

May 10, 2019

Dear AP Human Geography Students for 2019-2020:

As is the expectation of students enrolled in the Honors Program, you will have an assignment to complete over the summer to prepare for AP Human Geography.

Relax, it is completely within your ability to achieve and will not take you weeks to complete. This task reflects my expectations for the caliber of student you are and the dedication you will show throughout the class next school year. In addition, the summer assignment is designed to help ease you into your first AP course while building off of your World Cultures knowledge from the past school year. If you feel that this assignment is far beyond your capabilities, please contact your counselor ASAP about making a different social studies selection for next year.

All of the materials have been placed on Edmodo for you this year. In order to navigate your way to the assignments and the materials to use to complete the assignments, follow these instructions:

1. Go to edmodo.com and enter this group code: jkzf4b. **You must do this immediately, as the group will automatically lock within a few days, not letting anyone else join.**
2. Pdfs of all of the materials are or will be available on that site.
3. Please bookmark this and if you have a Smartphone, you can actually download a free app at edmodo to access it.

There will be two assignments and the materials necessary for their completion will be accessible through Edmodo. Use the folders tab and click on the corresponding assignment to access the readings and directions.

Assignment #1: Read World Geography and Cultures by Richard Boehm (last year's World Cultures textbook) and The Cultural Landscape: An Introduction to AP Human Geography by James Rubenstein (the assigned textbook for this course) and start your course long vocabulary guide.

- Assigned Reading for Rubenstein: pages 2 through 41
- Assigned Reading for Boehm: pages 4-25

After you complete your readings, use the Introductory Vocabulary Terms worksheet on Edmodo (this can be found by looking in the folders section and click on assignment one) to begin completing your vocabulary guide (orange notebook I provided to you with this letter). Further details on this assignment can be found on the worksheet page in Edmodo. The purpose of this assignment is to familiarize yourselves with the basic concepts of geography while also building off your past World Cultures knowledge. AP Human Geography is a HEAVY vocabulary course and this assignment will ensure that you start off on the right foot and have an established vocabulary guide for the AP test in May.

Assignment #2: Complete the assigned map packet on Edmodo and prepare for the summer assessment quiz that will be given on either the 2nd or 3rd day of class.

- Print off and complete the 10 map assignments for this course. They are found in your course folder under assignment 2.

Depending on a few factors, you will take your summer assessment test on either the 2nd or 3rd official day of class (first day will be an introduction and syllabus day). This test will be graded for accuracy and a student MUST attain a 70 percent or better on the exam. If a student scores below a 70 percent, they will be required to retake the test until they achieve the minimum standard. However, the grade on the FIRST attempt and the FIRST attempt ONLY, will be recorded in the grade book. The official format of the test (multiple choice, matching, and/or fill in the blank with or without a word bank) will be revealed to you no later than July 20th. Further information on this assignment can be found on Edmodo. The purpose behind this test and the map assignments is to help you identify key countries and physical features of the world while beginning to evaluate the impact location can have on cultures, peoples, political events, economic situations, and many other factors.

You can download and print any of the materials provided there or just do the readings on your computer screen. Be assured that all of this work is directly linked to activities that will be completed in class during the first weeks. This is not work for the sake of keeping you busy or ruining your summer. Don't procrastinate about getting started on it. It is far too much to complete in a day or two before the school year begins in August. If you don't get the work done, besides having a huge and uncorrectable grade deficit in the fall, you will be completely unprepared for major grade-affecting activities in the first few days of class in August.

I am looking forward to exploring human geography with you next school year in class. If you have any problems or questions about the assignments—please e-mail us at cpendergast@mchs.net. You can also contact me through the Edmodo site and can actually have discussions on that site regarding the assigned readings/work. Have a great summer and I look forward to working with all of you next school year.

Sincerely,

Mr. Pendergast