**APHG EXAM INSTRUCTIONS, REMINDERS & TIPS – Friday, May 12, 2017 @ 8:00 am**

The exam is approximately 2 hours and 15 minutes long and has two parts — multiple choice and free response. Each section is worth 50% of the final exam grade.

**Section I: Multiple Choice** — 75 Questions; 1 hour

**Section II: Free Response** — 3 Questions; 1 hour and 15 minutes

**EXAM TIPS - The following strategies for answering the free-response questions were developed by college board consultants to help you on exam day:**

* Go to bed before 10pm the night before your exam. Sleeping is more important than studying.
* The multiple choice questions are not written to trick you – some actually are easy. ***Trust your gut instinct***.
* There is no benefit for finishing early. Use all of your time. Read each question closely and carefully. Narrow choices and make a best guess if necessary.
* FRQs require solid paragraphs. Identify / define + example / explanation = strong answer.
* Answer the FRQ you know best first. Lead with your strongest examples.
* Plan your FRQ answers before your write. Organization really does lead to better responses. Don’t begin to write immediately, creating a string of disconnected, poorly planned thoughts. You need to learn to attack questions methodically and to plan your answers before putting pencil to paper.
* You are writing for an FRQ reader who does not know your handwriting, grades, or level of class participation. You have 3 FRQs to prove your ability.
* Carefully analyze the question, thinking through what is being asked, and identifying the elements that must be addressed in the response. Each AP Exam asks different types of questions. Be sure to carefully read the question to determine what is being asked and then plan your essay accordingly.
* After you have determined what is involved in answering the question, consider what geographic themes you can incorporate into your response. If there is a map, chart, graph, or diagram with the question, study it carefully before beginning your answer. Review the evidence you learned during the course that relates to the question and then decide how it fits into the analysis or explanation. Does it demonstrate a similarity or a difference? Does it argue for or against a generalization that is being addressed? Does it ask you to identify and explain a certain number of examples or reasons? For example, if it asks for two reasons, then be sure to identify and explain two reasons in your answer.
* Whenever you offer evidence to illustrate contrast or similarity, clearly state your intent. Then, with additional information or analysis, elaborate on the ways in which these pieces of evidence are similar or different. If there is evidence that refutes a statement, explain why it argues against the statement.
* Be sure to develop your answer to show that you have an understanding of the concept and how it relates to the answer. Use appropriate geographic terms, and reference to models or themes, when appropriate.
* Thinking critically is important to show your understanding by adding information to explain concepts that may often come from more than one unit of the course.
* You are encouraged to carefully answer each part of the question, labeling you response as it is labeled in the question (while using sentences and paragraphs). You should also give examples, use appropriate terminology, and apply relevant information in the development of your answer.

**KESTER’S REMINDERS FOR THE DAY OF EXAM:**

* You may bring a snack/drink in the gym and keep at your table for the break.
* Before the exam begins – kindly ask your proctor for a verbal 10 minute warning prior to the conclusion of each session.
* You will get verbal reminders to move to the next FRQ every 25 minutes.
* Bring 2 pencils (not mechanical) & pen (blue or black ink only)
* Bring a sweater/jacket (The gym will be freezing!)
* At no point should your head be down - recheck answers if you're finished early & for the FRQ – JUST KEEP WRITING!
* Leave phones and bags in Ms. Kester's room prior to 8:00 am check-in (or don’t bring them at all).
* You may use the bathrooms at the front of the gym during the test since you won’t be leaving the facility.
* Wear a (non-smart) watch (It is hard to see the clocks on the gym walls.)
* Write on the test! Dissect the questions by underlining/circling main ideas. Eliminate answers you know are incorrect.
* Give yourself a mental pep talk☺ I’m proud of YOU and I believe you’ll do great!!!