

***Welcome to World Geography***

***AP Human Geography***

***Art of Thinking***

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**Instructor’s Name: Gretchen Pearce**

Pronouns she/her

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Office Hours: M-F 7:30-7:45

M-Th 3:35-4:15

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**Course Description:** ***World Geography***, students will describe, compare, interpret and analyze the world in which they live using ESPN factors. Geography topics include spaces/places, physical systems, the environment and society, population and migration, culture, religion, political systems, conflict and cooperation, economic systems, economic disparity, and regionalization and globalization.

***AP Human Geography:*** Students will compare, define, describe, explain, and identify topics within Human Geography. Human Geography topics include thinking geographically, population and migration, cultural and patterns processes, political patterns and processes, agriculture and rural land-use, cities and urban land-use, industrial, economic development patterns and processes. Students will be prepared to successfully sit for the AP exam in May 2024. Passing the AP exam with a 3 (on a 5-point scale) or higher will count as completion of a college level course at most universities across the country.

***Art of Thinking:*** Students will develop critical thinking skills through the examination of real-world scenarios. In Art of Thinking, students will engage with materials via readings, video clips, and classroom discussions. Students should expect to participate in daily activities in which they will read, write, listen and speak in each class meeting

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**Course Prerequisites**

None

**Required Course Materials**

Laptop (All classes)

Notebook/loose leaf paper (World Geography/AP Human Geography)

Dedicated Binder (World Geography/AP Human Geography)

Composition/Spiral Bound Notebook (Art of Thinking)

Pen/Pencil

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**Grading Information**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | World Geography | AP Human Geography | Art of Thinking |
| Quizzes | 15% | 15% | N/A |
| Daily Work | 40% | 40% | 80% |
| Daily Starters/Discussion/DOL Participation | 15% | 15% | 20% |
| Tests | 30% | 30% | Final Reflection Exam only |

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**Course Policies**

**Classroom expectations**:

Respect!!! YOURSELF, YOUR PEERS, and OUR CLASSROOM!!!

* Be on time
* Tame your Technology—Keep your cell phone put away!!
* Clean up after yourself
* Participation is required—this includes discussions, group activities, and a positive attitude

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**Classwork/Homework Expectations (World Geography): I plan ample work time into our learning day; however, classwork not completed in class will be completed by the next class meeting.** Good time management skills will minimize homework. Homework will be assigned as needed to complete complex or longer assignments.

**Classwork/Homework Expectations (AP Human Geography):** All AP students should expect 3-5 hours of homework per week. Homework will include reading, note taking, and AP classroom videos. Homework is not negotiable.

**Late/missing work:** Students will be given an appropriate time frame to submit work due to an excused absence. Please schedule an appointment with Ms Pearce to work out new due dates. Unexcused late work will be accepted for an additional 3 days after the due date. Late submissions without an excused absence are subject to a 10% reduction in points. No work will be accepted more than a week overdue without pre-approval. Arrangements should be made to accommodate extended illnesses, vacations, and IEP/504s. **Students should check the agenda in Canvas for day-to-day activities when absent.**

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**Citation/Plagiarism**

**Every student is expected to do their own work. Copied work, no matter its source, will be given a zero and not eligible to be made up. Consequences for plagiarism include referral for disciplinary action, parental notification, and loss of points. Citation instructions, if needed, will vary by assignment and will be given at the time of the assignment.**

**Classroom Procedures**: Please use the restroom and get a drink of water before coming to class. Students must pick up new handouts upon coming to class, get your daily file, and any materials necessary prior to sitting down. Tame your technology, turn off your sound/power on your cell phone and put it away in your backpack or in your assigned cell phone pocket. Be prepared to start class ON TIME!!

**Cell Phone Policy:** Cell phones should be silenced and put away during class time at all times. If your family needs to get ahold of you in case of emergency, they can call the main office 713-733-1111. Consequences for using a cell phone in will include verbal warnings, requests to place the cell phone in the student’s cubby, phone call to parents, and finally referral for detention. Consequences for cell phone infractions are as follows:

1. Verbal reminder to put cell phone away
2. Students will be asked to place their cell phone in the hanging pockets (numbered by desk number).
3. Phone call to parents/guardians
4. Disciplinary referral

**Scent Free:** Please do not apply scented products in the classroom. If you need hand sanitizer or lotion, I provide scent free versions.

**Technology:** Jones Futures Academy does not allow the use of earbuds or headphones in the classroom for non-academic purposes. Occasionally I will have students watch different videos for educational purposes. I will inform you when you need personal audio devices.

**Restroom/Water Passes:** No student will be excused in the first 15 mins or last 15 mins of class. Please use your passing period for restroom and water breaks. Only 1 student may go to the restroom at a time. Excessive use of bathroom passes will result in the loss of passes. Students will sign in/out when leaving the classroom.

**Absences:** Students should access the agenda in Canvas when absent. The agenda will be uploaded daily with instructions and downloadable copies of the assignments when available. See late and missing work for assignment extension details.

Finally, please see me when you have questions that you can’t answer in Canvas. **DO NOT** wait until the next class meeting if you have homework questions. Feel free to email/Teams messenger me questions in the evening, **IF** I am available at night I will respond. If I can’t get back to you right away I will the next day.

I certify that I have read (Spanish translation available upon request) and understand the expectations of World Geography/AP Human Geography/Art of Thinking. Please return by 8/23/24.

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Student Signature Date

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Parent Signature Date