



Pocono Mountain School District

Office of Curriculum and Instruction

PO Box 200 · Swiftwater, PA 18730 · 570-839-7121

Advanced Placement Human Geography Summer Assignment

Dear AP Human Geography Student:

Congratulations on your enrollment in the Advanced Placement (AP) Human Geography course. The purpose of the AP Human Geography course is to introduce students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of Earth's surface. Students learn to employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine human socioeconomic organization and its environmental consequences. They also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in research and applications.

Enrolled students are expected to take the Advanced Placement examination in May. The AP Human Geography Exam is approximately 2 hours and 15 minutes in length and includes both a 60-minute multiple-choice section and a 75-minute free-response section. Each section accounts for half of the student's AP Exam score. The tests are then scored by readers for the College Board and ETS in June and final scores are available to download in early July. Scores range from 1 to 5, with 3 or better considered as "passing", and therefore eligible to receive college credit in many universities and colleges.

AP Human Geography is designed to be taught at the college level. Consequently, some students may initially find the pace and workload difficult. To prepare for this transition, class expectations will be provided to students at the beginning of the school year.

There is a mandatory summer reading and related writing assignment required for all students enrolled in AP Human Geography. Students are required to read the document *Why Geography Matters...More than Ever*. The link for the document is on the district website <http://www.pmsd.org/Page/889>.

Upon completion of the selected reading assignment, students will write a minimum two-page, typed, double-spaced paper in MLA format (cover page, abstract, paper, reference page) responding to the questions listed below. Support your argument with specific examples from the text. You can familiarize yourself with MLA format at <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01>.

- What are the main ideas presented by the author?
- How does geography impact someone's life?
- What is your overall reaction to what you have read?
- Did the excerpt introduce new ideas for you to consider?

This assignment will be worth 10% of your first marking period grade and is due by Friday, September 9, 2016.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kathleen Smith
Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Federal Programs
Pocono Mountain School District