



**Cecil County Public Schools**  
**Division of Education Services**  
*Serving learners, families, and the community.*



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## **Social Studies: AP Human Geography**

**Purpose of the Document:** This document provides an overview of this course. The information provided below is designed to support students, parents, and the school community to understand the major content of the course and the standards used to design it. To support the needs of students, teachers may make adjustments as needed. Please contact your child's teacher and/or review the course Schoology page with your child for additional information.

**Program Vision:** Our vision is to foster a society of informed, skilled, engaged and productive citizens.

**Program Mission:** Our mission is to empower students to ask questions, make connections, solve problems and work cooperatively to become productive members of society.

**Course Description:** This course provides college-level instruction in a high school setting. Human Geography is the study of where humans and their activities and institutions such as ethnic groups, cities, and industries are located and why they are there. By analyzing geography, population, cultural patterns, organization of space, land use, industrial and economic development students will gain a better understanding of the world they live in. Through inquiry, students will read extensively from primary and secondary source documents and practice technical writing to prepare for the AP exam. To earn an AP weighted high school credit, students enrolled in an AP course must take the College Board exam administered at the conclusion of the course.

### **Topics at-a-Glance**

**Unit 1: Thinking Geographically** - Students will learn about the tools and method geographers use in their study of place

**Unit 2: Population and Migration Patterns and Processes** - Students will explore the patterns associated with human populations.

**Unit 3: Cultural Patterns and Processes** - Students will focus on how and why language, religion, and other cultural practices spread over space and time.

**Unit 4: Political Patterns and Processes** - Students will build on their knowledge of populations and cultural patterns as you learn about the political organization of the world.

**Unit 5 Agriculture and Rural Land-Use Patterns and Processes** - Students will learn where

humans first developed agriculture and how farming practices spread throughout the world.

**Unit 6: Cities and Urban Land - Use Patterns and Processes-** Students will explore the origins and influences of urbanization, examining cities across the world and the role of those cities in globalization.

**Unit 7: Industrial and Economic Development Patterns and Processes** - Students will study the origins and influences of industrialization, along with the role industrialization plays in economic development.

**Standards/ and or skills taught - Unit 1**

- Students will understand the following big ideas:
  - Different types of maps and what they tell you
  - How geographers collect and use data
  - Spatial relationships and patterns
  - Data analysis at different scales (for example, global, national, local)
  - How geographers define regions

**Standards/ and or skills taught - Unit 2**

- Students will understand the following big ideas:
  - Population density and how it affects society and the environment
  - Theories of population growth and decline
  - Population and immigration policies and their effects
  - The causes and effects of migration

**Standards/ and or skills taught - Unit 3**

- Students will understand the following big ideas:
  - The different ways that cultural practices spread
  - Historical forces, such as colonialism and trade, that affect cultural patterns
  - Modern forces, such as globalization, that affect cultural patterns
  - Why different religions spread in different ways

**Standards/ and or skills taught - Unit 4**

- Students will understand the following big ideas:
  - Types of political entities such as nations and nation-states
  - The ideas and forces that shaped the political boundaries of the modern world
  - Forms of government such as unitary states and federal states
  - The factors that lead to states breaking apart

**Standards/ and or skills taught - Unit 5**

- Students will understand the following big ideas:
  - How physical geography influences farming practices
  - The origins and spread of agriculture
  - The Green Revolution
  - How farming practices affect the environment and society

**Standards/ and or skills taught - Unit 6**

- Students will understand the following big ideas:
  - The factors that drive the growth of cities and suburbs
  - Globalization and cities
  - City infrastructure
  - Urban design initiatives and practices

**Standards/ and or skills taught - Unit 7**

- Students will understand the following big ideas:
  - The Industrial Revolution
  - Economic sectors and patterns
  - How economic development affects the roles of women
  - Trade and the world economy

Learn more by visiting the College Board's AP website for [AP Human Geography](#).

**How students are graded:**

- Students will be graded through a mixture of formative and summative assessments; such as:
  - Unit Assessment
  - CSET Paragraphs (Create a claim, Set-Up a source or context, Evidence to support a claim, and Tie-In how the evidence supports the claim)
  - Source Analysis
  - Teacher assigned tasks

**Resources:**

- **Textbook** - The Cultural Landscape: An Introduction to Human Geography (11th Edition), James M. Rubenstein. Pearson, 2018.

**Home and School Connection**

- Visit the Schoology course for your class to review content and resources that are relevant to what you are learning.
- AMSCO book - AP Human Geo full length practice test at the back of the book. If you struggle with questions, go back to those sections of the book to read and review.
  - Read the chapters in the book dealing with the topics you have learned this year. This would be a great way to review the previously learned content.
- AP Central - go to [AP Human Geography THE EXAM](#) to review the exam and work through public release items from over the years
- AP Human Geography review on YouTube
  - [College Board](#)
  - [AP Mr. Sinn AP Human Geography](#)
  - [Dan Synder AP Human Geography](#)
- AP Classroom - log into your account and work through the practice activities