**AP Human Geography Syllabus 2023 – 2024**

Instructor: Mr. Jonathan Lambert

Email: Jonathan.Lambert@osceolaschools.net

Classroom: 22-101

Office Hours: Mondays 2:30pm – 3:30pm

 Lunch: By Appointment Only

**Course Description:**

AP® Human Geography is a yearlong course that contains seven units of study as outlined in the 2019 Course and Exam Description (CED) published by the College Board. The units in the CED focus on topics including thinking geographically, population and migration, culture, political geography, agriculture, urban geography, development and industrialization. Students will have multiple opportunities to apply the information addressed in each unit in activities including notetaking, current events, projects, and formative and summative assessments.

**Goal:**

“The goal for the course is for students to become more Geo literate, more engaged in contemporary global issues, and more informed about multicultural viewpoints.”

(College Board, 2019)

**Teacher Introduction:**

Hello everyone,

My name is Mr. Lambert, and I will be your teacher for the year. I am originally from a small town in Pennsylvania and moved down about 2.5 years ago with my parents and fiancée. I graduated from Kutztown University of Pennsylvania with a Bachelor of Science in Secondary Education. This will be my 3rd year at Gateway High School over the past 2 years I have primarily taught Economics, AP Courses and IB Courses focusing on various materials from economics to human geography. Currently I am enrolled at the University of Central Florida working towards a Master's in public administration. In my free time I like to go on cruises to various different countries which gives me insight into not only location and homes, but also into their cultures which helps me teach this class better overall. I am excited to bring these varying experiences to the classroom.

**Required Materials:**

* Textbook: Bednarz, Sarah Witham, et al. Human Geography: A Spatial Perspective. CENGAGE Learning, 2021.
* 3-ring Binder
* Notebook
* Pencils, Pens and Highlighters

**Skills and Big Ideas:**

* As students' progress through the course, they develop skills to help them think geographically and make connections between content in the seven units of study.
* There are 5 skill categories addressed in the course: Concepts and Processes, Spatial Relationships, Data Analysis, Source Analysis, and Scale Analysis. (College Board, 2019)
* The big ideas for the course are:
	+ Patterns and Spatial Organization (PSO)
	+ Impacts and Interactions (IMP)
	+ Spatial Process and Societal Change (SPS) (College Board, 2019)

**Reading is REQUIRED**

Students are assigned readings from the course textbook. Each unit may consist of one to a few chapters. Current events related to topics in the units will be integrated and discussed often in class as well.

**Topic Questions and Personal Progress Checks explained:**

Throughout each unit, Topic Questions will be provided to help students check their understanding. The Topic Questions are especially useful for confirming understanding of difficult or foundational topics before moving on to new content or skills that build upon prior topics. Topic Questions can be assigned before, during, or after a lesson, and as in-class work or

homework. Students will get rationales for each Topic Question that will help them understand why an answer is correct or incorrect, and their results will reveal misunderstandings to help them target the content and skills needed for additional practice.

At the end of each unit or at key points within a unit, Personal Progress Checks will be provided in class or as homework assignments in AP Classroom. Students will get a personal report with feedback on every topic, skill, and question that they can use to chart their progress, and their results will come with rationales that explain every question’s answer. One to two class periods are set aside to re-teach skills based on the results of the Personal Progress Checks.

These practice assignments will be mandatory.

**Assessments:**

Students have several types of assessments to monitor learning throughout the year. Formative assessments may include daily activities, vocabulary, and reading quizzes. Summative assessments include major projects and an end of unit multiple-choice and FRQ assessment.

**Online Resources:**

Census Bureau <https://www.census.gov/>

The Economist [https://www.economist.com](https://www.economist.com/)

National Geographic [Https://www.nationalgeographic.com](https://www.nationalgeographic.com/)

Population Connection <https://www.populationconnection.org/>

Population Reference Bureau <https://www.prb.org/>

Time Magazine [http://time.com](http://time.com/)

**Online Mapping:**

ArcGIS Online GeoInquiries <https://www.arcgis.com/apps/MapAndAppGallery/index.html?appid=cd4ab9e658064db384d1322dbfde2c90>

Google Earth <https://www.google.com/earth/>

National Geographic Mapmaker <https://mapmaker.nationalgeographic.org/>

**Grading Policy:**

This course is meant to challenge you to be a better student and prepare you for your future, whether that is college, technical school, or going right to the workforce. You will need to put the appropriate effort and time into this class in order to receive a passing grade. Throughout this course you will be faced with challenging course materials and advanced topics that you would find in a college setting. You are expected to always be prepared for class, be organized, complete all readings and complete all assignments on time. Remember grades are not given, they are earned.

