



*Highlanders*

# McLean High School Curriculum Updates 2024-25 Rising 9th & 10th Grade



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# Agenda

**Welcome**

**AP Human Geography (Rising 9th)**

**AP Seminar (Rising 10th)**

**Changes to 24-25 course requests**

**Questions**






# AP Human Geography (Rising 9th Grade Option)

# AP Human Geography Course Overview

## AP Human Geography Course and Exam Description

AP Human Geography introduces students to the systematic study of **patterns and processes** that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of Earth's surface. Students employ **spatial concepts** and **landscape analysis** to examine socio-economic organization and its environmental consequences. They also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their **research and applications**. The curriculum reflects the goals of the National Geography Standards (2012). The course is equivalent to an introductory college-level course in human geography.



# AP Human Geography - Unit Information

Unit 1: Thinking Geographically

Unit 2: Population and Migration Patterns and Processes

Unit 3: Cultural Patterns and Processes

Unit 4 Political Patterns and Processes

Unit 5: Agriculture and Rural Land-Use Patterns and Processes

Unit 6: Cities and Urban Land-Use Patterns and Processes

Unit 7: Industrial and Economic Development Patterns and Processes



# AP Human Geography - Course Skills

- **Concepts and Processes**

- Analyze geographic theories, approaches, concepts, processes, or models in theoretical and applied contexts.

- **Spatial Relationships**

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

- **Data Analysis**

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

- **Source Analysis**

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

- **Scale Analysis**

- Analyze geographic theories, approaches, concepts, processes, and model

# The AP Exam

Section	Question Type	Number of Questions	Exam Weighting	Timing
I	Multiple-choice questions	60	50%	60 minutes
II	Free-response questions (7 points each)	3	50%	75 minutes

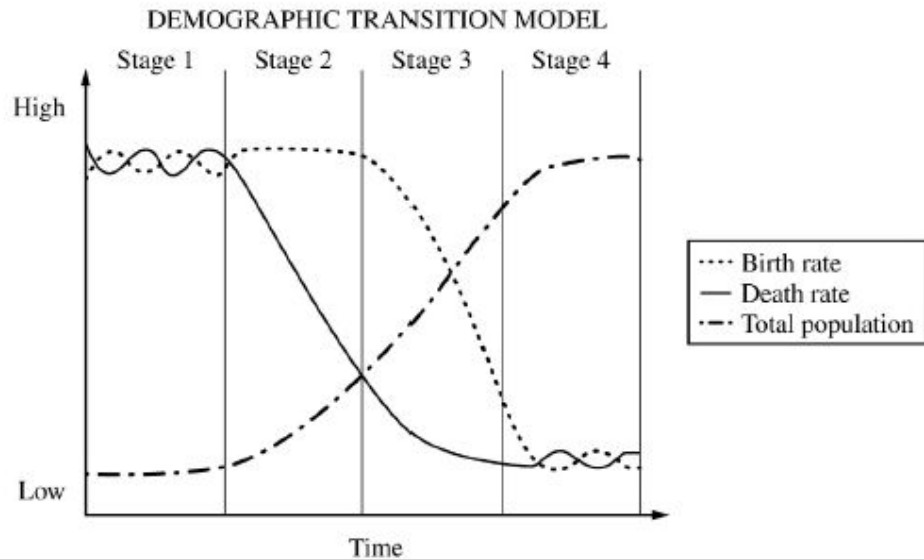
**The exam assesses content from each of the three big ideas for the course:**

1. Patterns and Spatial Organization
2. Impacts and Interactions
3. Spatial Processes and Societal Change

# AP Exam

## Section I: Sample Multiple-Choice Question, (cont.)

Multiple-Choice Question	Answer	Skill	Learning Objective	Unit
1	D	1.A	IMP-2.B	2



1. Which of the following is a characteristic of a country moving from stage 2 to stage 3 of the demographic transition model?
  - (A) Shorter life expectancy
  - (B) Increasing birth rate
  - (C) High level of female education
  - (D) Declining death rate
  - (E) Increasing dependence on farm labor



# AP Exam

## Sample Free-Response Question

The National Capital Territory of Delhi, India, includes the old city of Delhi; the national capital city of New Delhi; and surrounding districts, where much of the city's population resides.

