

Welcome to AP Human Geography!!

Prior to the start of the 2021-2022 AP Human Geography course, students are required to choose one book from the attached list to read over the summer. These books relate to themes that will be covered in class. You can find these books on amazon.com and read the summary - this will help you in determining your selection.

A key advantage for you in this course will be your ability to broaden your “worldview.” We will utilize articles from various periodical and online news sources over the course of the year including, but not limited to *The Economist*, *Newsweek*, *Time*, BBC, National Public Radio, and *The New York Times*. I recommend you take a moment each week to familiarize yourself with events that shape our world. There will be many discussions in class that will require you to put the principles that we learn into practice; the broader and deeper your worldview, the more you can contribute to these discussions.

When we come back in September, you will hand in your outline that you prepared over the summer. You will then further analyze your book in class based on the guidelines stated below. Please carefully read the instructions - if you have any questions, please email me at charles.amanda@cranfordschools.org. I look forward to seeing you in September!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Charles

Instructions:

Please prepare a written outline documenting the following information. This outline will help you discuss your chosen text in writing and orally when you return to school. When adding to your outline, I suggest you list evidence from the text, including page numbers, for support.

I. Origin

A. Author's name, place of publication, date of publication, number of pages in book.

II. Analysis (find the purpose and value of the author’s viewpoint(s))

A. Author's objectives. What was the author’s intent (purpose)?

B. Why is the author’s message important to understanding the global society we live in? (Who benefits? How?)

III. Connection to Human Geography

A. How does the book you chose connect to **three of the five themes** of geography (attached) ? Provide evidence to support your claims. Please be as specific as possible.

IV. Discussion Questions

A. Write five open-ended questions that will be used to spark discussion with a small group about this book. The questions should not be able to be answered with a simple “yes” or “no” response. You do not need to answer these questions, but you must be prepared to pose them during class discussion .

Human Geography Reading List (you must choose ONE book from the list below)

1. *City of Thorns: Nine Lives in the World's Largest Refugee Camp*-Beth Rawlence
2. *Food Inc.: A Participant Guide: How Industrial Food is Making Us Sicker, Fatter, and Poorer-And What You Can Do About It* – edited by Karl Weber
3. *And the Mountains Echoed*-Khaled Hosseini
4. *Travels of a T-shirt in the Global Economy*- Pietra Rivoli
5. *Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood*- Trevor Noah
7. *We Just Want to Live Here: An Unlikely Teenage Friendship in the Two Jerusalems* - Amal Rifa'I and Odelia Ainbinder
8. *Half the Sky: Turning Oppression Into Opportunity for Women Worldwide* - Nicholas D. Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn

These books can be purchased online or from your local bookstore. They are also available at the public library. If you need financial assistance in securing the text, please reach out to me or your school counselor.

FIVE THEMES OF GEOGRAPHY:

1. Location

Location can be absolute or relative. Absolute location provides a definite reference to locate a place. The reference can be latitude and longitude, a street address, or even the Township and Range system. Relative location describes a place with respect to its environment and its connection to other places.

2. Place

Place describes the human and physical characteristics of a location. Physical characteristics include a description of such things as the mountains, rivers, beaches, topography, and animal and plant life of a place. Human characteristics include the human-designed cultural features of a place, from land use and architecture to forms of livelihood and religion to food and folk ways to transportation and communication networks.

3. Human-Environment Interaction

This theme considers how humans adapt to and modify the environment. Humans shape the landscape through their interaction with the land; this has both positive and negative effects on the environment.

4. Movement

Humans move a lot! In addition, ideas, fads, goods, resources, and communication all travel distances. This theme studies movement and migration across the planet.

5. Region

Region divides the world into manageable units for geographic study. Regions have some sort of characteristic that unifies the area. Regions can be formal, functional, or vernacular. Formal regions are those that are designated by official boundaries, such as cities, states, counties, and countries. For the most part, they are clearly indicated and publicly known. Functional regions are defined by their connections. For example, the circulation area for a major city area is the functional region of that paper. Vernacular regions are perceived regions, such as "The South," "The Midwest," or the "Middle East;" they have no formal boundaries but are understood in our mental maps of the world.