



# Human Geography

BHS Social Studies - New Course Proposal

CAPE - December 18, 2018

## **CT States Social Studies Frameworks Requirement:**

- 1 Year Modern World History
- 1 Year United States History
- ½ Year American Government
- ½ Year Elective Coursework in Economics, Geography, History, Civics, or Social Sciences

## **Brookfield High School Graduation Requirement:**

- 4 Credits in Social Studies that include:
  - 1 Year 9th grade Global Themes (uses CT MWH standards)
  - 1 Year 11th grade U.S. History (uses CT USH standards)
  - ½ Year (11th or 12th grade) American Government (CT AG standards)
  - ½ Year Elective
  - 1 Year 10th grade course (Human Geography proposed)
    - Uses MWH standards with focus on geography

## **BHS Social Studies Current Status:**

- **9th grade students are enrolled in Global Themes**
  - Students and parents have volunteered positive feedback about this inquiry-based, thematically-organized course
- **10th grade students are enrolled in Modern World History**
  - This course uses a more traditional and chronological approach to learning 20th century history
  - This content is covered in the Global Themes course. So, next year's 10th grade students need a new course.



## Why Human Geography?

- All 50 states require students to study some form of geography in either middle or high school
  - CT Social Studies Frameworks suggests World Regional Studies in grade 6 & 7
  - In Brookfield, WMS students have the greatest exposure to geography during 5th grade
    - Due to student age and limited minutes allocated to social studies in grade 5, the opportunity for geography-related learning is limited for BPS students
    - This course fills a void
- Global Focus
  - Supports course requirement for CT Certificate of Global Engagement
- Offers students a different perspective from history course
  - History is included in the course but is not the dominant discipline
- Recommend by Steve Armstrong, CT State Social Studies Consultant

## AP Human Geography

Advanced Placement Human Geography is a college level course designed to represent a systematic study of the Earth and its inhabitants. APHG covers the following seven units:

1. The Geographic Perspective
2. Population
3. Cultural Patterns and Processes
4. Political Organization of Space
5. Agricultural and Rural Land Use
6. Industrialization and Economic Development
7. Cities and Urban Land Use

This course helps students understand how cultural, economic and political systems relate to the distribution of human activities, the nature of places, and people's interaction with their environment. All students are expected to take the AP Human Geography examination in May.

## Human Geography - Honors Level

Honors Human Geography introduces students to the following seven units:

1. The Geographic Perspective
2. Population
3. Cultural Patterns and Processes
4. Political Organization of Space
5. Agricultural and Rural Land Use
6. Industrialization and Economic Development
7. Cities and Urban Land Use

*Although this course does not explicitly focus on preparing for the AP Human Geography test, students may opt to register and take the exam.*



## Human Geography - Academic Level

Human Geography is the study of how human behavior relates to the physical world. This interactive course will use a range of print, video, and map resources to support student learning in the following areas:

- **Cultural Geography** (how religion, language and government vary across the world)
- **Development Geography** (standards of living and quality of life across the world)
- **Population Geography** (how populations grow in different places and people migrate)
- **Urban Geography** (the location, space, and processes that contribute to cities and built-up areas)

