

Human Geography Common Syllabus 2025-2026



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Course Title: Human Geography
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1st Period: CP Human Geography
2nd Period: Planning
3rd Period: AP Human Geography
4th Period: CP Human Geography

Course Description: Welcome to Human Geography Over the next semester, we will discover ways in which geography shapes the world around us. This course focuses on reinforcing geographic concepts that can be applied to a variety of locales around the world. By exploring prominent global features –cultures, settlements, and economies – we will begin to see how multiple elements combine to form our understanding of regions and identities.

Instructional Philosophy:

The course will extend the 9th-grade students' understanding of the world around them through a detailed exploration of geographic concepts and skills. Strong emphasis will be placed on applying geographic thinking to interpret real-world problems and evaluate the solutions that are being pursued. Students will be challenged to predict cause-and-effect relationships regarding human actions and the physical environment. Students will also be introduced to a number of tools geographers use to collect and analyze data such as Geographic Information Systems, The Global Positioning System, and Google Earth.

Course Goals and State Standards:

Required Materials: Chrome books should be charged and in class ready to use each day.

You will need:

1. Notebook or Composition Notebook
2. Blue or black ink pens, #2 pencils

Assessment and Grading Policy:

50% Major Grades - Includes unit tests and projects

50% Minor Grades- Includes quizzes, small research assignments

Major Assessment Tools

- Students will analyze primary sources often in Human Geography class. The students will develop skills of narrative, argumentative, and/ or explanatory writing.
- Students should expect some form of formal evaluation at the end of every unit. These will include traditional tests, but also could include other authentic assessments the teacher feels are appropriate.
- Assessments such as quizzes and small tests may also be used mid-unit as the teacher attempts to assess student progress throughout a unit of study.
- Students should expect to complete at least one major project **every nine weeks**.
- Map tests will be given in conjunction with each unit of study.

SC Grading Scale:

A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	0- 59

Makeup Work and Late Work:

- **Make-up Procedures-** Students are responsible for discussing with the teacher to arrange a time schedule for making up the missed work due to an absence. All assignments that were assigned prior to the absence may be due upon the student's return to school. During your absence, all effort should be made to communicate with the teacher about make-up work. Students have **five days** to make up any assignments (major and minor) when they have an excused absence. **If the absence is unexcused, the late work policy below applies.**

Late Work Policy for MAJOR Grades

Number of Days Late	CP Courses
1	5 Points Off
2	10 Points Off
3	15 Points Off
4	20 Points Off
5	25 Points Off

Late Work Policy for MINOR Grades

Number of Days Late	CP Courses
1	10 Points Off
2	20 Points Off
3	30 Points Off
4	40 Points Off
5	50 Points Off

Other Assessment Information:

- Unlike middle school, we do not have a "no zero" policy. A student will receive a zero if work is not completed or turned in. See the policy for late work above.
- **Study guides:** High school study guides are not designed nor intended to provide a one-to-one corresponding list of those items and answers that will be specifically on the test. They are designed thematically to aid in a student's overall comprehension of the material under study. Diligent and accurate completion of the study guide and maps in addition to classwork, note taking, reading, and study of all of the aforementioned should prepare the student for all unit tests.

Behavior Expectations and Consequences:

1. **Be prompt.** Be at your desk and ready to begin class when the bell rings.
2. **Be respectful.** Treat everyone in the classroom with the courtesy and respect you wish to receive yourself. Pay attention and do not distract others. Also, respect the property, personal space, and opinions of others.
3. **Be considerate.** Think about the feelings of others before you say anything. Also, raise your hand so that each person may have a turn to speak; and don't conduct personal business (texting, gossiping, passing notes, eating/drinking, etc.) during class time.
4. **Be prepared.** Bring your textbook, notebook, and a writing utensil to class every day.
5. **Be present.** I expect you to be in class every day! Do not ask to leave the classroom unless it is an emergency.

Consequences: First offense – **Warning**; Second offense – **Parent Contact**; Third offense – **Jordan detention**; Fourth/Excessive issues - **office referral**.

Honor Code: All students have signed an honor code for academic honesty. Students have been instructed at the beginning of the school year as to the expectation of MHS concerning academic credibility.

Any violation of the honor code will result in a zero on the assignment or a referral.

Any additional violation in any class will result in discipline by the administration.

Pacing Guide:

Quarter	Topic
First Quarter	Unit 1: Introduction to Geography
	Unit 2: Population & Migration
	Unit 3: Culture
Second Quarter	Unit 4: Political Organization
	Unit 5: Land Use- AG
	Unit 6: Land Use- Urban
	Unit 7:: Economic Development