

**MVLA
2025-26
COURSE INFORMATION SHEET**

Course Title: AP Human Geography

School: Los Altos High School

UC/CSU requirement: Yes

MVLA Graduation requirement: Yes

Textbook and/or other learning resources: Human Geography: A Spatial Perspective AP Edition

Course Description/Student Learning Outcomes:

- Use and think about maps and spatial data.
- Understand and interpret the implications of associations among phenomena in places.
- Recognize and interpret at different scales the relationships among patterns and processes.
- Define regions and evaluate the regionalization process.
- Characterize and analyze changing interconnections among places.
- Additional academic development goals include:
 - *Improved analytical reading and writing skills.*
 - *Improved foundation for success in future secondary and collegiate coursework.*
 - *Introduction to college-level reasoning and content.*
 - *Understand the relationship between sustained, focused academic work ethic and academic success.*
 - *Students who score high enough on the College Board AP Exam may be eligible for college credit.*

Course Outline/Units of Study/[CTE Industry Standards](#)(If applicable to your course):

Unit 1: Thinking Geographically

- Students will learn about the tools and methods geographers use in their study of places

Unit 2: Cultural Patterns and Processes

- Students will focus on how and why language, religion, and other cultural practices spread over time and space

Unit 3: Political Patterns and PRocesses

- Students will build upon their knowledge of cultural patterns to learn about the political organization of the world

Unit 4: 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 5: Population and Migration Patterns and Processes

- Students will explore the patterns associated with human populations

Unit 6: 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

Unit 7: 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

Assessment and Grading ([BP 5121](#) / [AR 5121](#)): To ensure that every student has an equal opportunity to demonstrate their learning, the course instructors implement aligned grading practices and common assessments with the same frequency.

1. Grading categories and their percentage weights:

- b. Content Knowledge (Multiple Choice Exams): 30%
- c. Critical Thinking (FRQ Exams): 30%
- d. Reading & Application (Reading Notes & Quizzes): 30%
- e. Engagement (Classwork): 10%

2. Achievement evidence collected within each grading category:

- b. Content Knowledge= Multiple Choice Exams
- c. Critical Thinking= Free Response Question Written Exams
- d. Reading & Application= Key Issues Reading Organizers and Online Quizzes
- e. Engagement= Classwork and Collaboration

3. Grading Scales:

- b. A= 90-100%
- c. B= 80-89.9%
- d. C= 70-79.9%
- e. D= 60-69.9%
- f. F= 0-59.9%

4. Homework/outside of Class Practices ([AR 6154](#)): In general, students have one major homework assignment, their Reading Notes Homework, per unit. These Reading Notes assignments include a range of 10-20 pages of textbook reading accompanied by 1-2 hours of work responding and interpreting reading per week. There are reading quizzes that may be assigned for homework as well. In addition to the Reading Notes, there will be assigned review activities to help prepare students for assessments.

5. Excused Absence Make-up Practices ([Education Code 48205\(b\)](#)): Students should contact their teacher as soon as they know about an absence. Students can use the Organized Binder absence system to find assignments from when they were absent. Students are responsible for the assignments and classwork from when they were absent and should be completed within the number of days the student was excused. If a student misses a test (Multiple Choice and/or FRQ), they have one week from the test date to make up the exam, after which the test cannot be made up barring extraordinary circumstances. Students are responsible for contacting and scheduling makeup with the teacher.

Unexcused absences will result in no credit for the assignment per the District policy. Full day excused absences need to be addressed with the teacher upon the return of the student; please note that instructors are not obligated to offer more than the number of days missed for the make-up period.

6. Academic Integrity Violation Practices: ([LAHS Academic Integrity Policy](#) / [MVHS Academic Integrity Policy](#)): Please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy outlined in the Parent/Student Handbook for information about violations of Academic Integrity and how violations will be handled. Because we believe that it is essential for students to be able to develop as independent thinkers and writers, students are not allowed to use Artificial Intelligence (Chat GPT or others) for any part of any assignment unless the teacher explicitly states that it is allowed for a particular task. Students should not collaborate online or share (digitally or otherwise) individual assignments with other students, unless explicitly directed to do so by the teacher. In the case of sharing materials inappropriately, both the student who shares materials and the student who receives them will be equally held accountable for an academic integrity violation.

Students are reminded that all work submitted in a class should be created by that student, for the purposes of that class, that year. All digital assignments will be given on Google Docs, and students must do all the drafting on that doc provided by the teacher, so the full revision history is viewable by the teacher. Copying and pasting work onto the provided document is prohibited. Additionally, students are prohibited from taking copies of or taking pictures of assessment materials when taking assessment or completing test corrections.

If a student commits a violation of Academic Integrity on an assignment (not an assessment), the student may be offered the opportunity to re-do the work according to teacher specifications but the grade on the assignment will be lowered up to two letter grades. If the student does not make up the work, it will be recorded as no credit. All of these circumstances must be met in order for a student to be allowed the opportunity to redo an assignment. Even if all the circumstances are met, the decision to allow a student to redo an assignment

lies with the teacher, in consultation with the assistant principal and the department coordinator, and is not guaranteed.

- a. The student committed an [“A” or a “B” level violation](#).
- b. The student has no other academic integrity violations on his/her/their disciplinary record during the student's time at LAHS. (Teacher needs to check with the student's AP to verify). IF this is **not** a first offense, the student will not be allowed to re-do the assessment and will receive no credit.
- c. The student accepts responsibility for the academic integrity violation. The student clearly articulates his/her/their decision-making process that led to the violation to the teacher.

Academic Integrity violations on an assessment will be recorded as no credit and no opportunity for redoing the work will be given.

7. **Late Work Practices:** All classwork is due within ONE week of the initial deadline. For Reading Notes (unit homework) students will lose one point for each day it is late up to one week. All Essential Knowledge Quizzes will stay open for one week from their assigned date before they are closed on AP Classroom. If a student misses a test (Multiple Choice and/or FRQ), they have one week from the test date to make up the exam, after which the test cannot be made up barring extraordinary circumstances. Students are responsible for contacting and scheduling makeup with the teacher.
8. **Revision Practices:** Students have an opportunity for a second chance at mastery for unit exams by completing assessment corrections. Correctly revised mistakes will earn 50% credit back. Corrections must be turned in by the due date announced by the teacher. All tests have corrections besides the Fall and Spring Semester final exams. MCQ corrections must be completed in the classroom without assistance from digital support.
9. **Extra Credit Practices:** There are no extra credit options. Students should take advantage of test corrections as a way to demonstrate mastery.
10. **Cell Phone Policy:** Students are expected to place phones in the teacher caddy prior to the beginning of class or will be marked tardy. Phones are expected to stay in the caddy for the entire period.
11. **LMS Used:** Google Classroom

Instructors' email addresses:

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