**Grading:**

Each assignment in class will be assigned a certain point value, this point value will be determined based off the difficulty and rigor of the assignment. Each assignment will mostly fall into one of the following categories:

* Exams/Tests
* Classwork/Projects/Quizzes
* Homework
* Bell work/Warmups

**\*\*\*ALL EXAMS/GRADES WILL BE GRADED ON A 5 POINT SCALE SIMILAR TO THE AP GRADING SCALE. THIS WILL BE OUTLINED BELOW\*\*\***

When you are given a grade in my course the point value will be 1 – 5. The grades will be assigned as listed below:

* 5 – 100% - 81%
* 4 – 80% - 61%
* 3 – 60% - 41%
* 2 – 40% - 21%
* 1 – 21% - 1%

**Course Expectations:**

This year I have very high expectations for all of you. You will work hard in this course, and you must plan to stay on top of everything. During this course I will challenge you to be the best student possible. There may be points in this course where you do not do so well on an assignment, you will have the chance to correct these assignments in some cases to improve your grade. I am here to prepare you for life after high school whether that is college, a trade school, or going right into the workforce, I want you to succeed, not fail. In my classroom I expect you to all be considerate and respectful of one another. Remember the Golden Rule: Treat others how you want to be treated.

**Important Dates:**

* May 7th, 2024 – AP Human Geography Exam

**Work Ethic:**

I expect every single one of you to turn in your assignments ON TIME. Throughout this class you must become accountable and responsible. Plan and complete your assignments appropriately and on time. **DO NOT PROCRASTINATE!!!**

\***If you have an emergency, come talk to me or email me and we will discuss your academic situation. We will come up with a way for you to turn in your assignment later. \***

**Cell Phone Policy:**

CELL PHONES WILL NOT BE PERMITTED IN THE CLASSROOM. CELLPHONES NEED TO BE PUT AWAY IN YOUR BOOKBAG AND CANNOT BE ACCESSED DURING SCHOOL DAY. THIS IS PER FLORIDA LAW AND OSCEOLA COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD RULE 8.63: STUDENT USE OF PERSONAL DEVICES. IF I DO SEE IT, I MUST CONFISCATE IT AND HOLD IT FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE DAY. THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS RULE.

**Late Work Policy**

All classwork is expected to be completed on time on the day it is due. The due date will be listed in multiple places (whiteboard, Canvas, PowerPoint, etc.) as well as being announced by me in class. If you miss a due date you will have a total of 5 days to get a 50% or higher on the assignment. For example: 1st day – 90%, this is the highest grade you can now earn; 2nd day – 80%; 3rd day – 70%; 4th day – 60%; 5th day and until 5 days prior to the end of the quarter will be a 50%. **Also, late work will not be graded immediately, it will take some time to grade it and put it in the gradebook.**

**Absent Policy:**

If you miss a day, please check with fellow classmates to see what you missed. You can also check Canvas for any assignments you may have missed. You will be given the same number of days you were absent to make up for missing work. Missed tests will be on a case-to-case basis.

**Discipline Policies and Scale**

* **Tardy**: Students must arrive to class on time. Class changes are for using the bathroom and getting to class. It is not social hour. If you were with a teacher or in the office, be sure to get a note, otherwise you will be marked tardy and receive the appropriate consequences.
* **Classroom Disruption**: Students must not disturb the proceedings of the classroom. Any student interfering with the learning of the class as a whole or that of an individual student will receive appropriate consequences.
* **Academic Honesty**: Plagiarizing or otherwise being similarly dishonest will result in a no-questions-asked zero. Remember, copying and pasting without citation counts as plagiarism! I do not tolerate any type of lying, cheating, or plagiarism. All I ask is you be honest to yourself, your fellow classmates and me.