AP Human Geography Syllabus

Instructor: Kristina B Skoyles (kbskoyles@prosper-isd.net) 469-219-2180 ext 80535 Please allow yourself ample time to get a response (emails sent to me at 2AM before due dates unlikely to be answered!) If you have questions, please email me. I answer all emails within one business day. I do not check email outside of business hours, so please plan accordingly.

Tutorial times:

8:10 -8:20, 4:00-4:10: Morning and afternoon tutorial times are for resolving assignment issues and asking simple questions.

Tuesday Thursday Eagle Time: Notes Workshop. Come learn to take notes!

Monday, Wednesday and Friday Eagle Time: Test Makeups, resolving assignment issues, assignment assistance and help.

Please remember that my responsibility during class time is to get students seated and begin class. Do not try to resolve make up work or ask questions about your personal assignments during class time. You may NOT turn in late or absent work in class, shoved in with the work due on that day, etc. COME TO TUTORIALS TO RESOLVE ANY BUSINESS!

Materials:

- A textbook (in the library. Go check one out ASAP). Troubleshooting the textbook: https://hub.wiley.com/community/support/wileyplus
- Writing materials (paper, pencil)
- Some organizational strategy (a binder) to be determined and managed by student
- The most valuable things parents can do to help their geography students be successful are:
  - Encourage students to communicate with the teacher themselves about all standard classroom issues such as grades and absences.
  - Follow along with the calendar and hold students accountable for their assignments.

Class Room Policies

- Respectfulness is paramount
- Expect to work hard
- Be inclusive, honest, and punctual
- Miss class? Lectures are available online. You are responsible for all missed lectures. Miss a test? Two tutorial times.
- Be mature and on topic during discussion. Raise your hand, allow others the turn to speak. Don’t interrupt.
- No cell phones or devices please.
- Do not throw anything.
- No food, no gum.
- Don’t sit and sniffle! It is always okay to go get a tissue. Sniffling is gross.
- Have discussions about missing work before or after school.
- There is extra paper at the back of the room. You may get it without asking.
- Only one in the bathroom at a time. Use the list procedure. **Do not interrupt to ask to leave.** Wait until we are not in whole class discussion.
- Always sign up for tutorials to guarantee a spot!
- Please remember that you are in high school, and as a high school student it is your responsibility to manage basic tasks for yourself. You are nearly an adult and should not feel the need to ask permission to do things like use a stapler, get a chromebook to do school work, refill a stapler, get a tissue from the back room, etc. As long as you know that what you’re doing is a responsible action, I trust you to do it! My biggest pet peeve is students who need constant direction. It is not disrespectful to manage yourself and your work independently! I want you to be comfortable in this room and know that the supplies are yours to use.

**Goals for this course:**

1. To teach good study habits that will serve students in other AP courses during their high school career.
2. To teach students to read at a college level. Provided they follow instructions, all students should be reading on a college level by the end of the school year.
3. Inculcate international outlooks (as opposed to local or national) and increase awareness of world events in students that will serve them well as competitors in a global economy.
4. Learn the various disciplines of Human Geography.

**Homework Expectations:**

- Homework will take between 30 and 60 minutes for strong readers. Average of 3-6 pages of reading per night over two days. (So generally 6-12 total)
- If students have an activity one night, they should plan to complete homework in advance.
- **NOTES MUST BE SUBMITTED IN HANDWRITTEN FORMAT. NO TYPED NOTES UNLESS YOU HAVE LEGAL ACCOMMODATIONS FOR A COMPUTER (504).** This is to prevent copying and pasting of notes.

**Reading at a college level:**

- All students are capable of reading at a college level.
- Most (almost all) enter high school not reading at a college level.
- In class assignments, note assessments and projects are all designed to push students to read at a college level.
- If a student is struggling on reading tests, that means that he or she is having comprehension difficulties with the reading material.
Any student experiencing comprehension difficulties after the first unit needs to regularly attend tutorials. Available Tuesday and Thursday Eagle Times.

