

## **AP Human GEOGRAPHY COURSE OUTLINE:**

### **I. Geography: Its Nature and Perspectives (5-10% of the AP Exam)**

- A. Geography as a field of inquiry
- B. Major geographical concepts underlying the geographical perspective: location, space, place, scale, pattern, nature and society, regionalization, globalization, and gender issues
- C. Key geographical skills
  - 1. How to use and think about maps and geospatial data
  - 2. How to understand and interpret the implications of associations among phenomena in places
  - 3. How to recognize and interpret at different scales the relationships among patterns and processes
  - 4. How to define regions and evaluate the regionalization process
  - 5. How to characterize and analyze changing interconnections among places
- D. Use of geospatial technologies, such as GIS, remote sensing, global positioning systems (GPS), and online maps
- E. Sources of geographical information and ideas: the field, census data, online data, aerial photography, and satellite imagery
- F. Identification of major world regions

### **REQUIRED ACTIVITIES:**

- Reading & Study Guide response
  - Fouberg, Chapter 1: Introduction to Human Geography
- Handouts:
  - "The Five Themes of Geography" (handout)
  - "Key Geographical Skills" (handout)
- Maps:
  - Regional maps (done at beginning of course, keep for use throughout course)
- Article Reviews:
  - *Rediscovering the Importance of Geography*, Alexander B. Murphy. In *Annual Editions: Geography 02/03*, edited by edited by Gerald Pitzl. Guilford, CT: Duskin, 2002.\*
  - *The Challenges We Face*, Jeffrey Kluger and Andrea Dortman. In *Annual Editions: Global Issues 04/05*, edited by Robert M. Jackson. Dubuque, IA: Duskin, 2005.\*
  - *The Four Traditions of Geography*, William D. Pattison. In *Annual Editions: Geography 02/03*, edited by Gerald Pitzl. Guilford, CT: Duskin, 2002.\*
- Media and Projects:
  - Power of Place #1 – "One Earth, Many Scales"
  - "Ferris Bueller's Day Off " **or** "Guns N' Roses World Tour"

### **II. Population and Migration (13-17% of the AP Exam)**

- A. Geographical analysis of population
  - 1. Density, distribution, and scale
  - 2. Implications of various densities and distributions
  - 3. Composition: age, sex, income, education, and ethnicity
  - 4. Patterns of fertility, mortality, and health
- B. Population growth and decline over time and space
  - 1. Historical trends and projections for the future
  - 2. Theories of population growth and decline, including the Demographic Transition Model
  - 3. Regional variations of demographic transition
  - 4. Effects of national population policies: promoting population growth in some countries

- or reducing fertility rates in others
- 5. Environmental impacts of population change on water use, food supplies, biodiversity, the atmosphere, and climate
- 6. Population and natural hazards: impacts on policy, economy, and society
- C. Migration
  1. Types of migration: transnational, internal, chain, step, seasonal agriculture (e.g., transhumance), and rural to urban
  2. Major historical migrations
  3. Push and pull factors, and migration in relation to employment and quality of life
  4. Refugees, asylum seekers, and internally displaced persons
  5. Consequences of migration: socioeconomic, cultural, environmental, and political; immigration policies, remittances

### **REQUIRED ACTIVITIES:**

- Reading & Study Guide response
  - Fouberg, Chapter 2: Population and Chapter 3: Migration
- Article Reviews:
  - *Gray Dawn: The Global Aging Crisis*, Peter G. Peterson. In *Annual Editions: Geography 02/03*, edited by Gerald Pitzl. Guilford, CT: Duskin, 2002.\*
  - *Helping the World's Poorest*, Jeffrey Sachs. In *Annual Editions: Geography 02/03*, edited by Gerald Pitzl, 89-90. Guilford, CT: Duskin, 2002.
  - *Malthus Redux: Is Doomsday upon Us, Again?*, Donald G. McNeil, Jr. In *Annual Editions: Geography 10/11*, edited by Gerald Pitzl, 141-145. New York City, NY: 2010.
- Video:
  - *World in Balance: The People Paradox*
  - *Power of Place*
    - Migration and Conquest Case Studies
    - Population, Food Supply, and Energy Development
    - The Legacy of Colonization Case Studies
    - Population Geography
    - Boundaries and Borderlands
    - Mexico: Motive to Migrate
- Other Activities:
  - **Patterns of Population:** Manipulating Population Growth-Predicting the Future
  - **Choropleth Map** construction of World demographic data; Regional analysis based on data from the current *Population Reference Bureau World Data Sheet* (activity)
- Case Study:
  - Migration – Refugees

