INTRODUCTION: Welcome to AP Human Geography! The purpose of this course is to introduce you to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of Earth’s surface. You will employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis using maps, aerial photos, and satellite images to examine human social organization and its environmental consequences. You will also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their science and practice.

GOALS: On successful completion of the course, students should have developed skills enabling them to:

· Use and think about maps and spatial data. Maps and spatial data are fundamental to the discipline of geography. Students will learn how to use maps and spatial data to pose and solve problems, to analyze spatial information, and to think critically about what is revealed in different types of maps.

· Understand and interpret the implications of associations among phenomena in places. Students will learn not just to recognize and interpret spatial patterns but to assess the nature and significance of the relationships among phenomena that occur in the same place, and to understand how tastes and values, political regulations, and economic constraints work together to create types of cultural landscapes.

· Recognize and interpret at different scales the relationships among patterns and processes. Geographical analysis requires a sensitivity to scale as a framework for understanding how events and processes at different scales influence one another. Students should understand that phenomena they are studying at the local scale may well be influenced by developments regionally, nationally, or globally.

· Define regions and evaluate the regionalization process. Geography is concerned not simply with describing patterns but with analyzing how they came about and what they mean. Students should be seeing regions as objects of analysis and exploration and move beyond simply locating and describing regions to considering how and why they come into being and what they reveal about the changing character of the world in which we live.

· Characterize and analyze changing interconnections among places. At the heart of a geographical perspective is a concern with the ways in which events and processes operating in one place can influence those operating in other places. Students should view places and patterns not in isolation but in terms of their spatial and functional relationship with other places and patterns.

TOPICS: We will cover the following topics during the year in AP Human Geography:

Thinking Geographically

Language
Political Geography
Industry
Population
Religion
Development
Services
Migration
Ethnicity
Agriculture
Urban Patterns
Folk & Popular Culture
Resource Issues

MATERIALS:
Students should have the following materials available to use:

A) Notebook, folder, paper, and pencils
B) A good student atlas

TEXTBOOK: An Introduction to Human Geography - Rubenstein

OFFICE HOURS: Mr. Wetter will be in his room (7-201) after school, before school, and during lunch for makeup or tutoring.

CLASS RULES:
1) Turn off and put away cell phones & iPods.
2) Follow directions
3) Be on time
4) Use proper language & manners
5) Keep the room clean
6) No food/gum/drinks

CONSEQUENCES:
1) Warning
2) Student/teacher conference  
3) Parent/teacher contact and/or conference  
4) Teacher detention  
5) Office referral  

EVALUATION: A student should score at least a 70% on tests in order to demonstrate mastery of a topic. If they do not pass the student has the option to perform a remediation activity of the instructor's choice and then, after demonstrating proficiency, a second remediation session can be scheduled in order to retake the test. All students performing under a 90% on an assessment summative may retake the test provided that they have completed additional work of the instructor's choice. MINI SUMMATIVES (vocab exams) are NOT eligible for retakes. A student will have only one opportunity to retake the test and the second of the two grades will be taken unless the instructor can see a concerted effort has been made to improve. Exam retakes must be taken within 15 school days or else it cannot be retaken. Overall grades will be calculated by the following formula: 40% for formative assignments (ex. homework) and 60% for summative assignments (ex. tests).

EXAMS: You will be tested on the major concepts, ideas, and vocabulary covered in class or found in your text at the end of every chapter. Exam questions will come from the notes you take during lecture/discussions, information from class activities and/or labs, and from the guided reading questions assigned for homework. For each chapter, exams may contain:

1) a 50 point multiple choice exam that checks your comprehension of the content covered.  
2) a free-response question similar to the ones used on the AP Exam that you will take in May.  
3) a vocabulary exam.

Students who complete the reading assignments, take the time to answer the guided reading questions, and review notes & daily work should be well prepared for the exams.

QUIZZES: Expect a quiz multiple times per week. Questions are normally related to work completed during class the day before or on your reading assignments. Students who are on task during class and complete their own work usually do very well on daily quizzes. Students who miss a quiz will need to schedule a make-up time after school. All quizzes for a particular unit need to be made up before the chapter exam in order to receive credit.

DAILY WORK: Each student should have a three 3 – ring notebook and/or folder with pockets. The middle section of the folder should consist of at least 100 pages of ruled notebook paper. You will keep all notes & information from class in this folder. Daily work is given to you to help you understand the material and prepare you for the exam at the end of the chapter. During the quarter, I will collect and grade only a fraction of the work you have been assigned. Many times however, quiz questions are based on work that should have either been completed in class or at home the day before.

