



EAGLE MOUNTAIN SAGINAW ISD

Fostering a Culture of Excellence

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Human Geography AP meets the World Geography state graduation requirement and introduces students to the importance of spatial organization – the location of places, people, and events, and the connections among places, people, and events and the connections among places and landscapes in the understanding of human life on Earth. Students will develop an understanding of the ways in which the human population is organized geographically; the components and regional variations of cultural patterns and processes; the nature and significance of the political organization of territory at different scales; the origin and spread of agriculture, including the characteristics of the world's agricultural regions, reasons why these regions function the way they do, the impact of agricultural change on the quality of life and the environment; the geographic elements of industrialization and development, including contemporary issues surrounding economic activity; and urban geography, including current trends in urban development.

We will be using a college level textbook as well as supplemental reading material. Rubenstein, James. *The Cultural Landscape: An Introduction to Human Geography* (12th Edition) Pearson Prentice Hall. NJ 2017.

Extra time is required on the part of AP students for class preparation, outside reading, and the completion of assignments. AP courses provide students with a learning experience equivalent to that obtained in most college introductory courses. Students who take AP Human Geography are expected to take the Advanced Placement Exam in the spring.

1st 6 Weeks Overview

Unit 1: Geography Natures and Perspectives

This unit emphasizes the importance of spatial organization – the location of places, people, and events, and the connections among places and landscapes – in the understanding of human life on Earth.

Celebrate Freedom will take place during the 1st 6 weeks and the students will be exposed to the intent, meaning and importance of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution including the Bill of Rights, in their historical contexts.

Unit 2: Population

An understanding of the ways in which the human population is geographically organized provides AP students with the tools they need to make sense of cultural, political, economic, and urban systems. Thus, many concepts and theories encountered in this part of the course crosscut with the other course modules. In addition, students will examine how the course themes of scale, pattern,

place, and interdependence are illustrated with population topics. For example, students may analyze the distribution of the human population at different scales: global, continental, national, state or province, and locale community.

Student Assessment

Throughout the 1st 6 weeks grading period, student knowledge and understanding will be assessed in a variety of ways, such as:

- Physical and Human characteristics
- Multiple sources of geographic information such as primary and secondary sources, aerial photographs, diagrams, tables, graphs and maps
- Places of contemporary geopolitical significance
- Summaries, generalizations supported by evidence
- Use geographic terminology correctly
- Research project
- Case studies and GIS
- Use problem-solving and decision-making processes
- Critical listening / note taking
- Thinking maps and graphic organizers
- Collaborative discussion
- Critical questioning
- ESPN – Economic, Social, Political, eNvironment
- HIE – Healthcare, Infrastructure, Education (especially of women)
- Formative and Summative Assessments
- Short Answer Questions
- Timed writing (FRQ)
- Project based research/projects

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or concerns regarding your student. We look forward to working with you and your child to ensure academic success.

Respectfully,

AP Human Geography Teachers