### **III. Cultural Patterns and Processes (13-17% of the AP Exam)**

- A. Concepts of culture
  1. Culture traits
  2. Diffusion patterns
  3. Acculturation, assimilation, and multiculturalism
  4. Cultural region, vernacular regions, and culture hearths
  5. Globalization and the effects of technology on cultures
- B. Cultural differences and regional patterns
  1. Language and communications
  2. Religion and sacred space
  3. Ethnicity and nationalism
  4. Cultural differences in attitudes toward gender
  5. Popular and folk culture
  6. Cultural conflicts, and law and policy to protect culture

- C. Cultural landscapes and cultural identity
  1. Symbolic landscapes and sense of place
  2. The formation of identity and place making
  3. Differences in cultural attitudes and practices toward the environment
  4. Indigenous peoples

### **REQUIRED ACTIVITIES:**

- Reading & Study Guide Response
  - Fouberg, Chapter 4 (Culture), Chapter 5 (Race, Ethnicity, Gender, and Sexuality), Chapter 6 (Language), and Chapter 7 (Religion)
- Handouts:
  - "The Global Mosaic" (handout)
  - " Ethnicity and Race" (handout)
- Article Reviews:
  - *Micro Melting Pots*, William H. Frey. In *Annual Editions: Geography 02/03*, edited by Gerald Pitzl. Guilford, CT: Duskin, 2002.\*
  - *Modernization's Challenge to Traditional Values: Who's Afraid of Ronald McDonald?* By Ronald Inglehart and Wayne E. Baker. In *Annual Editions: Global Issues 04/05*, edited by Robert M. Jackson. Dubuque, IA: Duskin, 2003.\*
- Video:
  - Frontline Video – "Merchants of Cool"
  - Frontline Video – "The Way the Music Died"
  - Power of Place #24 – Boston: Ethnic Mosaic
  - Power of Place #25 – "Vancouver: Hong Kong East" and "Montreal: An Island of French"
  - Human Geography: People, Places, and Change – "Alaska: The Last Frontier?"
  - Power of Place #17 – "Jerusalem: Capital of Two States?"
- Case study:
  - Ethnic Cleansing; Genocide; Cultural landscapes

## **IV. Agriculture, Food Production, and Rural Land Use (13-17% of the AP Exam)**

- A. Development and diffusion of agriculture
  1. Neolithic Agricultural Revolution
  2. Second Agricultural Revolution
  3. Green Revolution
  4. Large-scale commercial agriculture and agribusiness
- B. Major agricultural production regions
  1. Agricultural systems associated with major bioclimatic zones
  2. Variations within major zones and effects of markets
  3. Interdependence among regions of food production and consumption
- C. Rural land use and settlement patterns
  1. Models of agricultural land use, including von Thünen's model
  2. Settlement patterns associated with major agriculture types: subsistence, cash cropping, plantation, mixed farming, monoculture, pastoralism, ranching, forestry, fishing and aquaculture
  3. Land use/land cover change: irrigation, desertification, deforestation, wetland destruction, conservation efforts to protect or restore natural land cover, and global impacts
  4. Roles of women in agricultural production and farming communities
- D. Issues in contemporary commercial agriculture
  1. Biotechnology, including genetically modified organisms (GMO)
  2. Spatial organization of industrial agriculture, including the transition in land use to large-scale commercial farming and factors affecting the location of processing

facilities

3. Environmental issues: soil degradation, overgrazing, river and aquifer depletion, animal wastes, and extensive fertilizer and pesticide use
4. Organic farming, crop rotation, value-added specialty foods, regional appellations, fair trade, and eat-local-food movements
5. Global food distribution, malnutrition, and famine

