Hello students,

My name is Teacher Lopez, and I will be your A.P. Human Geography teacher this upcoming school year. My family is from Guatemala, and I was born and raised here in South Central LA and South Bay. I also attended King Drew as a high school student back in the day! In this class, you will learn how humans have understood, used, and changed the surface of Earth. To come prepared for this intensive school year by the first day of school, you must:

1. Read this document
2. Complete this Summer Assignment Due Friday August 7th
3. Study for your first quiz. You WILL have a Continents and Oceans Map Quiz on Friday August 14th.
4. Materials needed for this class:
    a. 2 Spiral Notebooks (College Ruled, 100 page). Each semester will have its own notebook.
    b. Mini Stapler
    c. Glue Stick
    d. Black/Blue Pen
    e. Pencil
    f. Small Ruler
    g. Highlighter

If you have questions, email me at maricela.lopez@lausd.net

About the Advanced Placement Program

College Board's Advanced Placement® Program (AP®) enables willing and academically prepared students to pursue college-level studies—with the opportunity to earn college credit, advanced placement, or both—while still in high school. Taking AP courses demonstrates to college admission officers that students have sought the most challenging curriculum available to them, and research indicates that students who score a 3 or higher on an AP Exam typically experience greater academic success in college and are more likely to earn a college degree than non-AP students.

College Course Equivalent

The AP Human Geography course is equivalent to an introductory college-level course in human geography. The exam at the end of the school year is 2 hours and 15 minutes long.

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for AP Human Geography. Students should be able to read college level texts and write grammatically correct, complete sentences.

About AP Human Geography

During this school year I will have required tutoring sessions and I will be in constant communication with you and your parents in order to support your success. We will be using google classroom for our assignments and schoology to check our grades.

This will not be an easy class. This will be a course in which you will have to commit extra study, tutoring and reading hours… but passing this class also provides an opportunity to boost your GPA, make you competitive for college applications and place you at the top of your graduating class. This class will prepare you for 10th-12th grade honors and AP classes. The future Valedictorian can possibly be in this class.

This course introduces students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of Earth's surface. Students employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine socio economic organization and its environmental consequences. They also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their research and applications. The curriculum reflects the goals of the National Geography Standards (2012).

AP Human Geography introduces high school students to college-level introductory human geography or cultural geography. The content is presented thematically rather than regionally and is organized around the discipline's main subfields: economic geography, cultural geography, political geography, and urban geography. The approach is spatial and problem oriented. Case studies are drawn from all world regions, with an emphasis on understanding the world in which we live today. Historical information serves to enrich analysis of the impacts of phenomena such as globalization, colonialism, and human–environment relationships on places, regions, cultural landscapes, and patterns of interaction.

Specific topics with which students engage include the following:

- problems of economic development and cultural change
- consequences of population growth, changing fertility rates, and international migration
- impacts of technological innovation on transportation, communication, industrialization, and other aspects of human life
- struggles over political power and control of territory
- conflicts over the demands of ethnic minorities, the role of women in society, and the inequalities between developed and developing economies
- explanations of why location matters to agricultural land use, industrial development, and urban problems
- the role of climate change and environmental abuses in shaping the human landscapes on Earth

The goal for the course is for students to become more geoliterate, more engaged in contemporary global issues, and more informed about multicultural viewpoints. They will develop skills in approaching problems geographically, using maps and geospatial technologies,

thinking critically about texts and graphic images, interpreting cultural landscapes, and applying geographic concepts such as scale, region, diffusion, interdependence, and spatial interaction, among others. Students will see geography as a discipline relevant to the world in which they live; as a source of ideas for identifying, clarifying, and solving problems at various scales; and as a key component of building global citizenship and environmental stewardship.

Now, watch this video:
https://youtu.be/J5jzQiTYIW0

Source: This reading is an excerpt derived from the college board website.