



# AP HUMAN GEOGRAPHY Course Skills

## Skill Category 1

### Concepts and Processes **1**

**1.A** Describe geographic concepts, processes, models, and theories.

**1.B** Explain geographic concepts, processes, models, and theories.

**1.C** Compare geographic concepts, processes, models, and theories.

**1.D** Describe a relevant geographic concept, process, model, or theory in a specified context.

**1.E** Explain the strengths, weaknesses, and limitations of different geographic models and theories in a specified context.

## Skill Category 2

### Spatial Relationships **2**

Analyze geographic patterns, relationships, and outcomes in applied contexts.

- 2.A** Describe spatial patterns, networks, and relationships.
- 2.B** Explain spatial relationships in a specified context or region of the world, using geographic concepts, processes, models, or theories.
- 2.C** Explain a likely outcome in a geographic scenario using geographic concepts, processes, models, or theories.
- 2.D** Explain the significance of geographic similarities and differences among different locations and/or at different times.
- 2.E** Explain the degree to which a geographic concept, process, model, or theory effectively explains geographic effects in different contexts and regions of the world.

## Skill Category 3

### Data Analysis **3**

Analyze and interpret quantitative geographic data represented in maps, tables, charts, graphs, satellite images, and infographics.

- 3.A** Identify the different types of data presented in maps and in quantitative and geospatial data.
- 3.B** Describe spatial patterns presented in maps and in quantitative and geospatial data.
- 3.C** Explain patterns and trends in maps and in quantitative and geospatial data to draw conclusions.
- 3.D** Compare patterns and trends in maps and in quantitative and geospatial data to draw conclusions.
- 3.E** Explain what maps or data imply or illustrate about geographic principles, processes, and outcomes.
- 3.F** Explain possible limitations of the data provided.

## Skill Category 4

### Source Analysis **4**

Analyze and interpret qualitative geographic information represented in maps, images (e.g., satellite, photographs, cartoons), and landscapes.

- 4.A** Identify the different types of information presented in visual sources.
- 4.B** Describe the spatial patterns presented in visual sources.
- 4.C** Explain patterns and trends in visual sources to draw conclusions.
- 4.D** Compare patterns and trends in sources to draw conclusions.
- 4.E** Explain how maps, images, and landscapes illustrate or relate to geographic principles, processes, and outcomes.
- 4.F** Explain possible limitations of visual sources provided.

## Skill Category 5

### Scale Analysis **5**

Analyze geographic theories, approaches, concepts, processes, and models across geographic scales to explain spatial relationships.

- 5.A** Identify the scales of analysis presented by maps, quantitative and geospatial data, images, and landscapes.
- 5.B** Explain spatial relationships across various geographic scales using geographic concepts, processes, models, or theories.
- 5.C** Compare geographic characteristics and processes at various scales.
- 5.D** Explain the degree to which a geographic concept, process, model, or theory effectively explains geographic effects across various geographic scales.

## SKILLS

# Course at a Glance

## Plan

The Course at a Glance table provides a useful visual organization of the AP Human Geography curricular components, including:

- Sequence of units, along with approximate weighting and suggested pacing. Please note that pacing is based on 45-minute class periods meeting five days each week for a full academic year.
- Progression of topics within each unit.
- Spiraling of the big ideas and course skills across units.

## Teach

### SKILL CATEGORIES

*Skill categories spiral throughout the course.*

<b>1</b> Concepts and Processes	<b>3</b> Data Analysis
<b>2</b> Spatial Relationships	<b>4</b> Source Analysis
	<b>5</b> Scale Analysis

### BIG IDEAS

*Big Ideas spiral across topics and units.*

<b>PSO</b> Patterns and Spatial Organization
<b>IMP</b> Impacts and Interactions
<b>SPS</b> Spatial Processes and Societal Change

## Assess

Assign the Personal Progress Checks—either as homework or in class—for each unit. Each Personal Progress Check contains formative multiple-choice and free-response questions. The feedback from the Personal Progress Checks shows students the areas where they need to focus.

**UNIT**  
**1**

**Thinking Geographically**

**~9–10** Class Periods

**8–10%** AP Exam Weighting

IMP	3		<b>1.1 Introduction to Maps</b>
IMP	3		<b>1.2 Geographic Data</b>
IMP	3		<b>1.3 The Power of Geographic Data</b>
PSO	3		<b>1.4 Spatial Concepts</b>
PSO	1		<b>1.5 Human–Environmental Interaction</b>
PSO	5		<b>1.6 Scales of Analysis</b>
SPS	1		<b>1.7 Regional Analysis</b>

**UNIT**  
**2**

**Population and Migration Patterns and Processes**

**~19–20** Class Periods

**12–17%** AP Exam Weighting

PSO	3		<b>2.1 Population Distribution</b>
PSO	2		<b>2.2 Consequences of Population Distribution</b>
PSO	2		<b>2.3 Population Composition</b>
IMP	3		<b>2.4 Population Dynamics</b>
IMP	3		<b>2.5 The Demographic Transition Model</b>
IMP	2		<b>2.6 Malthusian Theory</b>
SPS	2		<b>2.7 Population Policies</b>
SPS	3		<b>2.8 Women and Demographic Change</b>
SPS	2		<b>2.9 Aging Populations</b>
IMP	2		<b>2.10 Causes of Migration</b>
IMP	1		<b>2.11 Forced and Voluntary Migration</b>
IMP	2		<b>2.12 Effects of Migration</b>