The College Board and Advanced Placement:

The following is a list of units of the course from the College Board, which creates the AP Curriculum. We will be using this curriculum for our Human Geography Course.

I. Geography: Its Nature and Perspectives
II. Population Geography
III. Cultural Patterns and Processes
IV. Political Geography
V. Agriculture and Rural Land Use
VI. Industrialization
VII. Urban Patterns
VIII. Development

At the end of the year, students will take an AP exam. The AP exam does not affect students’ grades, but is an opportunity to get college credit for this course. Scores of 3, 4, and 5 are passing.

Big Ideas:

- Students should plan on a manageable amount of homework every night.
- Parents should check their emails regarding important messages from the teacher.
- Parents should encourage their children to manage their grades independently while keeping them accountable for assignments.
- Students should plan on coming to tutorials on a regular basis if they experience comprehension difficulties.
- Students should plan to have fun and enjoy the most interesting and relevant class of their academic career!

How you will be graded:

- One Daily Grade: Notes from textbook (due every day)
- One Daily Grade: Notes from class (due every day)
- Two Daily Grades: Current Events Assignment (first assignment will be a test grade)
- Multiple Choice Unit Tests: One Test Grade (curved 30 points, for maximum score of 100)
- Open Note Reading Tests: One Test Grade (not curved because students are allowed to use notes)
- Latework: Up to a 70 on daily/test grades submitted late within a reasonable time (One class period after due date is official policy, which in most cases baring severe illness or family emergency is our limit) Up to a 70 on retaken tests within a reasonable time. (Reasonable time will vary based on student situation. Use logic and reason and communicate with me about difficulties, such as extended illness, hospitalization, etc). The
- Latework and retest grades START at a 70, so a 100 is a 70, a 99 is a 69, an 80 is a 50, etc.
- COMMUNICATE WITH ME VIA EMAIL IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT GRADES. I WILL GIVE FEEDBACK ON ASSIGNMENTS BEFORE SUBMISSION.

Fun things about Ms. Skoyles:

1. I like to travel. My favorite travel destination is Indonesia. My travelling hobbies include Scuba diving, hiking, reading, and visiting museums.
2. I have a son named Arthur and a daughter named Eleanor (Nora)
3. I enjoy cross stitching and Harry Potter. (see back of classroom).

**Studying the Map!**

Knowing the locations of most countries (especially very populous, wealthy, or newsworthy countries) are on the map is key to success in Geography. However, we assume that you already have a passing familiarity with world geography. If you don’t, you are in the majority of students and you need to work on catching up to the College Board’s expectations. Good news! There are video games for this. Here’s a link!

[https://www.maps.com/free-map-games](https://www.maps.com/free-map-games)

**HOW TO ACCESS THE ECONOMIST ON THE LIBRARY’S WEB PAGE**
Student Name

AP Human Geography

Ms. Skoyles

18 April 2016

**Current Events Article Analysis**

**Summary**

Article: *Racial Gerrymandering in North Carolina*

This article discusses racial gerrymandering in North Carolina and how it is unfair to African American voters. North Carolina’s legislature drew voting lines based on race and tried to “pack African-American voters together so their political power would be diluted” (Board 1). This was because the legislature of North Carolina was republican, so they tried to dilute the voting power of the African Americans by drawing lines according to race, since most African Americans were democrats. As a result of the gerrymandering, North Carolina’s district maps resembled a serpentine pattern snaking from Charlotte along Interstate 85 through African American communities. Because of North Carolina’s racial gerrymandering, it was ruled unconstitutional by a federal district court, and North Carolina has to redraw boundaries in order to not disenfranchise African-American voters.

