolonialism
- Globalization
- PROJECT: Commodity Chains

Week Four Population & migration I

- Demographics
- Population composition and distribution
- Population dynamics

Week Five Population & migration II

- Movement and migration
- Debates and policies

Week Six People & nature I

- Nature as a concept
- Anthropocene
- Climate change

Week Seven People & nature II

- Energy needs and environmental impacts
- Land-use change
- Spatial inequality

Week Eight Cultural geographies I

- Cultural complexes
- Cultural systems

Week Nine Cultural geographies II

- Culture and identity
- Culture and globalization
- PROJECT: Westernization

Week Ten Language, communication, and belief I

- Distribution and proliferation of world languages
- Language dynamics
- Different forms of communication

Week Eleven Language, communication, and belief II

- Distribution and proliferation of world religions
- Religious movements
- Religious spaces

- Week Twelve Interpreting places & landscapes I
- Environmental behavior
 - Territoriality
 - Cognitive images
- Week Thirteen Interpreting places & landscapes II
- Landscapes
 - Placemaking
 - Modernity
- Week Fourteen Geographies of economic development I
- Economic development
 - Unevenness
 - Technology
- Week Fifteen Geographies of economic development II
- International debt
 - Deindustrialization
 - Flexible production systems
- Week Sixteen Geographies of Food & Agriculture
- Agricultural practices
 - Industrialization of agriculture
 - Biotechnology
 - Alternative food movements
- Week Seventeen Political geographies I
- Geopolitics
 - States and nations
 - Heartland theory
- Week Eighteen Political geographies II
- Regionalism
 - Sectionalism
 - Systems of representation
 - PROJECT: Refugees
- Week Nineteen Urbanization
- Urban expansion
 - Central place theory
 - Megacities & slums
- Week Twenty City spaces
- Multi-nodal city
 - Sprawl & gentrification
 - Informal economies
- Week Twenty-one to Twenty-eight SPRING REVIEW PERIOD
- Week Twenty-nine to Thirty-one CAPSTONE RESEARCH
- Week Thirty-two CAPSTONE PRESENTATIONS

Co-/Prerequisites: World History I or II

Grading Policy: Homework and quizzes (60%), Finals and Project (40%)

Capstone Project: The Capstone projects are designed to give you the opportunity to showcase (beyond the examination) what you have learned and the skills you have mastered as part of the course. While every project assignment may be different in scope, target, grading, and type of organization, each is intended to require you to “dig deep” and impress us with your creativity. For this set of courses, you are required to submit a project that captures the full-depth of your knowledge of select topic(s) from the course. Examples may include writing an original research paper related to a topic you have learned in class, producing a 30-minute video tutorial on a select topic, or presenting on a well-researched topic. Rubrics will be available in the Spring semester.

Important Dates:

Final Examination, Semester IDec 13-16, 2021
AP Examination May 5, 2022
Capstone Deadline TBD

Course Policy:

- This course is reading-intensive and has many select and optional readings. You are expected to organize a reading schedule that works well for you.
- It is recommended that you invest in a personal study guide for review. See the instructor for suggestions.

Class Policy:

- Regular attendance is essential and expected.
- All written assignments must be your own original work and will be checked for plagiarism.

Academic Honesty: Students are expected to abide by the policies regarding Academic Honesty as laid out in the ICS Student Handbook. Any violations will be forwarded for administrative review and the possible imposition of academic penalties.