

# What to expect when taking . . . **AP Human Geography**

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## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

AP Human Geography surveys the impact of mankind on the world, especially how space is organized. The regions of Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Americas are all thoroughly examined throughout the yearlong course. Special attention is paid to social, political, economic, and cultural developments that occur within and across these regions. Students are not only expected to learn about specific, often detailed world events and people, but also the larger historical processes of various time periods.

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## **THE TYPICAL CLASS – DAY TO DAY**

In any given week students may be asked (2-3 times a week) to take hand written notes from an oral / PowerPoint lecture. On other days students may be using these notes and a textbook/review book to complete study questions for each chapter. Study questions should be answered in great detail (typically about a paragraph a question). From time to time, students do work in groups – from conducting historical document analysis to participating in class discussions and mini-simulations.

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## **TYPICAL HOMEWORK**

At home students are expected to read sections from their textbook that correlate with the information being discussed in class. Students should spend 20-30 minutes per night (most days of the week) reading/reviewing chapters in the textbook and review book. It is recommended (not required) that students purchase an AP Human Geography Review Book (Kaplan, Barron's, Princeton Review etc...) to help them study. Students may also be asked to read PowerPoint slides (at home via Schoology) that encompass both notes and video clips of the historical topic being covered in class.

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## **ASSESSMENTS**

Formative and summative assessments are integrated into the AP Human Geography course. Students are expected to take both computer based formative tests as well in class written short responses to help them, and the teacher, gauge their understanding of course material. At the close of each unit students take a 25 question multiple choice test. One free response question is also given. Students will be provided several FRQ options prior to the test and are encouraged to practice writing their response prior to the test. Assessments require a student to apply knowledge and analyze questions that may not be specifically mentioned in the text. Questions are rarely basic recall.

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*\* The day to day lessons, homework, and assessments noted above are subject to change at the teacher and PLC discretion. The information above is put forth to help students and their families better understand the expectations of the course. Furthermore, multiple PVHS teachers teach AP Human Geography – no student should enroll for this course with the expectation they will get any one teacher in particular.*