MID-TERM/FINAL: Student will be expected take a comprehensive exam at the end of each semester.

Teacher's Authority to Override Final Grade: A teacher may override the final grade if a student's overall performance warrants it. Before the grade override is finalized, the teacher must notify the
parent/guardian concerning the student’s performance if the override may result in a lower final grade. The teacher may issue a failing grade override based on the student’s overall performance only with the approval of the principal.

- This refers to the final grade of the grading period, or the final grade for the course.

**THE AP EXAM:** Students who take Advanced Placement Human Geography are required to sit for the A.P. geography exam given on Friday, May 18th. If for any reason a student does not take the A.P. Exam, they will be assessed a charge from DeLand High School and the name of your course will be changed to an “honors” or “regular” designation rather than “A.P.” This will also result in a change of weighting for the course from a 5.0 to either a 4.5 or a 4.0, which could affect your class rank and weighted grade point average.

**Viewing of PG-13 Movie Release**
Often appropriate PG-13 movies or sections of PG-13 movies can be utilized effectively to enrich classroom instruction and accomplish identified objectives. If you give permission for your child to view such materials, you do not have to do anything. (NOTE: NO “R” rated movies will ever be shown per Volusia County School Board Policy). If you do NOT wish to grant permission for your child to view any PG-13 movies identified by the teacher as effective in teaching the curriculum, please contact me via email at jfwetter@volusia.k12.fl.us or send in a note with your student.

**EXTRA HELP**
If you experience unusual difficulty in the assignments, either in general or consistently in a specific area, this is a signal to seek extra help. For best results, attend extra help sessions as needed, rather than only the day before a test or major assignment. Bring in homework to help locate troublesome areas. I am available before school, after school, or during lunch for tutoring. It is your responsibility to attend tutoring if you are having difficulty as I cannot force you to attend.

I am available for extra help before or after school by appointment. Also, I check my email (jfwetter@volusia.k12.fl.us or justinover@gmail.com) several times a day.
Course:
This course explores World History from the fall of the Roman Empire to the late 20th century. Throughout the year, students will analyze the political, economic, cultural and social developments in the global community throughout history. At the end of the school year, all students will take the end-of-course exam (EOC) for World history. The successful completion of this class is required for high school graduation. The EOC will count as 10% of a student’s 4th quarter World History grade.

Required Text:
World History and Geography by Spielvogel

Grading Scale:
A 100-90  B 89-80  C 79-70  D 69-60  F 59-below

Retakes:
Students have the right to retake one summative assignment in the each of the nine week grading periods. Additional retakes may be allowed with teacher permission. All retakes must be completed before the last seven days of the nine weeks. Students need to meet with Mr. Wetter to discuss the required steps for completing summative retakes; this means DO NOT show up on day 8 and inquire about retakes.

Materials:
Students will maintain a binder for all over their classroom notes and handouts. A binder solely for this class is best, given the quantity of materials -a section in a larger binder is not recommended. The maintenance of this binder is important for the preparation of the EOC exam. Students must also come prepared every day with a writing instrument.

Technology:
The use of technological devices (cell phones, tablets, laptops, etc.) is not permitted in the classroom unless specified by the teacher. Some lessons will incorporate technology; students without such devices will be provided for. Technology based accommodations are acceptable when school or teacher approved.

Classwork & Homework:
All classwork and homework assignments should be turned in on time.

Academic Honesty:
The school policy will be enforced. Duplicated homework will result in a zero for both parties. Keep this in mind; plagiarism is an academic crime punishable by academic death.

Absent Work:
Students will receive the standard 1 day to make up missed work for every 1 day absent. All absent work can be obtained from the classroom bin. It is the responsibility of the student to obtain all absent work directly following their absence. If absent on a day of an exam, the student will need to make arrangements to make up the exam that was missed.

Tardiness:
Tardiness is unacceptable and may result in disciplinary action.

Discipline:
All DeLand High School policies and procedures will be adhered to in this class, please review your Code of Conduct handbook for details.

Grades:
The following is the grade distribution that is required by the Volusia County schools. Listed are types of assignments that will count under each weighted category.

Survey

Summative Assignments 60%  Unit Exams  Midterm Exams  DBQ Essays  Projects

Formative Assignments 40%  Quizzes  In class assignments  Homework

Diagnostic Assignments 0%