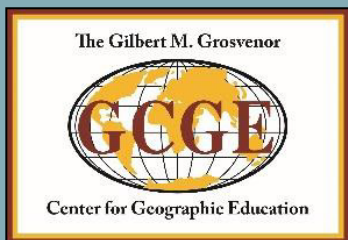


SOCIAL STUDIES AND GEOGRAPHY SURVEY FOR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOLS

2020 - 2021

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FOR GEOGRAPHIC EDUCATION
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RESEARCHER/AUTHOR'S NOTES

This survey clearly demonstrates the variability of social studies education across the nation. Not only do social studies requirements and curriculum vary across each state, but each state's definition differs. Some states use standards as mandatory course requirements for classroom curriculum, whereas other states view standards as general guidelines, leaving all decisions up to local education agencies.

It is important to note that there has been a recent rise of mandatory instruction in ethnic studies, Holocaust education, and new requirements for students to pass a civics test before they graduate high school. These have been noted on the individual state sheets when applicable, but please note that there may be some missing and this survey does not complete the entire social studies picture as the purpose was to just focus on geography.

Overall, the consensus is that geography is represented in the social studies, however it continues to play a secondary role to history, many times being combined with world history or U.S. history. Some would argue that geography is required in every state at every grade level because of the interdisciplinary nature of social studies and the pivotal role geography plays to buttress history, economics, and civics education. But as geography educators we should strive to include geographic skills, perspectives, and content in a geography specific course in middle and high school for students to truly understand and appreciate all that geography has to offer.

This report reflects the 2020-2021 school year and may not include recent changes that have since taken place.

REVIEWERS

"The latest edition of the Grosvenor Center's *Social Studies and Geography Survey for Middle and High Schools* is an essential guide to the geography of geography education. It provides state comparisons of geography requirements for students, links to geography and social studies standards in every state, and a schedule showing when those standards are due to be revised. The Survey is a useful reference for teacher educators, education policy makers, and other geography/social studies education stakeholders."

This report was read critically by:

Michael Solem, Ph.D.
Richard G. Boehm, Ph.D.
Aaron Doering, Ph.D.

Teacher reviewers include:

"I found this report to be very informative as both a geography educator and parent of secondary students." - *Kivett Gresham, High School Teacher, Texas*

"The Geography Survey [...] provides a snapshot of geography education requirements for the whole country. It prompts the question, 'What makes some states stronger than others in geography education?'" – *Allison Smith, High School Teacher, Utah*

"The [...] Survey [...] gives administrators and policy makers the information that they need to make critical decisions about the necessary implementation of geography education within their respective states." – *Samantha Serrano, High School Teacher, Illinois*

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2020 - 2021

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PURPOSE

This report is the sixth survey conducted by the Gilbert M. Grosvenor Center for Geographic Education. It is an investigation of middle school and high school geography standards and requirements by state during the 2020-2021 school year. This study was first conducted in 2009 and has been completed every two to three years. The purpose of this research is to examine the status of geography by looking at social studies standards and course requirements in each of the fifty states and the District of Columbia.

While many states teach geographic concepts, knowledge, and skills within the K-12 curriculum, the focus of this survey is solely on grades 6- 12. Every state embeds geography within the social studies standards and curriculum from kindergarten through grade 5, therefore these grades are not discussed in detail. However, at the upper grades, a variation of social studies courses are offered, usually divided into world history, U.S. history, state history, geography, government/civics, and economics.

This long-term data collection has allowed for longitudinal analysis of trends in social studies and geography on a state-by-state basis. This document functions as a tool to analyze these trends, but researchers must be cautious to look deeper, when and if changes are apparent from year to year. Some changes are a fundamental change (e.g., change in high school graduation requirements through state law), while other changes may be due to varying definitions used by the researchers or state school officials (e.g., required stand-alone geography course versus a required combined course). A brief analysis of the last six surveys is provided in the section, “Exploring the Last Ten Years”.

Data were collected by accessing state’s education websites. As expected, each state is different in terms of stating educational mandates, a byproduct of education being state-based and locally controlled. To make this survey as practical as possible, these state differences are highlighted on their individual state information sheets, while some consistency of definitions is maintained to effectively categorize states based on their geography course requirements and recommendations for the results.

