

Montclair High School

Course Syllabus

Department: Social Studies/ The Center for Social Justice

Course: Human Geography

Level: Advanced Placement (AP)

Credits: 5

Course Description:

AP Human Geography, in the Center for Social Justice, is unique to Montclair High School. This course is structured to align with the Center for Social Justice English 12 course, to ensure readings and content in students' English Language Arts class correlate with content in Social Studies, providing students with an interdisciplinary foundation for social justice and global issues.

AP Human Geography in the Center for Social Justice, presents students with the curricular equivalent of an introductory college-level course in human geography or cultural geography, and introduces contemporary world issues through the perspective of social justice. Content is presented thematically rather than regionally and is organized around the discipline's main subfields: economic geography, cultural geography, political geography, and urban geography. The approach is spatial and problem oriented. Case studies are drawn from all world regions, with an emphasis on understanding the world in which we live today, citizen participation, and social justice activism. Historical information serves to enrich analysis of the impacts of phenomena such as globalization, development, and human-environment relationships on places, regions, cultural landscapes, and patterns of interaction.

Standards:

- NJCCCS Social Studies: 6.1.12.14 Contemporary United States: Domestic Policies, 6.1.12.15 Contemporary United States: International Polices, 6.1.12.16 Contemporary United States: Interconnected Global Society, 6.2.12.5 The 20th Century Since 1945: Challenges for the Modern World, 6.2.12.6 Contemporary Issues, 6.3 Active Citizenship in the 21st Century
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy: RH.11-12.1-10 and WHST.11-12.1-10

Anchor Text(s):

Text Title	Publisher/Author	Year/Edition	ISBN	Text Distribution
Human Geography	Jon C. Malinowski and David H. Kaplan McGraw Hill Education	AP Edition 1 st Edition – 2013	978-0-07-665665-3	
Annual Editions: Global Issues	Robert Weiner, McGraw Hill Education	32 nd Edition - 2016	ISBN10: 1259676005 ISBN13: 9781259676000	

Supplementary Materials:

Individual marking period “readers” will be distributed at the beginning of each unit of study. They have been compiled by R. Novalis and are available through her.

Units of Study:

Major Geographic Concepts, Geography through the Ages, Population, Geography of Health and Disease, Migration Flows and Patterns, Culture and Cultural Landscapes, The Geography of Language, The Geography of Religion, Race, Ethnicity, and Gender, A World of Nations and States, Geography of Governance and Representation, Environment and Conservation, Urbanization and Urban Networks, The Changing Structure of the City, The Geography of Economic Activity and Agriculture, Geographies of Production and Consumption, Distribution and Transportation

Proficiencies:

By the end of this course, students will:

- Interpret maps and analyze geospatial data
- Understand and explain implications of associations and networks among phenomena in places
- Recognize and interpret the relationships among patterns and processes at different scales of analysis
- Define regions and evaluate regionalization process
- Characterize and analyze changing interconnections among places
- Understand the issues facing the contemporary world and the history behind those issues.
- Distinguish political opinion and “media spin” from fact.
- Identify the political leaders from around the world, but also important players in American politics.
- Gain a better understanding of geography and how location can affect a person’s lifestyle and belief system.
- Debate one another on issues facing our community, country or world.
- Recognize that knowledge from every angle will only enhance credibility when discussing major issues with others.

Evaluation & Assessment:

- 40% Classwork (activities, notes/worksheets done in class)
- 30% Projects/At-home assessments
- 20% Tests/Quizzes
- 10% Homework