**AP® Human Geography Syllabus Swindler**

**Scoring Components**

SC1 The course provides a systematic study of the nature of Geography.

SC2 The course provides a systematic study of perspectives of Geography.

SC3 The course provides a systematic study of population geography.

SC4 The course provides a systematic study of cultural patterns and processes.

SC5 The course provides a systematic study of political organization of space.

SC6 The course provides a systematic study of agriculture and rural land use.

SC7 The course provides a systematic study of industrialization and economic development.

SC8 The course provides a systematic study of cities and urban land use.

SC9 The course teaches the use of landscape analysis to examine human organization of space.

SC10 The course teaches spatial relationships at different scales ranging from the local to the global.

SC11 The course teaches students how to use and interpret maps and spatial data.

SC12 The course teaches students how to use and interpret geographical models.

**Course Units**

The curriculum for this course consists of the 7 interrelated units outlined in the College Board’s *AP Human*

*Geography Course Description.* It also closely follows the 14 chapters of James M. Rubenstein’s *The Cultural Landscape: An Introduction to Human Geography.*

1. Geography: Its Nature and Perspectives

2. Population Geography

3. Cultural Patterns and Processes

4. Political Organization of Space

5. Agriculture and Rural Land Use

6. Industrialization and Development

7. Cities and Urban Land Use

**Textbook:**

Rubenstein, James M. *The Cultural Landscape: An Introduction to Human Geography*.

11th ed. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Education, Inc., 2013.

**Daily Assignments**

Daily AP Human Geography students practice Common Core skills such as analyzing complex texts to cite evidence and draw inferences. They integrate visual information such as maps, photographs, charts, graphs, and videos with other information in their digital texts.

Students also practice how to differentiate fact, opinion, and reasoned judgment in a text. AP Human Geography Students analyze the relationship between a primary and secondary source on the same topic.

**Assessment:**

Informal assessments such as notebook checks and quizzes are averaged with formal assessments such as short papers, essays, class projects, and test to compute an overall grade.

**The Seven Units**

**I. Geography: Its Nature and Perspectives 2 weeks**

A. Geography as a field of inquiry

B. Evolution of key geographical concepts and models associated with notable geographers

C. Key concepts underlying the geographical perspective: location, space, place, scale, pattern,

regionalization and globalization

D. Key geographical skills

1. How to use and think about maps and spatial data

2. How to understand and interpret the implications of associations among phenomena in

places

3. How to recognize and interpret at different scales the relationships among patterns and

processes

4. How to define regions and evaluate the regionalization process

5. How to characterize and analyze changing interconnections among places

E. New geographic technologies, such as GIS and GPS

F. Sources of geographical ideas and data: the field, census data

**II. Population 3 weeks**

A. Geographical analysis of population

1. Density, distribution, and scale

2. Consequences of various densities and distributions

3. Patterns of composition: age, sex, race, and ethnicity

4. Population and natural hazards: past, present, and future

B. Population growth and decline over time and space

1. Historical trends and projections for the future

2. Theories of population growth including the Demographic Model

3. Patterns of fertility, mortality, and health

4. Regional variations of demographic transitions

5. Effects of population policies

C. Population movement

1. Push and pull factors

2. Major voluntary and involuntary migrations at different scales

3. Migration selectivity

4. Short-term, local movements, and activity space

**III. Cultural Patterns and Processes 3 weeks**

A. Concepts of culture

1. Traits

2. Diffusion

3. Acculturation

4. Cultural regions

B. Cultural differences

1. Language

2. Religion

3. Ethnicity

4. Gender

5. Popular and folk culture

C. Environmental impact of cultural attitudes and practices

D. Cultural landscapes and cultural identity

1. Values and preferences

2. Symbolic landscapes and sense of place

**IV. Political Organization of Space 3 weeks**

A. Territorial dimensions of politics

1. The concept of territoriality

2. The nature and meaning of boundaries

3. Influences of boundaries on identity, interaction, and exchange

B. Evolution of the contemporary political pattern

1. The nation-state concept

2. Colonialism and imperialism

3. Federal and unitary states

C. Challenges to inherited political–territorial arrangements

1. Changing nature of sovereignty

2. Fragmentation, unification, alliance

3. Spatial relationships between political patterns and patterns of ethnicity, economy,

and environment

4. Electoral geography, including gerrymandering

**V. Agricultural and Rural Land Use 3 weeks**

A. Development and diffusion of agriculture

1. Neolithic Agricultural Revolution

2. Second Agricultural Revolution

B. Major agricultural production regions

1. Agricultural systems associated with major bioclimatic zones

2. Variations within major zones and effects of markets

3. Linkages and flows among regions of food production and consumption

C. Rural land use and settlement patterns

1. Models of agricultural land use, including von Thünen’s model

2. Settlement patterns associated with major agriculture types

D. Modern commercial agriculture

1. Third Agricultural Revolution

2. Green Revolution

3. Biotechnology

4. Spatial organization and diffusion of industrial agriculture

5. Future food supplies and environmental impacts of agriculture

**VI. Industrialization and Economic Development 3 weeks**

A. Key concepts in industrialization and development

B. Growth and diffusion of industrialization

1. The changing roles of energy and technology

2. Industrial Revolution

3. Evolution of economic cores and peripheries

4. Geographic critiques of models of economic localization (i.e., land rent, comparative

costs of transportation), industrial location, economic development, and world systems

C. Contemporary patterns and impacts of industrialization and development

1. Spatial organization of the world economy

2. Variations in levels of development

3. Deindustrialization and economic restructuring

4. Pollution, health, and quality of life

5. Industrialization, environmental change, and sustainability

6. Local development initiatives: government policies

**VII. Cities and Urban Land Use 3 weeks**

A. Definitions of urbanism

B. Origin and evolution of cities

1. Historical patterns of urbanization

2. Rural–urban migration and urban growth

3. Global cities and megacities

4. Models of urban systems

C. Functional character of contemporary cities

1. Changing employment mix

2. Changing demographic and social structures

D. Built environment and social space

1. Comparative models of internal city structure

2. Transportation and infrastructure

3. Political organization of urban areas

4. Urban planning and design

5. Patterns of race, ethnicity, gender, and class

6. Uneven development, ghettoization, and gentrification

7. Impacts of suburbanization and edge cities.