**Concept**

This article relates to gerrymandering, which is drawing voting district boundaries in a way as to give one political party maximum electoral advantage and to reduce that of another party. Therefore, this article relates to gerrymandering because North Carolina was drawing lines to give electoral advantage to the republican party, while trying to reduce the voting power of the democratic party by grouping together African American communities. The African American communities were mostly democratic, so North Carolina tried to draw voting boundaries in a way as to favor the republican party. As a result of North Carolina’s gerrymandering, the African Americans’ voting power was diluted, while the republican party was favored.
Works Cited


Tutorial Sign Up

Reasons to come to tutorials:

- I missed a test and need to make it up
- I need to understand better how to take good notes.
- I take great notes but don’t quite understand one thing in my reading. Can you explain it before I take the test?
- Life has become overwhelming and I need to sit here and snuggle one of the stuffies/talk to you about it.

Every Year I get questions about when tutorials are and whether I will be here. It is very easy to remember my tutorial hours. They are

Every Day, Before and After School.

If you would like to attend a tutorial time, you may sign up for one in the binder at the back of the room. Sometimes I will be unavailable due to meetings or appointments, and those will be reflected on the schedule. Sometimes my availability changes unexpectedly. Please include your email so that I may notify you of changes to the schedule. Drop-ins are welcome in tutorials! But you are not guaranteed time with the teacher unless you sign up.
Turnitin.com

For this class, you must submit all written assignments to turnitin.com, with the exception of notes. All notes from the textbook for AP Human Geography must be handwritten and stapled to your quiz. No typed notes will be accepted unless the student has a disability accommodation on file with the school that allows them to take all notes on a computer.

AP Human Geography Students

Class ID: 21811529

Enrollment Key: ethnocentric

Please access this webpage and click on “Create Account”

On this page, click “Student”
On the next page, enter the Class ID, the Class enrollment password (these are both found above), your REAL FIRST and LAST name, and please use your school email address or you will not be able to get support for your account if you have trouble.

Okay, now you’re ready to start submitting!

**Please be sure that you receive a “receipt” from turnitin.com in your student email. This will ensure you have submitted properly. Once you hit submit, you must always hit “confirm”, or your assignment will not be submitted and you will receive zero credit.**

**What is Turnitin.com?**

Turnitin.com is a software program that makes it easy for teachers to access all submitted documents in one place. However, the purpose of this software is not convenience. The purpose of the software is to detect cheating. The software has a database of all published material on the internet and in print, so if you plagiarize from an online or print source, we will easily identify the dishonesty and you will receive a zero.

Turnitin.com also has a database of all assignments previously submitted to turnitin.com, so if you borrow or copy a student’s assignment from a different class or year, we will easily catch you and you will receive a zero.

Turnitin.com also has software that detects when students have merely gone through and changes some words from their friend’s paper – it looks not just at content but also sentence structure and common vocabulary terms.

Do not plagiarize. You will be caught.

**Taking Notes from the Book**

Whenever notes are due, you are responsible for handing them in for a completion grade. You will also have a reading test at the end of the unit for which you can use your notes. Instructions are below:

1. Must be handwritten. This is to prevent cheating.
2. Once you turn them in, you cannot resubmit them for additional credit if they are incomplete at the time you turned them in.
3. They should be in some format that notes the structure of the information – so this would include headings. You need to be able to find information quickly in the structure in which it is presented in the textbook. Otherwise, you’ve just written down information with no way of knowing how it is organized. I recommend Roman Numeral Outline Notes. A sample can be found below.
4. Writing down only bolded or italicized terms does not count as complete. However, bolded and italicized terms are generally important. Other examples of things you will need to know on the reading test from the textbook are: Important Geographers, Timelines and histories, Cause and effect, General comprehension, Examples of principles, Field Notes summaries – everyone thinks they can skip the field notes. YOU CAN'T, Titles/Headings

5. It is not acceptable to be repeatedly late on notes. The notes must be complete in class so that you have a background in what we are studying on that particular day. If you have not done your work, you will be lost, and if you are lost, you are likely to receive failing grades on tests. Keeping up with reading outside of class is an essential skill for college. All university classes in ALL SUBJECTS require you to read independently from a textbook outside of class. If you can’t do this, I will contact your parents and discuss whether you should continue to participate in the course. However, if you miss one or two notes occasionally, that is not a problem. Life happens. I am not a perfectionist. I do not judge students on their ability to turn in homework perfectly. I was a great student, but I did not turn in all my homework perfectly, and neither will you in all likelihood. Please just complete those missing notes as quickly as possible for a maximum of a 70. Late work must be turned in within one class day to receive credit.