GEOGRAPHY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

The survey identifies state’s social studies course requirements and recommendations for middle and high schools.

High School

In year’s past, the high school requirements were determined by looking at the number of social studies credits needed to fulfill the state-mandated high school graduation requirement. In some states these courses are explicitly identified, while in other states it simply states the number of credits needed leaving it up to local education agencies (LEAs) to determine the specific courses.

For the purpose of the 2020-2021 survey, high school graduation requirements are identified with the state-mandated minimum number of social studies credits needed. This is with the underlying knowledge that there is local control, and this number may not represent every single high school within the state. Also, to clarify, it does not factor in states who have credits allocated under “Electives” which a geography course can satisfy. This survey strictly reports on the “Social Studies” credits needed for graduation.

When the graduation requirements are explicit, they are outlined under the high school graduation requirements section on the individual state information sheet (e.g., Alabama). When

the courses are not explicitly stated, state standards are consulted to provide some content and course possibilities that may be available to fulfill the social studies requirements (e.g., Connecticut). In these circumstances, it is noted that this follows a “sample sequence of courses based upon the state curriculum framework and/or social studies standards”. And then, there are states that are complete local control (e.g., Wisconsin) that provide no explicit state-mandated high school graduation requirements or standards that identify content or course sequence. For the 2020-2021 survey it is also important to note that Global Studies and World Studies courses are defined as a combination course since the course includes history, geography, civics, and economic standards.

Based upon the above explanation and previous surveys, high school geography requirements are categorized as the following:

1. Geography is a **REQUIRED** standalone course for high school graduation.
2. Geography is **COMBINED** with another social studies course and is REQUIRED for high school graduation.
3. Geography is given as an **OPTION** in which students choose between a geography course or another social studies course to fulfill a requirement.
4. Geography can be chosen as an **ELECTIVE** to fulfill a requirement.
5. Geography is **NOT REQUIRED** to fulfill the social studies requirement.
6. Social studies courses are **LOCAL CONTROL** and the local education agencies set the course requirements.

Middle School

When analyzing middle school, grades 6-8, the course requirements are even more ambiguous than high school. Therefore, this section on the state information sheet is no longer titled “Middle School Requirements”, but “Middle School Recommendations” instead, since very few states have a mandated middle school curriculum.

State’s social studies standards and curriculum frameworks are used to help determine the sequence and recommendation of middle school courses. Standards define *what* students are expected to learn in a particular subject and/or grade, and curriculum defines *how* teachers will teach to ensure students learn the standards. Taking this difference into consideration, the survey uses both documents to help maintain some consistency when categorizing geography course recommendations.

There are some states that provide a separate curriculum framework guide that lists the courses at each grade level and aligns to the state standards (e.g., California), or states that include a scope and sequence of content for grade levels within the standards document (e.g., Arizona). Ultimately, the majority of states leave course decisions to local education agencies to make the final decision. Therefore, in the 2020-2021 survey, the classification of geography courses in middle school relies heavily on context clues from both the social studies standards and curriculum frameworks with the understanding that majority of the states ultimately have local control and determine the curriculum and courses.

Each state information sheet sheds light on how the courses are classified. When the middle school courses reflect a requirement the course titles are included (e.g., Alabama). Many states require a course that combines geography with another subject such as history or civics. These

courses are identified as a combined course (e.g., California). When a state provides a sample sequence of courses within the curriculum framework or standards document (e.g., Arkansas, Connecticut) the course title is included with a note that it represents a “sample sequence of courses based upon the state social studies standards/curriculum framework”. Therefore, if a geography course is included in the sample sequence, it is not considered required due to the local control aspect, so instead it is categorized as optional. This is to differentiate between states that are purely local control and those that have provided possible course options that include geography. A combined course can be either required or optional. This difference is noted in the state individual pages. When there is no discernable course title but the core content focus of the standards for a specific grade is geography, it is noted as a social studies course with a primary focus on geography (e.g., Florida). And just like high school, there are some states that are strictly local control that provide no guidance in their social studies standards or curriculum frameworks.

