



# Albert Einstein High School

## Summer Task Cover Sheet



**Teacher:** Steven Garfinkel

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**Course:** AP Human Geography

- ✓ **Purpose of the Summer Assignment:** The purpose of the assignment is to map the local area in which you live in order to illustrate the cultural landscape, a human geography term that seeks to show how the natural environment has been changed by the human beings living there.
- ✓ **Relationship between Summer Task and 1st Quarter Objectives:** Human geography is the study of the relationship between human beings and the portions of the physical biosphere, the planet Earth, where people live. This task provides a relatively quick and informative way to explore the cultural landscape surrounding the location where you live.
- ✓ **Description of the Task:** This is the alternative summer assignment, and should only be done by those students who legitimately cannot do the primary assignment. For the alternative assignment, the student is asked to create a map, encompassing approximately one square mile, of the land area in which her/his home is located. The assignment describes the details that must be reflected on the map, which may be generated by hand or by computer. The presentation is the map itself, which the student will turn in to the teacher. (Please note: simply printing a copy of a google or other computer or satellite generated map will receive no credit.)
- ✓ **Supportive Resources:** Computer and satellite generated maps may be used as support resources for planning and carrying out your own personal mapping of your local area.

### **Grading:**

- ✓ **DUE DATE:** Maps will be due when other students begin their presentations related to the primary summer assignment. These presentations will begin no sooner than the second week of school.
- ✓ **DEADLINE:** Because students will have plenty of lead time, the due date is also the deadline
- ✓ **Grading Category:** Each presentation will receive two grades, one in the formative category and one in the "completed work" category.
- ✓ **Points:** 40 points formative; 20 points completed work.
- ✓ **Extent to which the summer task counts towards the marking period grade:** Both grades will be part of the first quarter final grade.



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- ✓ **Grading Criteria and Rubric:** The formative category grade will focus on the substance of the map—does it fully comply with the requirements of the assignment? There will be four likely results, although the teacher reserves the right to issue a slightly different grade based on the quality of the presentation. An excellent map, which meets all requirements, will likely receive all 40 points; a good or satisfactory map, which meets almost all requirements, will likely receive 34/40; a poor map that meets relatively few of the requirements of the assignment will likely receive a 20/40; and the failure to make a map will receive a zero.

The “completed work” category grade will focus on the stylistic quality of the map. Again, there will be four likely results, although the teacher reserves the right to issue a slightly different grade based on the quality of the map. A highly attractive and easy to read map will likely receive all 20 points; a neat and easy to read map will likely receive 17/20; a sloppy map will likely receive a 10/20; and the failure to make a map will receive a zero.

Frequently, both the substantive and stylistic aspects of the map reach the same standard for grading, but sometimes the qualitative standards for substance and style are not the same.

May 25, 2018

Dear Students,

Welcome to AP Human Geography (APHG). I am delighted that you have chosen to take this course, which touches on so many other fields of study in addition to geography.

Human geography examines the relationship of us as human beings to the physical biosphere we inhabit—the planet Earth. How do the Earth and where we live on the Earth impact significantly on who we are; and how do we as human beings, in turn, impact significantly on how the earth once looked, looks now, and will look in the near term and the long term?

Human geography encompasses large elements of all the other social studies and relates them to the physical and life sciences. As a result by broadening our vision, human geography gives us a clearer view of the “big picture”—why the world is the way it is, both the good and the bad.

This is the alternative summer assignment. The primary summer assignment, which involves a trip on the Metro Red Line, should be undertaken by all students who can fulfill that assignment. This assignment is to be undertaken by those students whose parents do not give them permission to do the Red Line assignment or when other legitimate circumstances prevent them from doing the primary assignment.

Your alternative summer 2018 assignment asks you to explore and map your neighborhood to illustrate the impact that human development has on the natural environment. Start with a focal point, which should ordinarily be your home. If you happen to live in a relatively rural or undeveloped area, you may choose a different focal point that will assure you include all or most of the features listed below. Your focal point may be the center point of your map or it may be somewhere on the map's perimeter. In either case, you should explore and map an area that extends approximately one square mile. You may produce your map using a computer or by hand. Your map must include the following:

- The location of all single family and multi-family housing within your mapping area.
- The labeling of at least ten streets within your mapping area.
- The names and locations of any schools or libraries within your mapping area.
- The names and locations of any places of worship within your mapping area.
- The locations of any parks, woodlands, undeveloped natural spaces, or public spaces within your mapping area.
- The names and locations of at least 20 commercial establishments within your mapping area. Your commercial establishments should be dispersed in different areas of your mapping areas unless the square mile you are mapping has only one area of commercial establishments.
- The locations of any commercial or governmental office buildings within your mapping area. These may be above or adjacent to your named commercial establishments.
- Draw in your map and label any body of water that exists in your mapping area.
- The location and labeling of any other places of interest within your mapping area.
- As necessary, your map should include a legend to distinguish among the different types of housing and other development.

You may produce your map individually or with no more than one other student who is also taking APHG and who also lives within your mapped square mile. In a partnership, the homes of both students should be the focal points.

Four gradations of your presentation will be based on your product and conformity with the instructions: exemplary (100% credit); satisfactory (85% credit); and unsatisfactory (half or no credit).

Before you begin your trip or presentation, you are strongly encouraged to contact me with any questions or concerns you might have. Please see me before school ends or e-mail me at my school e-mail address, which I will open daily: [steven\\_garfinkel@mcpsmd.org](mailto:steven_garfinkel@mcpsmd.org).