### **REQUIRED ACTIVITIES:**

- Readings & Study Guide Responses:
  - Fouberg, Chapter 11: Agriculture
- Article Reviews:
  - *The New Geopolitics of Food*, Lester R. Brown. In *Annual Editions: Global Issues 13/14*, edited by Robert M. Jackson. New York City, NY: 2014.
- Video:
  - "Guns, Germs, Steel" – first segment on Agriculture
  - Power of Place #24 – "Chicago: Farming on the Edge"
  - Power of Place #7 – "Vologda: Russian Farming in Flux"
  - Power of Place #16 – "Dikhatpura: Help Through Irrigation"
  - *Houses and Village Types* (power point presentation)
  - *Commercial Agriculture* (power point presentation)
  - "The Matrix"
  - "Store Wars"
- Exercises:
  - "Von Thunen Agricultural Location: Economic Rent" see pg. 65, Student Study Guide, Human Geography, Landscapes of Human Activities, Fellman & Getis, McGraw-Hill publishers.
  - "Least Cost Theory of Industrial Location" see pg. 74, Student Study Guide, Human Geography, Landscapes of Human Activities, Fellman & Getis, McGraw-Hill publishers.

## **V. Industrialization and Economic Development (13-17% of the AP Exam)**

- A. Growth and diffusion of industrialization
  1. The changing roles of energy and technology
  2. Industrial Revolution
  3. Models of economic development: Rostow's Stages of Economic Growth and Wallerstein's World Systems Theory
  4. Geographic critiques of models of industrial location: bid rent, Weber's comparative costs of transportation and industrial location in relation to resources, location of retailing and service industries, and local economic development within competitive global systems of corporations and finance and world systems
- B. Social and economic measures of development
  1. Gross domestic product and GDP per capita
  2. Human Development Index
  3. Gender Inequality Index (GII)
  4. Income disparity and the Gini coefficient
  5. Changes in fertility and mortality
  6. Access to health care, education, utilities, and sanitation
- C. Contemporary patterns and impacts of industrialization and development
  1. Spatial organization of the world economy
  2. Variations in levels of development (uneven development)
  3. Deindustrialization, economic restructuring, and the rise of service and high technology economies
  4. Globalization, manufacturing in newly industrialized countries (NICs), and the

- international division of labor
- 5. Natural resource depletion, pollution, and climate change
- 6. Sustainable development
- 7. Government development initiatives: local, regional, and national policies
- 8. Women in development and gender equity in the workforce

### **REQUIRED ACTIVITIES:**

- Reading & Study Guide Response
  - Fouberg, Chapter 10 (Development), Chapter 12 (Industry), Chapter 13 (HEI), Chapter 14 (Globalization)
- Article Reviews:
  - *Helping the World's Poorest*, Jeffrey Sachs. In *Annual Editions: Geography 02/03*, edited by Gerald Pitzl. Guilford, CT: Duskin, 2002.\*
  - *The End of Cheap China*, *The Economist*: May 10, 2012.
- Handouts:
  - "Weber's Theory of Industrial Location" (handout)
  - "Rostow's Theory of Industrial Development" (handout)
- Videos:
  - Power of Place #20 – "Gabon: Sustainable Resources?"
  - Power of Place #23 – "A Second Chance for Amazonia?"
  - Frontline Video – "Wal-Mart's influence on Bentonville, Arkansas"  
<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/walmart/>
- Case Study:
  - Globalization