### Personal Progress Check 1

**Multiple-choice: ~20 questions**  
**Free-response: 1 question**  
 ▪ 1 stimulus

### Personal Progress Check 2

**Multiple-choice: ~35 questions**  
**Free-response: 1 question**  
 ▪ 1 stimulus

**UNIT  
3**

**Cultural Patterns  
and Processes**

**~19–20** Class Periods | **12–17%** AP Exam Weighting

PSO 4	3.1 Introduction to Culture
PSO 4	3.2 Cultural Landscapes
PSO 4	3.3 Cultural Patterns
IMP 1	3.4 Types of Diffusion
SPS 2	3.5 Historical Causes of Diffusion
SPS 5	3.6 Contemporary Causes of Diffusion
IMP 4	3.7 Diffusion of Religion and Language
SPS 2	3.8 Effects of Diffusion

**Personal Progress Check 3**

Multiple-choice: ~25 questions  
Free-response: 1 question  
▪ 2 stimuli

**UNIT  
4**

**Political Patterns  
and Processes**

**~19–20** Class Periods | **12–17%** AP Exam Weighting

PSO 4	4.1 Introduction to Political Geography
PSO 3	4.2 Political Processes
PSO 5	4.3 Political Power and Territoriality
IMP 1	4.4 Defining Political Boundaries
IMP 5	4.5 The Function of Political Boundaries
IMP 5	4.6 Internal Boundaries
IMP 2	4.7 Forms of Governance
SPS 3	4.8 Defining Devolutionary Factors
SPS 5	4.9 Challenges to Sovereignty
SPS 5	4.10 Consequences of Centrifugal and Centripetal Forces

**Personal Progress Check 4**

Multiple-choice: ~30 questions  
Free-response: 1 question  
▪ 1 stimulus

**UNIT  
5**

**Agriculture and  
Rural Land-Use  
Patterns and  
Processes**

**~19–20** Class Periods | **12–17%** AP Exam Weighting

PSO 2	5.1 Introduction to Agriculture
PSO 4	5.2 Settlement Patterns and Survey Methods
SPS 2	5.3 Agricultural Origins and Diffusions
SPS 4	5.4 The Second Agricultural Revolution
SPS 2	5.5 The Green Revolution
PSO 2	5.6 Agricultural Production Regions
PSO 2	5.7 Spatial Organization of Agriculture
PSO 5	5.8 Von Thünen Model
PSO 5	5.9 The Global System of Agriculture
IMP 2	5.10 Consequences of Agricultural Practices
IMP 4	5.11 Challenges of Contemporary Agriculture
IMP 3	5.12 Women in Agriculture

**Personal Progress Check 5**

Multiple-choice: ~35 questions  
Free-response: 1 question  
▪ 2 stimuli

**UNIT  
6**

**Cities and  
Urban Land-Use  
Patterns and  
Processes**

**~19–20**

Class  
Periods

**12–17%**

AP Exam  
Weighting

<b>PSO</b> 2	<b>6.1</b> The Origin and Influences of Urbanization
<b>PSO</b> 2	<b>6.2</b> Cities Across the World
<b>PSO</b> 5	<b>6.3</b> Cities and Globalization
<b>PSO</b> 2	<b>6.4</b> The Size and Distribution of Cities
<b>PSO</b> 1	<b>6.5</b> The Internal Structure of Cities
<b>IMP</b> 3	<b>6.6</b> Density and Land Use
<b>IMP</b> 3	<b>6.7</b> Infrastructure
<b>IMP</b> 2	<b>6.8</b> Urban Sustainability
<b>IMP</b> 3	<b>6.9</b> Urban Data
<b>SPS</b> 4	<b>6.10</b> Challenges of Urban Changes
<b>SPS</b> 2	<b>6.11</b> Challenges of Urban Sustainability

**Personal Progress Check 6**

Multiple-choice: ~35 questions  
Free-response: 1 question  
▪ no stimulus

**UNIT  
7**

**Industrial and  
Economic  
Development  
Patterns and  
Processes**

**~19–20**

Class  
Periods

**12–17%**

AP Exam  
Weighting

<b>SPS</b> 4	<b>7.1</b> The Industrial Revolution
<b>SPS</b> 2	<b>7.2</b> Economic Sectors and Patterns
<b>SPS</b> 3	<b>7.3</b> Measures of Development
<b>SPS</b> 3	<b>7.4</b> Women and Economic Development
<b>SPS</b> 1	<b>7.5</b> Theories of Development
<b>PSO</b> 5	<b>7.6</b> Trade and the World Economy
<b>PSO</b> 4	<b>7.7</b> Changes as a Result of the World Economy
<b>IMP</b> 5	<b>7.8</b> Sustainable Development

**Personal Progress Check 7**

Multiple-choice: ~25 questions  
Free-response: 1 question  
▪ no stimulus