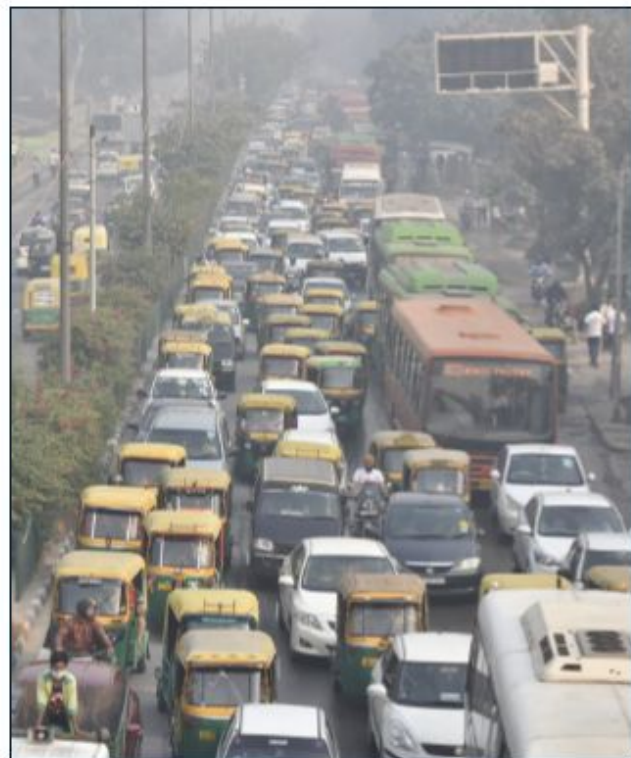
- (A) Describe the data in the table that classifies Delhi as a megacity.
- (B) Describe a pull factor that has contributed to Delhi's total population change over time.
- (C) Explain how local housing development has contributed to the change in Delhi's population density, as shown in the data table.
- (D) Given Delhi's population density, describe a challenge related to urban infrastructure that the city's government is likely to face.
- (E) Explain the challenge to Delhi's local environmental sustainability that is shown in the photograph.
- (F) Explain the degree to which India's level of economic development as a country contributes to Delhi's local challenges to environmental sustainability.
- (G) Explain a possible solution to the challenge of environmental sustainability that is shown in the photograph.

Free-Response Question	Question Type	Skill	Learning Objective	Unit
2	Two stimuli	1.D, 2.A, 2.C, 3.B, 3.C, 4.E, 5.D	PSO-6.A, IMP-2.C, IMP-6.A, IMP-6.B, IMP-6.D, SPS-6.B	6

## Two Stimuli

NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI, INDIA, POPULATION CHANGE

Census Year	1991	2001	2011
Total population	9,420,644	13,850,507	16,787,941
Population density per square mile	17,771	26,128	31,669



# Major Differences in 9th Grade Courses

	<b>World 1 On Level</b>	<b>World 1 Honors</b>	<b>AP Human Geography</b>
<b>SOL requirement met</b>	Students receive full, verified credit by passing the class and writing 3 state-created 5 paragraph essays (PBAs)	Students receive full, verified credit by passing the class and writing 3 state-created 5 paragraph essays (PBAs)	Students receive full, verified credit by passing the class and earning a 2 or higher on the national AP exam
<b>Content</b>	Ancient History to 1500 C.E. enhancing and adding content to what students learned in elementary and middle school	Ancient History to 1500 C.E. enhancing and adding <u>in-depth</u> content to what students learned in elementary and middle school	The course is equivalent to an introductory <u>college-level</u> course in human geography. Focuses on human-environment interactions using historical and current events as examples

# Major Differences in 9th Grade Courses

	<b>World 1 On Level</b>	<b>World 1 Honors</b>	<b>AP Human Geography</b>
<b>Expectations</b>	Course is designed to <u>gradually</u> introduce students to high school courses.	Course is designed to <u>more quickly</u> challenge students to complete high school level work	Students will be challenged to learn historical events and compare them to contemporary issues. Some contemporary issues are sensitive and will require <u>mature understanding</u> and analysis that could be beyond a high schooler.
<b>Workload</b>	Focused students can complete all assignments in class with <u>limited</u> work outside the class	Focused students can complete most assignments in class with <u>occasional</u> work outside the class	Since class is fast paced and requires a combination of historical knowledge and contemporary issues, more reading, note taking and preparation for summative assignments will be <u>required</u> outside of class.

# AP Human Geography - Sequence Ahead

<b>9th Grade</b>	World History 1 World History 1 HN AP Human Geography
<b>10th Grade</b>	World History 2 World History 2 HN AP World History
<b>11th Grade</b>	US/VA History US/VA History HN AP US History
<b>12th Grade</b>	US Government US Government HN AP Government AP Comparative Government



AP Seminar  
(Rising 10th Grade Option)

# About AP Seminar

- AP Seminar is an **interdisciplinary course** that focuses on developing students' foundational skills in research, analysis, collaboration, writing, and presenting.
- **A New Path: AP Seminar as an English Course**
  - AP Seminar can be offered in any grade and can be taught by teachers from any disciplinary background; however, **40 states** now allow the course to fulfill a core English requirement.