6. Nobody can follow instructions on this last one. Always read the last section completed on the last page assigned. If a new section starts on the last page assigned but does not finish, please save that section for the next night. You must take notes on all sections completed by the last page or your reading will be incomplete. If you have questions, please email me. I answer all emails within one business day.

7. NOTES SHOULD ONLY TAKE AROUND 30 MINUTES PER NIGHT. DO NOT COPY THE TEXTBOOK. TEN MINUTES MAXIMUM PER PAGE IS PLENTY OF TIME. I AM NOT ASSIGNING YOU HOURS OF HOMEWORK EVERY NIGHT.

I. Why Do People Migrate?
   - Forced Migration – examples of notes examples of notes examples of notes examples of notes examples of notes examples of notes
   - Voluntary Migration - examples of notes examples of notes examples of notes examples of notes examples of notes examples of notes examples of notes examples of notes examples of notes examples of notes
   
A. Forced Migration
   - examples of notes examples of notes examples of notes examples of notes examples of notes
   - examples of notes examples of notes examples of notes examples of notes examples of notes examples of notes examples of notes examples of notes examples of notes examples of notes
   - examples of notes examples of notes examples of notes examples of notes examples of notes
   - Human Trafficking - examples of notes examples of notes examples of notes examples of notes examples of notes
examples of notes examples of notes

B. Types of Push and Pull Factor
   examples of notes examples of notes
   1. Legal Status
      o examples of notes examples of notes
      o examples of notes examples of notes
   2. Economic Conditions
      o examples of notes
      o examples of notes
   3. Power Relationships
      o examples of notes
      o examples of notes
      o examples of notes

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Academic Dishonesty

Everyone in here has my unconditional respect. I will respect you as a person if you:

- Turn in your homework every day
- Never turn in homework
- Answer every question correctly
- Never answer a question correctly
- Get a 100
- Get a 30
- Get sent to DAEP for vaping or doing drugs
- Get in a fight in my classroom, cuss me out, or be chronically disruptive to the learning process
I have a high regard for every student in my classroom regardless of your behavior. The one thing you can do to destroy my respect for you is to cheat.

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated in my classroom. Academic dishonesty is unacceptable because:

1. I cannot accurately assess your learning, which means I can no longer teach you.
2. I cannot trust you or any work that you produce to be yours. If I catch you cheating, your future success has no meaning in this classroom because I cannot be sure you did it by yourself.
3. School is for the purpose of learning, not getting good grades. Your future success depends on how well you learn, not on how well you score.

If you are caught cheating on a daily assignment, you will receive a zero. If you are caught cheating on a test, you will receive a maximum score of a 50 on the makeup test. This is per the school policy handbook. What constitutes cheating?

1. Copying another student’s notes, in whole or in part
2. Copying another student’s current events article assignment, in whole or in part
3. Allowing another student to do either of those things. Don’t share your work! Do NOT send your work to other students to “help” them and then claim you had NO IDEA they would upload it to turnitin.com as their own. We will count that as cheating and you will receive a zero.
4. Looking at another student’s work on a test
5. Copying test questions into your own materials during a test
6. Knowing that another student is cheating and not turning them in.

If you are found to be cheating at a university, the consequence is expulsion without an opportunity to return. If you have academic dishonesty on your record in high school, it will be hard to gain admittance to college.