## **VI. Cities and Urban Land Use (13-17% of the AP Exam)**

- A. Development and character of cities
  - 1. Origin of cities; site and situation characteristics
  - 2. Forces driving urbanization
  - 3. Borchert's epochs of urban transportation development
  - 4. World cities and megacities
  - 5. Suburbanization processes
- B. Models of urban hierarchies: reasons for the distribution and size of cities
  - 1. Gravity model
  - 2. Christaller's central place theory
  - 3. Rank-size rule
  - 4. Primate cities
- C. Models of internal city structure and urban development: strengths and limitations of models
  - 1. Burgess concentric zone model
  - 2. Hoyt sector model
  - 3. Harris and Ullman multiple nuclei model
  - 4. Galactic city model
  - 5. Models of cities in Latin America, North Africa, and the Middle East, Sub-Saharan Africa, East Asia, and South Asia
- D. Built environment and social space
  - 1. Types of residential buildings
  - 2. Transportation and utility infrastructure
  - 3. Political organization of urban areas
  - 4. Urban planning and design (e.g., gated communities, New Urbanism, and smart-growth policies)
  - 5. Census data on urban ethnicity, gender, migration, and socioeconomic status
  - 6. Characteristics and types of edge cities: boomburbs, greenfields, uptowns
- E. Contemporary urban issues

1. Housing and insurance discrimination, and access to food stores
2. Changing demographic, employment, and social structures
3. Uneven development, zones of abandonment, disamenity, and gentrification
4. Suburban sprawl and urban sustainability problems: land and energy use, cost of expanding public education services, home financing and debt crises
5. Urban environmental issues: transportation, sanitation, air and water quality, remediation of brownfields, and farmland protection

**REQUIRED ACTIVITIES:**

- Reading & Study Guide Response:
  - Fouberg, Chapter 9: Urban Geography
- Video:
  - Power of Place # 4 – “Berlin: United We Stand”
  - Power of Place #24 – “Chicago: Farming on the Edge”
  - Human Geography: People, Places, and Change – “Berlin: Changing Center of a Changing Europe”
  - Power of Place #12 – “Tokyo: Anatomy of a Mega-City”
  - Power of Place #23 – “Sao Paulo: The Outer Ring”
- Case Study: Urban Land Use – The Urban Models and how they apply to real cities of today. (TBD)

**VII. Political Organization of Space (13-17% of the AP Exam)**

- A. Territorial dimensions of politics
  1. The concepts of political power and territoriality
  2. The nature, meaning, and function of boundaries
  3. Influences of boundaries on identity, interaction, and exchange
  4. Federal and unitary states, confederations, centralized government, and forms of governance
  5. Spatial relationships between political systems and patterns of ethnicity, economy, and gender
  6. Political ecology: impacts of law and policy on the environment and environmental justice
- B. Evolution of the contemporary political pattern
  1. The nation-state concept
  2. Colonialism and imperialism
  3. Democratization
  4. Fall of communism and legacy of the Cold War
  5. Patterns of local, regional, and metropolitan governance
- C. Changes and challenges to political-territorial arrangements
  1. Changing nature of sovereignty
  2. Fragmentation, unification, and cooperation
  3. Supranationalism and international alliances
  4. Devolution of countries: centripetal and centrifugal forces
  5. Electoral geography: redistricting and gerrymandering
  6. Armed conflicts, war, and terrorism

**REQUIRED ACTIVITIES:**

- Reading & Study Guide Response
  - Fouberg, Chapter 8: Political Geography
- Article Reviews:
  - *Continental Divide*, Torsten Wohler. In *Annual Editions: Geography 03/04*, edited by Gerald Pitzl, Guilford, CT: Duskin, 2003.\*

- *The Rise of the Region State*, Kenichi Ohmae, In *Annual Editions: Geography 03/04*, edited by Gerald Pitzl, Guilford, CT: Duskin, 2003.\*
  - Handouts:
    - "Review of the Political Organization of Space" (handout)
  - Video:
    - Power of Place # 3 – "Slovakia: New Sovereignty" and "Strasbourg: Symbol of a United Europe"
    - "Model Berlin Conference"
    - "Hotel Rwanda" (examples)
    - "The Nature of Political Boundaries"
    - Power of Place # 2 – "Boundaries and Borderlands"
    - Power of Place # 4 – East Looks West
    - Power of Place # 13 – Global Interaction
    - Power of Place # 17 – Sacred Space Under Siege
  - Case Study:
    - Terrorism
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