# Connecting Students with Skills for the Future

- According to the Harvard University "Pathways to Prosperity Project" study, U.S. employers are increasingly seeing students graduate from college unequipped to survive in the 21st-century workforce.
- [Pew Research Center](#) concluded that soft skills trump technical skills for most workers and found that there are 6 soft skills that support young adults no matter what their career path:
  1. Communication
  2. Teamwork and collaboration
  3. Professionalism
  4. Self-management and initiative
  5. Critical and creative thinking
  6. Global fluency and perspective

## The AP Seminar framework outlines four distinct transferable skills:



Analyze sources and evidence



Construct an evidence-based argument



Understand context and perspective



Communicate (interpersonal and intrapersonal)

Completing the performance task also enables students to manage long-term projects, collaborate in teams, and meet deadlines.

# Students Engage with Project-based Assessments

## Performance Task 1 (20%)

Dec–Feb

### Individual Research Report (1200 words)



College Board Scored | Weight 50% of 20%

## Performance Task 2 (35%)

Jan–Apr

### Individual Written Argument (2000 words)



College Board Scored | Weight 70% of 35%

## AP Exam (45%)

May

### End-of-Course Exam (three short-answer and one essay question)



Written  
Response

### Team Multimedia Presentation and Defense

(8–10 minutes, plus defense)



Teacher Scored | Weight 50% of 20%

### Individual Multimedia Presentation and Defense

(6–8 minutes, plus defense)



Teacher Scored | Weight 30% of 35%

Multimedia  
Presentation



# The AP Seminar Year

## AP Seminar Course and Exam Description

<b>August</b> Develop skills and practice tasks. Investigations into themes/topics through texts	<b>September</b> Develop skills and practice tasks. Investigations into themes/topics through texts	<b>October</b> Develop skills and practice tasks. Investigations into themes/topics through texts	<b>November</b> Develop skills and practice tasks. Investigations into themes/topics through texts	<b>December</b> Develop skills and practice tasks. Investigations into themes/topics through texts
<b>January</b> <b>Team</b> Project and Presentation Teams investigate an issue of interest	<b>February</b> <b>Team</b> Project and Presentation Teams investigate an issue of interest	<b>March</b> <b>Individual</b> Research-Based Essay and Presentation Students investigate a topic on a given theme	<b>April</b> <b>Individual</b> Research-Based Essay and Presentation Students investigate a topic on a given theme	<b>May</b> End of Course AP Exam Students take 2-hour exam

# AP Seminar Sets Students Up For Success

## Increased Performance in AP

AP Seminar students show stronger AP Exam performance on later AP Exams than their peers who didn't take AP Seminar.

6%

Higher in **English**  
(Lang, Lit)

7%

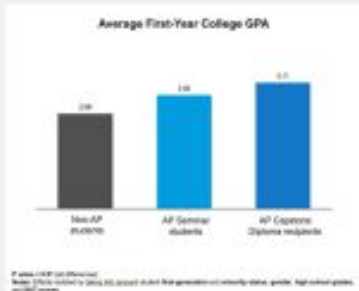
Higher in **History**  
(Art, Euro, US, World)

8%

Higher in **Politics**  
(US, Comp)

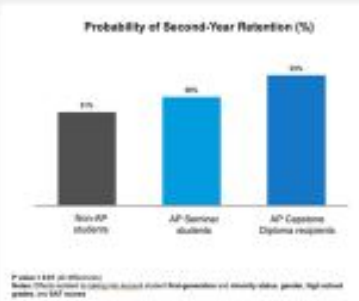
## Higher First-Year GPAs

AP Seminar students were shown to outperform non-AP students in first-year college GPA.



## Greater Second-Year Retention

AP Seminar students have higher likelihood of persisting to the second year of college than their non-AP peers.



