

Welcome to AP Human Geography!

Teacher: Jed Eby
Classes: 2nd, 3rd, 5th
Office Hours: WC208: Mornings by appointment and Tuesday and Thursday from 3:30-on.
Email: Ebyj@hpsd.org

Welcome to AP Human Geography! HUGO is an introductory college-level human geography course. Students cultivate their understanding of human geography through data and geographic analyses as they explore topics like patterns and spatial organization, human impacts and interactions with their environment, and spatial processes and societal changes." (College Board, 2020)

The course is designed to prepare students for the AP Human Geography exam on Tuesday **May 7, 2024**. This is a college level course and as such the pace and rigor of the material is very advanced. Students should expect to spend 30 minutes or more each night completing homework, reading, or reviewing notes.

Course Goal

"The goal for the course is for students to become more geoliterate, more engaged in contemporary global issues, and more informed about multicultural viewpoints." (College Board, 2019)

Course Big Ideas (College Board, 2019)

1. Patterns and Spatial Organization (PSO)
2. Impacts and Interactions (IMP)
3. Spatial Process and Societal Change (SPS)

Course Skills (College Board, 2019)

As students progress through the course they develop skills to help them think geographically and make connections between content in the seven units of study. The 5 skill categories addressed in the course are:

1. Concepts and Processes
2. Spatial Relationships
3. Data Analysis
4. Source Analysis
5. Scale Analysis

Course Texts

Human Geography a Spatial Perspective AP Edition- Sarah Bendarz, Mark Bockenhauer, Fredrik Hiebert

This course also incorporates the use of multiple textbooks that are used throughout the year as supplements to the text above.

Students are assigned daily readings from the primary course textbook. Each unit may consist of one to a few chapters (see Scope & Sequence section below). Current events related to topics in the units will be integrated and discussed often in class as well.

Course Supplies & Resources

All students will need:

- binder or folder(s) for this course into which you can divide, by unit, your handouts and other important materials.
- paper for taking notes
- Something to write with...everyday!

Students are advised to spend time reading the [AP Human Geography Course Overview](#) and the [AP Human Geography Course Description](#).

SPECIFIC EXPECTATIONS

Reading assignments are ongoing, and are completed outside of class time. Readings consist of traditional text, current events articles, and primary resources. Students are expected to write in a variety of ways. Homework assignments are regularly assigned, and late work is penalized. Research assignments are interwoven throughout the curriculum. Students will be given ample time during class, but are required to finish long-term assignments if they do not use their class time efficiently. Projects count as test grades and must also be turned in on time.

Report cards are issued each nine weeks. Grades are a combination of daily class assignments, homework, quizzes, projects, and tests. Tutoring is offered (see your teachers schedule), and students are encouraged to attend.

As students are being held accountable to an AP standard, grades may not be as high as students are accustomed to earning.

However, increased competence in problem solving and the exposure to higher levels of critical thinking, adds a layer of confidence and pride to the learning process. Parents have the opportunity to monitor their child's grades via Skyward. Regular class attendance and having the necessary supplies, including an organized binder are keys to success. However, the most important thing to bring to class is a positive attitude and an appreciation for learning. In order for each child to be successful, we must work together. I encourage you to talk with your child about the class and what they are learning.

Classroom discipline reflects the procedures of Highland Park High School. Students are accountable for their behavior, and all rules are enforced. Students have a complete listing of all policies in their student handbook. No student is permitted to interfere with the learning environment of the classroom.

Make-up work is the student's responsibility. Work should be picked up the day you return to school (if not before...use Google Classroom). Late work may be accepted until the end of the unit for partial credit.

Grading:

- 60% Major grades (tests, formal essays, projects, presentations)
 - o You need to be ready to take the test on the test day – testing days will be clearly communicated to students with ample time...make preparations accordingly.
- 40% Minor Grades- quizzes, homework, journals, daily work, participation.
- Be prepared for 10+ grades per nine weeks (2-3 major, 1-3 quiz, 7-9 daily)

Plagiarism:

Please read this statement carefully:

Plagiarism is defined as the use, without giving reasonable and appropriate credit to or acknowledging the author or source, of another person's original work, whether such work is made up of code, formulas, ideas, language, research, strategies, writing or other form(s).

Source: Stanford University Office of Judicial Affairs

This includes any original work from the internet, published books or periodicals, and multimedia sources. This also includes any work done for you or with the inappropriate assistance of others. Plagiarism is an extremely serious offense and will result in a zero grade. **Make sure the work you turn in is your own.** We will spend time in class learning about research methods and source citation. I know Chat GPT is tempting...but let's figure out a way to not take that route.

