



May 4, 2022

Dear Advanced Placement Human Geography Students,

Welcome to the Mount Notre Dame learning community! As noted in the Course Selection Book, there is a summer assignment required for AP Human Geography. The purpose of this assignment is to prepare you for our course. The assignment is specifically designed to help familiarize you with the location of key world regions, landforms and cities, and to strengthen your critical thinking and note-taking abilities. The files for our assignments can be found on the Academics section of the MND website. Go to www.mndhs.org, click the Academics link at the top of the page, and then click on the Summer Assignments link on the left side. You will see the following two files associated with this course:

Advanced Placement Human Geography Welcome Letter and Map Packet
World Geography; Building a Global Perspective Chapter One Section One

The first part of your assignment is to complete the enclosed map packet. It is expected that students will have their map packet completed the first day of AP Human Geography class. Packets will be graded for completion and then returned to students to be utilized to study for map quizzes that will occur throughout the course. To prepare you for success on the AP exam, tests will be difficult. Therefore, map quizzes can be an excellent grade booster, so take your time preparing your maps so that they will be an excellent resource to study from. Mount Notre Dame will provide an atlas which can be used to complete this assignment. The atlas can be picked up from the main office during the summer and is yours to keep.

The second part of your assignment will be to read and take your own notes on chapter one, section one of *World Geography; Building a Global Perspective*. It is important that you begin the process of becoming familiar with the basic concepts before the actual class begins. Our time together is limited, and the amount of material to be covered is vast. To gain the most benefit from our time together we want to build upon a strong base as soon as possible. It is important to acclimate to the material, so you can come to class with some exposure and we can take it to the collegiate level. You are truly prepared when you have a firm grasp of what you think you know as well as what you would like further clarification on.

The requirement to take notes on what you read is very important. The collegiate text assignment is very dense and full of definitions, examples, statistics, and case studies. This high school level intro will serve you well. There are no specific requirements for your notes regarding length, style, or format. I leave those criteria completely open to you as a learner. I would ask, however, that you complete these notes digitally. As your instructor I will look at your notes to get a sense of your individual learning style and current method of organizing complex information. That will form a baseline from which we will attempt to improve your effectiveness and efficiency.

The textbook material will be made available to you as a PDF file. This will also be due during our first class together, and you will submit it digitally.

Advanced Placement Human Geography is the equivalent of a collegiate level Human Geography course, and all students enrolled in this course must be committed to a rigorous course load. Keep in mind the following: *Students who fail to complete, or do poorly on their summer assignment, will have their placement in the course reevaluated and may lose their placement in the course. Please take this assignment seriously.*

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions at all. I can be reached at mbowblis@mndhs.org at any time.

I would like to congratulate you on your academic achievement. I am confident you will find great success at Mount Notre Dame and I look forward to helping you explore our world!

All the best,

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