# Crosswalk

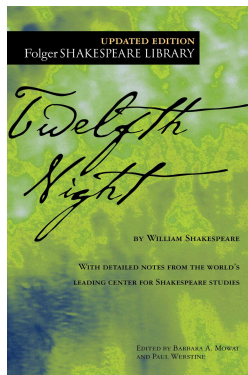
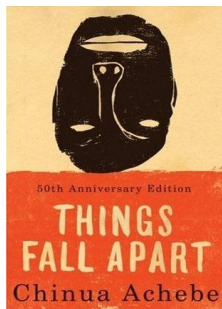
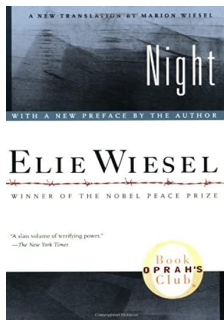
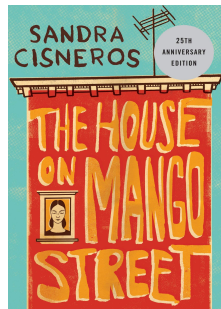
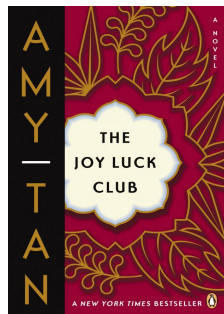
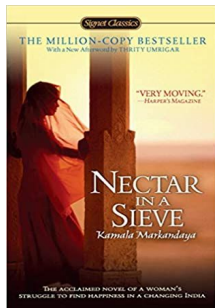
## English 10/10 Honors

- Read/analyze a variety of literary and nonfiction texts
- Extend students' vocabulary
- Understanding of grammar, capitalization, punctuation, spelling, sentence structure, paragraphing
- Expository and analytical writing
- Research project
- Communication and collaboration skills (discussions and presentations)

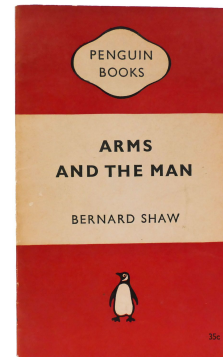
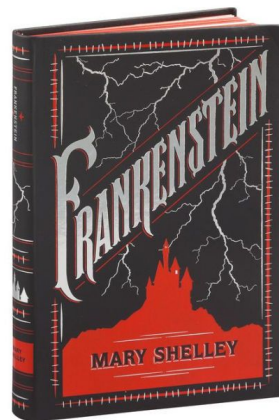
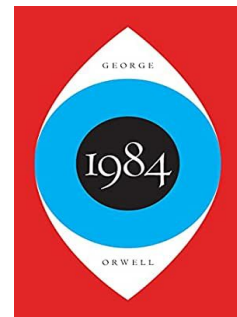
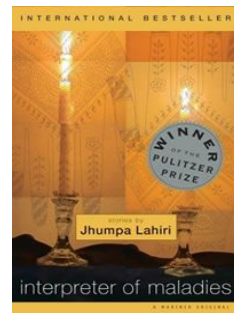
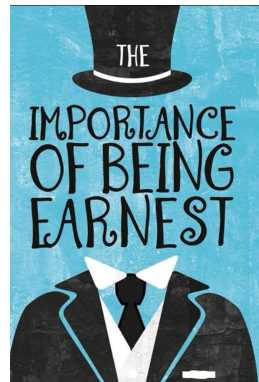
## AP Seminar

- Read articles and research studies, foundational, literary and philosophical texts
- View and listen to speeches, broadcasts, personal accounts and experience artistic works and performances
- Multimedia presentation - synthesis of individual research
- Individual research report
- Literature TBD

## English 10



## English 10 Honors




# English - Sequence Ahead

9th Grade	English 9 English 9 Honors
10th Grade	English 10 English 10 Honors AP Seminar
11th Grade	English 11 English 11 Honors AP Language & Composition DE English 111/112 - 6 credits
12th Grade	English 12 English 12 Honors AP Literature & Composition DE English 111/112 - 6 credits DE English 255 - 3 credits

Link to [Dual Enrollment Information](#)

Future option: AP Research (elective) - 2nd year of the AP Capstone program which can be taken in 11th or 12th grade



# Academic Planning

What should students consider when choosing courses?



BALANCE, BALANCE, BALANCE!

- Time management (*extracurricular activities, friends, and family*)
- Strength of schedule
- Past & current performance
- Course prerequisites
- Career exploration

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# Next Steps:

1. Student info sessions through classes from school staff
2. Parent/Student conversations to decide if this is an appropriate change

*\*Current course requests for 2024-25 can be viewed in SIS on the “Course Request” tab\**



# How do we make the change?

**Rising 9th Grade:** If you would like to include AP Human Geography in place of World History 1 or World History 1 Honors in your student's course requests, please complete the survey that will be emailed home this week.

**Rising 10th Grade:** All students enrolled in English 10 Honors for 24-25 have been changed to AP Seminar. If you would like to move out of AP Seminar, or if you would like to move from English 10 to AP Seminar, please complete the survey that will be emailed home this week.

\*Please review the email and survey closely for the submission deadline.





# Contact Information

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The image features a solid red background. In the top right corner, there are several overlapping geometric shapes: a dark red triangle pointing down, a light grey triangle pointing up, and a dark red square. The word "Questions?" is written in a large, white, serif font, centered horizontally and slightly above the vertical center.

Questions?