Throughout the AP Human Geography course students will develop a wide array of geographic content knowledge as well as skills crucial to the study of Geography. This knowledge and set of skills will be developed and assessed through reading text, participating in classroom activities, using GIS software, gathering data from online resources, reviewing videos, conducting field studies, writing AP FRQ style essays, and taking Unit Tests. Our primary text will be *The Cultural Landscape: An Introduction to Human Geography* by James M. Rubenstein, however we will use several excerpts from additional collegiate level texts and periodicals such as National Geographic. Links to the online textbook and many of the articles are available on my website: www.windish.weebly.com. Greater details of the grading system and class structure are available on the Class Expectations sheet.

The content knowledge that will be developed throughout the course is provided in the outline on the following pages. This outline provides great detail of the curricular requirements and scoring components of the AP Human Geography course set forth by the College Board. The teaching units listed below were developed using this outline, the number of teaching days and correlation to the course outline and text chapters have been provided.

I. Geography Basics (6 days – I – Chapter 1)
II. Population Geography (8 days – II – Chapters 2&3)
III. Cultural Geography (9 days – III – Chapters 4-7)
IV. Political Geography (7 days – IV – Chapter 8)
      Economic Geography(Mini Unit) (5 days – V, VI and VII – Chapter 9)
V. Agricultural Geography (9 days – V – Chapters 9&10)
VI. Industrial Geography (9 days – VI – Chapters 9,11&14)
VII. Urban Geography (9 days – VII – Chapters 9,12&13)
VIII. AP Exam Review (12 days – I-VII)
IX. Geography is Everywhere! (9 days – I-VII)
      (and SOL Review)

*Remaining school days which are unaccounted for in these units are reserved for events throughout the school year such as AP registration, Map of the World assessments, and field studies.*
The skills, as stated in the National Geography Standards that were developed in 1994 and revised in 2012, that are the focus of this course will enable students to:

- interpret maps and analyze geospatial data
- understand and explain the 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 the regionalization process
- characterize and analyze changing interconnections among places.

Course Outline

I. Geography: Its Nature and Perspectives 5–10% of the exam  Unit I, Chapter 1
   A. Geography as a field of inquiry
   B. Major geographical concepts underlying the geographical perspective: location, space, place, scale, pattern, nature and society, regionalization, globalization, and gender issues
   C. Key geographical skills
      1. How to use and think about maps and geospatial data
      2. How to understand and interpret the implications of associations among phenomena in places
      3. How to recognize and interpret at different scales the relationships among patterns and processes
      4. How to define regions and evaluate the regionalization process
      5. How to characterize and analyze changing interconnections among places
   D. Use of geospatial technologies, such as GIS, remote sensing, global positioning systems (GPS), and online maps
   E. Sources of geographical information and ideas: the field, census data, online data, aerial photography, and satellite imagery
   F. Identification of major world regions

II. Population and Migration . 13–17% of the exam  Unit II, Chapters 2 and 3
   A. Geographical analysis of population
      1. Density, distribution, and scale
      2. Implications of various densities and distributions
      3. Composition: age, sex, income, education, and ethnicity
      4. Patterns of fertility, mortality, and health
   B. Population growth and decline over time and space
      1. Historical trends and projections for the future
      2. Theories of population growth and decline, including the Demographic Transition Model
      3. Regional variations of demographic transition
      4. Effects of national population policies: promoting population growth in some countries or reducing fertility rates in others
      5. Environmental impacts of population change on water use, food supplies, biodiversity, the atmosphere, and climate
      6. Population and natural hazards: impacts on policy, economy, and society
C. Migration
1. Types of migration: transnational, internal, chain, step, seasonal agriculture (e.g., transhumance), and rural to urban
2. Major historical migrations
3. Push and pull factors, and migration in relation to employment and quality of life
4. Refugees, asylum seekers, and internally displaced persons
5. Consequences of migration: socioeconomic, cultural, environmental, and political; immigration policies; remittances

III. Cultural Patterns and Processes 13–17% of the exam

A. Concepts of culture
1. Culture traits
2. Diffusion patterns
3. Acculturation, assimilation, and multiculturalism
4. Cultural region, vernacular regions, and culture hearths
5. Globalization and the effects of technology on cultures

B. Cultural differences and regional pattern
1. Language and communications
2. Religion and sacred space
3. Ethnicity and nationalism
4. Cultural differences in attitudes toward gender
5. Popular and folk culture
6. Cultural conflicts, and law and policy to protect culture

C. Cultural landscapes and cultural identity
1. Symbolic landscapes and sense of place
2. The formation of identity and place making
3. Differences in cultural attitudes and practices toward the environment
4. Indigenous peoples

IV. Political Organization of Space 13–17%  

A. Territorial dimensions of politics
1. The concepts of political power and territoriality
2. The nature, meaning, and function of boundaries
3. Influences of boundaries on identity, interaction, and exchange
4. Federal and unitary states, confederations, centralized government, and forms of governance
5. Spatial relationships between political systems and patterns of ethnicity, economy, and gender
6. Political ecology: impacts of law and policy on the environment and environmental justice

