

Sunset Ridge Middle School

Honors/AP Talking Points

AP Human Geography:

1. Focus of study will be on the theme of Human Environment Interaction
 - a. Why cities develop where they are
 - b. Why cities develop the way they do
 - c. How development impacts the environment
 - d. The class will include "field studies" – field trips to develop curriculum
 - e. Will include mapping, projects, etc...
2. AP = Advanced Placement
 - a. Summer assignment including reading and reports
 - b. There will be homework each night
 - c. Students will be encouraged to develop study groups
 - d. A textbook and workbook will be a part of the class but students will need to purchase an atlas and study guide.
 - e. Writing is a focus of the curriculum
 - f. Test in May for college credit (optional) This test DOES cost about \$85
3. Your ability to organize, to plan and think independently is essential.
4. AP will help you prepare for the rigor of college earlier and faster.
5. AP **IS** a college course, with college requirements, AND college expectations
6. You may take AP Human Geography AND geography if you choose.
7. Students who take AP will also be scheduled into a Honors Language Arts course to support the writing required in AP
8. You will need to decide within the first two weeks of school if you want to drop AP, otherwise you will stay in AP for the year.
9. Failure to complete the summer assignment will result in being dropped from the AP course.

Honors Language Arts and Geography:

1. Increased rigor (it is faster, harder, higher academic expectations)
2. More writing, reading, projects and homework
3. Your ability to organize, to plan and think independently is essential.

Biology:

1. Increased rigor (it is faster, harder, higher academic expectations)
2. More writing, reading and homework (about 2 pages typed each week)
3. Your ability to organize, to plan and think independently is essential.
4. You may take Biology AND Earth systems at the same time.
5. Research project each semester.
6. 45min.-1hr homework 3 nights a week.
7. You can only take Earth Systems in the 9th grade
8. You will need to decide within the first two weeks of school if you want to drop Biology, otherwise you will stay in Biology for the year.