

Dear Aspiring Masters of Awesomeness,

Congratulations on your decision to master knowledge of the world and all the responsibilities that come with that. For you it's not just about the college credit, it's about becoming alarmingly intelligent.

This is a very brief guide. It will steer you towards some resources and possibly help you craft your own study plan.

So here is a brief run down of what you will find here:

Geographers you must know

Maps you must know

Theories you must understand

The essential vocabulary you can't live without

The main ideas of each unit and links to resources you may find to be helpful

If you learn nothing else ever, learn the following!

Women are the future of the world!

Educate them and treat them with equity.

Possibilism? YES!

Environmental Determinism? NO!

Unit I: Geography It's Nature and Perspectives (What is Geography)

Geographers you must know!

(Why you should know them)

Erasthones	Calculated the circumference of the Earth
Hectataeus	Map of the World (as he knew it)
Idrisi	Created the first map of the World
George Perkins Marsh	Studied human impact on the environment
Ptolemy	Developed a global grid system
Carl Sauer	Diffusion and Cultural Landscapes
Mike Mikesell	The "Why of Where"

Map Projections You Must Know:

Pros

Cons

Mercator	Navigation	Distortion at the poles
Robinson	Classroom	Distortion (in all directions)
Peters	Land Masses =	Weird Looking

There are lots of other general maps such as contour maps, dot maps, thematic maps, political maps, relief maps, globes and choropleth maps. Be aware of them.

Concepts You Must Know:

Grid systems
GPS
GIS
Scale
Pattern
Region
Space Time Compression

Ten Vocabulary Words You Must Know (There are more, but if you only remember ten it should be these.)

Place
Location
Region
Human Environment Interaction
Movement
Meridian
Parallel
Globalization
Site
Situation

Unit II: Population

(How do people make places and diffuse ideas?)

People You Must Know

Ernst Ravenstein
Thomas Malthus
Esther Boserup

Why You Must Know Them

Laws of Migration
“Help, we’re running out of food!”
“Malthus is wrong! We’ll make more food!”

Concepts You Must Know

Activity Space
Push Factors
Pull Factors
Space Time Prism
Population Policies

- Eugenic
- Restrictive
- Expansive

How to construct and read a population pyramid
How to interpret the demographic transition model
Global Migration Patterns
Intraregional Migration
Interregional Migration
Main Eras of U.S. immigration

- 1840s – 1850s
- Late 1800s
- Early 1900s
- Immigration since 1945

12 vocabulary words you MUST know!

1. Carrying capacity
2. Crude Birth Rate
3. Crude Death Rate
4. Doubling Time
5. Gravity Model
6. Arithmetic Growth
7. Exponential Growth
8. Refugees
9. Total Fertility Rate
10. Physiological Population Density
11. Female Infanticide
12. Forced Migration

Unit III: Cultural Patterns and Processes (Why do people have different beliefs?)

People You Must Know

Why You Must Know Them

Torste Hagerstrand

Cultural Diffusion

Concepts You Must Know

Acculturation

Assimilation

Possibilism v. Environmental Determinism

Expansion Diffusion

- Contagious Diffusion
- Hierarchical Diffusion
- Stimulus Diffusion

Relocation Diffusion

- Migrant Diffusion

Culture Complex v. Race and Ethnicity

Ethnic Religions

- Judaism
- Hinduism
- Confucianism
- Taoism
- Shintoism

Universalizing Religions

- Christianity
- Islam
- Buddhism
- Sikhism
- Baha'i

Animism

Indo-European Language Tree

Sino-Tibetan Language Tree

Folk Culture v. Popular Culture

Twelve Vocabulary Words You Must Know!

1. Diaspora
2. Isogloss
3. Taboo
4. Culture Hearths
5. Dialects
6. Revived Languages
7. Accents
8. Creolized Languages
9. Lingua Franca
10. Global Language
11. Branches v. Sects
12. Threatened Languages

Unit IV: Political Organization of Space: (Who lives where, and do they have a country? If they do, do they share it with someone?)

People You Must Know

Friedrich Ratzel
Halford Mackinder
Nicholas Spykman

Why You Must Know Them

Organic State Theory
Heartland Theory (World Island, Pivot of History)
Rimland Theory

Concepts You Must Know

Devolution (What is it and who's doing it?)

Supranationalism

Balkanization (Shatterbelt)

Territorial Morphology

- Elongated (Chile, Norway etc.)
- Prorupted (Namibia, D.R. Congo etc.)
- Compact (Poland, Hungary etc.)
- Perforated (South Africa, Italy etc.)
- Fragmented (Indonesia, Philippines etc.)
- Microstates (Lichtenstein, Andorra etc.)

Types of Boundaries

- Physical boundaries
- Cultural boundaries
- Geometric boundaries
- Consequent boundaries
- Relict boundaries

Centrifugal Forces v. Centripetal Forces

Disputes:

- Positional
- Territorial
- Resource (Allocational)
- Functional (Operational)

Federal v. Unitary States

Ten Vocabulary Words You Must Know!