B. Evolution of the contemporary political pattern
1. The nation-state concept
2. Colonialism and imperialism
3. Democratization
4. Fall of communism and legacy of the Cold War
5. Patterns of local, regional, and metropolitan governance

C. Changes and challenges to political-territorial arrangements
1. Changing nature of sovereignty
2. Fragmentation, unification, and cooperation
3. Supranationalism and international alliances
4. Devolution of countries: centripetal and centrifugal forces
5. Electoral geography: redistricting and gerrymandering
6. Armed conflicts, war, and terrorism
V. Agriculture, Food Production, and Rural Land Use 13–17%  
A. Development and diffusion of agriculture  
   1. Neolithic Agricultural Revolution  
   2. Second Agricultural Revolution  
   3. Green Revolution  
   4. Large-scale commercial agriculture and agribusiness  
B. Major agricultural production regions  
   1. Agricultural systems associated with major bioclimatic zones  
   2. Variations within major zones and effects of markets  
   3. Interdependence among regions of food production and consumption  
C. Rural land use and settlement patterns  
   1. Models of agricultural land use, including von Thünen’s model  
   2. Settlement patterns associated with major agriculture types: subsistence, cash cropping, plantation, mixed farming, monoculture, pastoralism, ranching, forestry, fishing and aquaculture  
   3. Land use/land cover change: irrigation, desertification, deforestation, wetland destruction, conservation efforts to protect or restore natural land cover, and global impacts  
   4. Roles of women in agricultural production and farming communities  
D. Issues in contemporary commercial agriculture  
   1. Biotechnology, including genetically modified organisms (GMO)  
   2. Spatial organization of industrial agriculture, including the transition in land use to large-scale commercial farming and factors affecting the location of processing facilities  
   3. Environmental issues: soil degradation, overgrazing, river and aquifer depletion, animal wastes, and extensive fertilizer and pesticide use  
   4. Organic farming, crop rotation, value-added specialty foods, regional appellations, fair trade, and eat-local-food movements  
   5. Global food distribution, malnutrition, and famine  

VI. Industrialization and Economic Development 13–17% of the exam  
A. Growth and diffusion of industrialization  
   1. The changing roles of energy and technology  
   2. Industrial Revolution  
   3. Models of economic development: Rostow’s Stages of Economic Growth and Wallerstein’s World Systems Theory  
   4. Geographic critiques of models of industrial location: bid rent, Weber’s comparative costs of transportation and industrial location in relation to resources, location of retailing and service industries, and local economic development within competitive global systems of corporations and finance  
B. Social and economic measures of development  
   1. Gross domestic product and GDP per capita  
   2. Human Development Index  
   3. Gender Inequality Index  
   4. Income disparity and the Gini coefficient  
   5. Changes in fertility and mortality  
   6. Access to health care, education, utilities, and sanitation
C. Contemporary patterns and impacts of industrialization and development
   1. Spatial organization of the world economy
   2. Variations in levels of development (uneven development)
   3. Deindustrialization, economic restructuring, and the rise of service and high technology economies
   4. Globalization, manufacturing in newly industrialized countries (NICs), and the international division of labor
   5. Natural resource depletion, pollution, and climate change
   6. Sustainable development
   7. Government development initiatives: local, regional, and national policies
   8. Women in development and gender equity in the workforce

VII. Cities and Urban Land Use . 13–17% of the exam
A. Development and character of cities
   1. Origin of cities; site and situation characteristics
   2. Forces driving urbanization
   3. Borchert’s epochs of urban transportation development
   4. World cities and megacities
   5. Suburbanization processes
B. Models of urban hierarchies: reasons for the distribution and size of cities
   1. Gravity model
   2. Christaller’s central place theory
   3. Rank-size rule
   4. Primate cities
C. Models of internal city structure and urban development: strengths and limitations of models
   1. Burgess concentric zone model
   2. Hoyt sector model
   3. Harris and Ullman multiple nuclei model
   4. Galactic city model
   5. Models of cities in Latin America, North Africa and the Middle East, sub-Saharan Africa, East Asia, and South Asia
D. Built environment and social space
   1. Types of residential buildings
   2. Transportation and utility infrastructure
   3. Political organization of urban areas
   4. Urban planning and design (e.g., gated communities, New Urbanism, & smart-growth policies)
   5. Census data on urban ethnicity, gender, migration, and socioeconomic status
   6. Characteristics and types of edge cities: boomburgs, greenfields, uptowns
E. Contemporary urban issues
   1. Housing and insurance discrimination, and access to food stores
   2. Changing demographic, employment, and social structures
   3. Uneven development, zones of abandonment, disamenity, and gentrification
   4. Suburban sprawl and urban sustainability problems: land and energy use, cost of expanding public education services, home financing and debt crises
   5. Urban environmental issues: transportation, sanitation, air and water quality, remediation of brownfields, and farmland protection