

AP[®] Human Geography

Syllabus 3

AP[®] Human Geography at our school is a year-long course designed to meet or exceed the experience of an introductory one-semester college human geography course. The 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. [C2]

C2— The course teaches the use of spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine human organization of space.

Course Materials

The main text for the course is *Human Geography*, 9th edition (2007) by Jerome Fellmann, et al. Students will also use *Human Geography in Action*, 4th edition (2007) by Michael Kuby, et al. for applied exercises. Additional case studies, readings from current resources, films, aerial photos and field study work will supplement the two main texts. Many videos are from the *Power of Place: Geography for the 21st Century* video series.

Organization of Course

In this course students will meet every other day for a 95-minute block period. Students use interactive notebooks as an organizational and learning tool for the course. The notebooks include activities, vocabulary, key concepts, and questions for each unit and will be turned in the day of each unit exam. Unit exams include a 35-45 minute timed multiple-choice section, followed by a 45-minute free-response section that usually involves answering two essay questions. Each unit also includes either an in-class or online Socratic discussion. Each semester the course includes a field study. The field study in the first semester is trip to a regional mall to apply regionalization and cultural landscape principles. Second semester students participate in a full-day urban field study that helps them synthesize concepts from many units (population, economic, culture, and urban).

Course Outline (by unit)

- I. What is Geography? **Geography—Its Nature and Perspectives** [C1]
Reading Fellman Chapter 1: Introduction: Some Background Basics
A. Historical development of the discipline

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- B. Defining “human geography”
- C. Basic concepts of geography
- D. Methods and skills of geography
 - Applied Activity: Kuby, Chapter 1: “True Maps, False Impressions: Making, Manipulating, and Interpreting Maps”

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- E. Thinking Geographically—Level 4 Analysis [C2]
 - posing and answering geographic questions—Field Study Park Meadows Mall

II. Population Unit [C1]

Reading: The Humans in Human Geography; Reading: Fellmann, Chapter 3: “Spatial Interaction and Spatial Behavior”; Fellmann, Chapter 4: “Population: World Patterns, Regional Trends”—Key video: *World in Balance: The People Paradox*

Population Research Project

Socratic Seminar: Population Policies

A. Population Patterns

1. Factors of growth: rates and averages
 - Applied Activity: Kuby, Chapter 5: “One Billion and Counting: The Hidden Momentum of Population Growth”
2. Historical patterns of growth
3. Contemporary patterns and regional variations of demographic data i.e., fertility, mortality, and health [C4]
 - Demographic transition
4. Population policies—role of women

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B. Population Distribution

1. Spatial patterns: global, regional, local [C3]
2. Demographic trends: case studies
3. Spatial variations in factors of growth

C. Population Movement

1. Push and pull factors of migration
2. Major voluntary and involuntary migrations
3. Contemporary migrations
4. Local migrations and activity space
5. Migration to and within the U.S.
 - Applied Activity: Kuby, Chapter 4: “Newton's First Law of Migration: The Gravity Model”

C4— The course teaches students how to use and interpret maps, data sets, and geographic models. GIS, aerial photographs, and satellite images, though not required, can be used effectively in the course.

C3— The course teaches spatial relationships at different scales ranging from the local to the global.

III. Cultural Patterns and Processes [C1]

Reading: Fellmann, Chapter 2: “Roots and Meaning of Culture”

Fellmann, Chapter 5: “Language and Religion”

Fellmann, Chapter 6: “Ethnic Geography”

Fellmann, Chapter 7: “Folk and Popular Culture”

A. Culture and Culture Traits

1. Defining culture: material, nonmaterial, traits, complexes
2. Cultural diffusion and change

Applied Activity: Kuby, Chapter 3: "Tracking the AIDS Epidemic: Diffusion through Space and Time"

3. Major culture regions and realms
- Socratic Seminar: Acculturation or Assimilation

B. Cultural Diversity—Four-Level Analysis for Each Topic

1. Languages
2. Religions—religion research project
3. Ethnicity
4. Popular culture/folk culture
5. Perceptions of natural hazards

C. Cultural landscapes

Applied Activity: Kuby, Chapter 2: "Layers of Tradition: Culture Regions at Different Scales" [C3]

1. Culture and the environment
2. Culture and group identity—values and preferences
3. Culture and conflict
4. Sense of place

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IV. Economic Systems and Patterns

Reading Fellmann, Chapters 8–9: "Livelihood and Economy"

Fellmann, Chapter 10: "Patterns of Development and Change"

Socratic Seminars:

- Effects of development on the environment
- Agriculture

A. Economic Structure/Development

1. Economic sectors / trends

Applied Activity: Kuby, Chapter 6: "Help Wanted: The Changing Geography of Jobs"

2. Measuring development—variations in levels of development

Applied Activity: Kuby, Chapter 7: "From Rags to Riches:

The Dimensions of Development"

3. Core periphery
4. Economic and development models [C4]

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B. Agriculture and Rural Land Use [C1]

1. Origins and spread of agriculture
2. Major agricultural regions
3. Linkages and flows of products
4. Commercial agriculture
5. Science and agriculture

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Applied Activity: Kuby, Chapter 8: "Food for Thought: The Globalization of Agriculture"

C. Rural land use/settlement patterns

1. Land use models [C4]
2. Energy and intensification of land use
3. Rural activity and environmental issues

D. Industrialization

1. Origins and spread of industrialization
2. Major industrial regions
3. Industrial location models [C4]
4. Deindustrialization
5. Industrialization and quality of life

E. Global Economy

1. Trade and transportation patterns
2. Shifting patterns of production
3. Transnationals and outsourcing
4. Interdependence and competition

V. Urban Geography [C1]

Reading: Fellmann, Chapter 11: "Urban Systems and Urban Structures"

—Urban Field Study—Light Rail—Littleton, Englewood, LODO

A. Patterns of Urbanization

1. Global: rates and regions
2. National: growth and decline
3. Local: urban sprawl [C3]

B. Evolution of Cities

1. Defining an urban place: site, situation, form
2. Models of urban location and structure [C4]
Applied Activity: Kuby, Chapter 9: "Take Me Out to the Ball Game: Market Areas and the Urban Hierarchy"
3. Urban hierarchies

C. Patterns within the city – Urban Field Study Lite Rail

1. Internal structure – models of cities
Applied Activity: Kuby, Chapter 10: "Reading the Urban Landscape through Census Data and Field Observation" [C2]
2. Demographic and social patterns
3. Transportation and infrastructure

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4. Political organization and urban planning

D. Patterns Beyond the City

1. Megacities and conurbations
2. Suburbanization and edge cities

VI. Political Geography [C1]

Reading: Fellmann, Chapter 12: "The Political Ordering of Space"

A. Nations and States

1. Drawing boundaries: global, national, local [C3]
Applied Activity: Kuby, Chapter 12: "Do Orange and Green Clash? Residential Segregation in Northern Ireland"
2. Effects of size and shape
3. Centripetal and centrifugal forces

B. Contemporary Political Patterns

1. Historical development of boundaries and states
2. Colonialism and neocolonialism
3. Internal order: national and subnational governance

C. Cooperation and Conflict

1. Alliances
2. Devolution/Supranationalism
3. Conflicts

VII. Review for AP Human Geography Exam

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