1. Balkanization
2. Enclaves/Exclaves
3. European Union
4. United Nations
5. Nation State
6. Stateless Nation
7. Multistate Nation
8. Multination State
9. Primate City
10. Globalization

Unit V: Agriculture (Where's my food and what's in it?)

People You Must Know

Norman Borlaug
Thomas Malthus
Esther Boserup
Johann Von Thünen

Why You Must Know Them

Green Revolution
"We're running out of food!"
"No we're not running out of food!"
Agricultural Location Theory (Von Thünen Model)

Concepts You Must Know

Primary Sector, Secondary Sector, Tertiary Sector
Agriculture in the MDC's v. Agriculture in the LDC's
The Neolithic Revolution
Subsistence vs. Commercial Agriculture
Rural Land Use and Settlement Patterns
The Second Agricultural Revolution
The Third Agricultural Revolution
The Green Revolution
Hearths:

- Seed
- Vegetative
- Animal Domestication

Sustainable, Local, and Organic Agriculture

20 Vocabulary Words You Must Know

1. Agribusiness
2. Slash and burn (Swidden)
3. Commercial Agriculture
4. Extensive Subsistence
5. Intensive Subsistence
6. Mediterranean Agriculture
7. Biotechnology
8. Cereal Grains (And which ones grow where)
9. Horticulture
10. Irrigation
11. Pesticides
12. Genetically Modified Organisms
13. Pastoral Nomadism
14. Transhumance
15. Truck Farming
16. Plantation Agriculture
17. Wet (lowland) Rice
18. Milkshed
19. Colombian Exchange
20. Desertification

Unit VI: Industrialization and Economic Development (What does it mean to be developed or not?)

People You Must Know

WW. Rostow
Emmanuel Wallerstein
James Watt
Alfred Weber
Howard Hotelling

Why You Must Know Them

Ladder of Development
Capitalist World Systems Theory
Inventor of the Steam Engine
Weber's Least Cost Theory
Locational Interdependence Theory

Concepts You Must Know!

HDI (Human Development Index)
Economic Indicators of Development

- GNI (Gross National Income)
- GDP (Gross Domestic Product)
- GNP (Gross National Product)

Social Indicators of Development

- Education Levels
- Literacy

Demographic Indicators of Development

- TFR (Total Fertility Rate)
- Life Expectancy

Occupational Structure of the Labor Force

- Primary
- Secondary
- Tertiary
 - Quaternary
 - Quinary

Theories of Economic Development

- Modernization Model
- Dependency Theory

The diffusion of the Industrial Revolution
Core Economies and Periphery Economies
Major Industrial Regions

- Western and Central Europe
- Eastern North America
- Russian and Ukraine
- Eastern Asia

The Four Tigers (Dragons)

- South Korea
- Taiwan
- Singapore
- Hong Kong

Deindustrialization
Effects of industrialization on the Environment

20 Vocabulary Words You Must Know!

1. Break of Bulk Point
2. Agglomeration
3. Bulk Reducing, Bulk Gaining
4. Deglomeration
5. Deindustrialization
6. Export Oriented
7. Footloose Industry
8. Industrial Revolution
9. Post-Industrial Societies
10. Maquiladoras
11. Value Added
12. Special Economic Zones
13. Single Market Manufacturers
14. MDC's and LDC's
15. Compressed Modernity
16. Friction of Distance
17. Infrastructure
18. Labor-intensive industries
19. International Division of Labor
20. Trading-blocs

Unit VII: Cities and Urban Land Use (Where do People live in cities and why do they live there?)

People You Must Know

E.W. Burgess
Harris and Ulman
Homer Hoyt
Griffin and Ford
Walter Christaller

Why You Must Know Them

Concentric Zone Model (Burgess Model)
Multiple Nuclei Model
The Sector Model
The Latin American City Model (Griffin Ford Model)
Central Place Theory

Concepts You Must Know

Urban Hierarchy (From the smallest and least services to the largest and most services)

- Hamlet
- Village
- Town
- City
- Megalopolis

Origins of Cities (The River Civilizations)

- Indus River
- Nile River
- Tigris and Euphrates River
- Huang He and Wei Rivers

People Usually move from rural to urban

World Cities, Primate Cities and Capital Cities

The Ten Largest Megacities (in order from largest to smallest)

- Tokyo, Japan
- Mexico City, Mexico
- Seoul, South Korea
- New York City, U.S.A.
- Sao Paulo, Brazil
- Mumbai, India
- Delhi, India
- Shanghai, China
- Los Angeles, U.S.A.
- Osaka, Japan

The Rest of the Megacities...

- Beijing, China
- Buenos Aires, Argentina
- Cairo, Egypt
- Dhaka, Bangladesh
- Istanbul, Turkey