Tardies:

According to the school's policy, 3 tardies = 1 unexcused absence (*watch out for these, they can make it so you can't be exempt from the final exam and that's a bummer*)

Absences and late work policy:

- See the *Kiltie* for school policy on absences and make-up work.
- Work is considered late if it's turned in after I collect it.

Student Expectations and requirements for our class- and I say ours because I want you to take ownership of this class.

- I expect you to do your best, be on time, be respectful and learn how to succeed. I want this class to be yours so let's make it a safe environment for everyone. You should expect the same thing from me.
- Put your phones away in the cell phone holder (you will use the same number as your desk) and limit distractions. This is huge. This can make or break you. It's an AP class, it's challenging, you must pay attention.
- You are only here for 49 minutes, please do not do work from other classes. **It will be taken away and probably torn up.**
- You may have a snack in class if needed, but make sure you do not leave anything behind. Also, we need to be aware of allergies.
- You may **ONLY** use a reusable bottle or cup with a lid. **NO WATER BOTTLES** (Nalgene, Tervis, HydroFlask, Yeti ect) Why? We will focus on conservation in this class and the reduction of waste and why it is important. In 2018, landfills received 27 million tons of plastic. This was 18.5 percent of all municipal solid waste found in landfills (source: EPA). One million plastic bottles are bought around the world every minute. As of 2021, more than half a trillion plastic bottles will be sold annually. At best, less than 1/3 of all plastic bottles will be recycled. So by using a reusable water bottle, you could prevent an average of 156 plastic bottles annually. There is no "away"- the trash goes somewhere!
- Bring your binder and something to write with **EVERY** day.
- Listen while others are talking and give them the attention that you would want. As a courtesy, please raise your hand to speak.
- **If your last name starts with an A-M please bring a box of tissue. N-Z please bring colored pencils. The tissue will come in handy when it gets colder and we will use the pencils in class. Thanks for helping with this.**

FAQs

Q. Will you really take up my homework?

A. Yes

Q: What happens if I'm absent?

A: Make sure to get all your make-up work. Check with me or ask a classmate. You'll have the same number of days to make up the work as when you were absent. If you were absent for 2 days you have 2 days to make it up. The responsibility is on you to make it up.

Q: What should I do if I have 3 or 4 major tests on the same day?

A: This shouldn't happen this year due to the testing days. We will be testing on B days (with Science and LOTE) and you will know well in advance when your test is. If you know you have too much for one day please come and see me at least 4 days before our test. I will work with you.

Q: What if I'm absent the day of the test/quiz?

A: You can make up the test/quiz only if it's an **EXCUSED** absence. If not, it's a zero. If so:

- If the test is on Wednesday and you are absent on Tuesday, you still take the test on Wednesday.
- If the test is on Wednesday and you are absent on Wednesday, you'll take the test on Thursday.

Q. Is there a calendar posted with all the assignments and test dates?

A. There is a yearly overview in google classroom. Due to the ebb and flow of change in the world, we will also have some flexing and changing in our calendar. It is your responsibility to write down the daily agenda including upcoming homework assignments and test dates. You will always have adequate time to be prepared for a test or quiz. Google classroom is great because the due date is there for you.

Q. Can I use the bathroom during this class?

A. Yes, you can use it whenever you want as long as you don't abuse it. No need to ask, just give me a little head nod and go. Also, if you need a break from class, then take one. You won't hurt my feelings.

Q. Is this class going to be hard? How do I earn a good grade?

A. If you are taking this class because you heard it was easy, think about who told you. Was it a straight A TAG student? Was it someone that took all of the social studies electives they could? Was it the valedictorian? If so, take that with a grain of salt. Some of you *will* struggle.

As students are being held accountable to an AP standard, grades may not be as high as students are accustomed to earning. Regular class attendance and having the necessary supplies, including an *organized* binder are keys to success. (Students and parents should use the binder to monitor assignments and progress.) However, the most important thing to bring

to class is a positive attitude and an appreciation for learning. In order for each student to be successful, we must work together.

It is my hope that this class is a class that you will remember 20 years from now. Not because of me, but because of what we do here, what we learn here, what we discover here, and how you are treated here. I want this to be a class that is safe and inviting, a class where you are not afraid or ashamed to speak your mind. Let's start building that culture today.

Student/Parental unit Contract

Please show the attached syllabus, containing important information regarding classroom procedures and expectations, to a parent or guardian. Please have them **type their name and turn this into Google Classroom**. This will be one of your first grades and a check to make sure we can all use Google Classroom (which after the last two years I'm assuming yes).

I have read and understand the course description and class management plan.

_____	_____	
Date	Student Signature	(type name)

_____	_____	
Date	Parent/Parental unit Signature	(type name)