

AP Human Geography (SY 2018-2019)
Summer Assignment Directions and Parent Letter

April 28, 2018

Dear Students and Parents:

I am excited that you have decided to accept the challenge of taking an Advanced Placement class, which is a university-level course taught in high school. I began this course at Lemon Bay High School in 2004, and I am excited to teach this class again next year. I am dedicated to providing a challenging and rewarding academic experience for each one of you.

I promise that you will strengthen your academic, intellectual, observation, and discussion skills in this class. Additionally, I promise that each of you will become a stronger writer from this course. Intrinsic in any AP course is an increased workload and the time to review outside of class. Students should expect to spend about forty-five minutes to one hour each day on the work in the course, much of which is reading and note taking.

This course is a web-enhanced course and consequently students will use e-mail (preferably Gmail), the course website, and various other computer programs such as Google documents to enhance their learning opportunities. This creates a very rich academic environment where students will take quizzes online, participate in online discussions, and have the capacity to communicate and learn outside of the traditional class time. Additionally, the students will have a chance to explore GIS programming in this course. The course web site is located at www.schoolology.com and will be fully available after August 4th however, the summer assignment is already loaded on the site. Over the summer, I will begin to add assignments for each of our course units. In order to enroll, students must use the following access code: **NKMFF-TW97Z**. Use the student's real first and last name (no nicknames) to register. If a parent wishes to register so that they may see the assigned work and their student's scores, they should email me **AFTER** the student registers on Schoology. – Schoology generates secure parent registrations for the teacher after the student registers. Once the student registers, they will be able to see the AP Human Geography files.

Part of entering an AP class is an assumption of a certain level of background knowledge and skills. With this in mind, the course requires the completion of a summer assignment. Your summer assignment has three parts: a mapping assignment to review place location geography, a series of review lessons on maps and mapping, and a series of current events articles to complete. **Specific directions for the three parts are located on Schoology.** You need to make an account to do the summer work! Print your maps from www.eduplace.com. You must complete all three parts of the assignment. So, begin now and do a little each day. You will finish with plenty of summer break remaining. Please read the directions for each part carefully, and then follow the directions. **All of the work is due on the first day of classes.** Please bring your completed assignments on that day. Paperclip your work, but do not staple it, and make sure your name is on the top. **Late work is not accepted for any reason.**

During my summer break, I am always available to help students via email. Students, and parents, may feel free to email me at cmramsay@comcast.net. Regardless of where I am in the summer, I always have access to this email address. I will usually respond within 24 hours of receiving your email. If you email, please be specific about what exactly you need help with, and identify who you are for me. I am looking forward to meeting you in August!

Sincerely,

Colin M. Ramsay