Based upon the above explanations, middle school geography recommendations are categorized as the following:

1. Geography is a **REQUIRED** standalone course.
2. Geography is **COMBINED** with another social studies course, can be required or optional.
3. Geography is **OPTIONAL** because local education agencies ultimately decide how/when the standards are taught, but the suggested sequence of courses/standards recommends geography content/course.
4. Geography content is the **PRIMARY FOCUS** of the course/standards, but the course is identified as Social Studies.
5. Geography is **NOT REQUIRED** as a standalone course.
6. Social studies courses are **LOCAL CONTROL** and the local education agencies set the course requirements.

STANDARDS AND STRANDS

Geography is one of the four core academic subjects in the social studies --- along with U.S. and world history, government/civics, and economics/personal financial literacy. Since the inception of national standards in the early 1990s, states have adopted their own set of social studies standards that dictate what students should know and be able to do at each grade level or grade span relevant to their specific state. Previous surveys examined each state’s social studies standards document to determine the degree to which geographic concepts, knowledge, and skills are taught in each grade level. That meant if geography had a separate set of standards for a stand-alone geography course, or if the geography standards were embedded within the social studies standards as a strand.

This 2020-2021 survey, however, discontinues to categorize state standards because of the immense variation among states in how standards are written and conveyed. Some states write standards for a specific course, some write them by grade level, while others by grade span. The purpose of this survey is not to evaluate the geography standards as the Fordham Foundation¹

¹ Jeremy A. Stern et al. *State of State Standards for Civics and U.S. History in 2021*. Washington D.C.: Thomas B. Fordham Institute (June 2021).

does, but instead to provide a link to the document so that the reader can explore the standards on their own. A follow-up survey will explore the standards in more detail on a state-by-state basis. This survey will not evaluate standards, but instead provide a singular document to show how social studies standards are organized and specifically how geography is represented within those standards for each state.

STANDARDS ADOPTION/REVISION SCHEDULE

As education reforms change (i.e., common core, STEM-centered, bottom-up, focus on diversity and inclusion) and new academic content is updated, state standards should change as well to ensure students are learning the most up-to-date content knowledge and skills and addressing the present times. Geography released national standards in 1994 and a revised edition in 2012. The National Council for the Social Studies released social studies standards in 1994 and 2010, and then the *College, Career and Civic Life (C3) Framework for Social Studies Standards* were released to provide more rigorous standards in history, geography, civics, and economics in 2013. A variety of these documents have been used by states to help develop the social studies and geography standards.

A component of this survey is to identify the year in which the current state social studies standards were adopted and the next time a revision is scheduled. It is also noted when they are revised, modified, and implemented, if available. The entire process from revision to adoption usually takes two years. It then takes an additional year for the standards to be fully implemented throughout the state. In some cases, states do not update their content standards, but instead update a curriculum framework for teachers to use as a guide.

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

This year the survey includes student enrollment data when possible. Majority of states report on statewide enrollment data for each grade level. This report includes statewide student enrollment data for grades 6-8 only, which is included in the individual state information sheets. These three grade levels are reported on because course offerings at those grade levels tend to be more universal across the state, as compared to high school course offerings and the possibility of electives. Therefore, if a state requires geography to be taught in grade 7 (like Alabama), the report shows a sensible number of how many students took that geography course. Some states provide specific course enrollment numbers and those are included when available for geography courses. Every state information sheet includes the College Board's Advanced Placement (AP) © Human Geography data. These data come from the 2019-2020 school year and reflect those students who took the exam, not necessarily all students who were enrolled in the course. Therefore, this leads to some discrepancies in states where enrollment numbers are reported by the state versus the College Board numbers (e.g., Connecticut and Texas).

RESULTS

GEOGRAPHY COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The 2020-2021 survey solidifies that each state varies greatly when it comes to requiring and offering geography. The survey includes individual state information sheets to explain in more detail the course requirements and recommendations. Table 1 displays the total number of states within each of the prescribed categories in which geography courses can fulfill course requirements and recommendations, adhering to the criteria and definitions applied by previous surveys and the researcher to maintain consistency. Table 2 shows how each state is categorized. Refer to the individual state information sheets to learn more about why a state is identified as it is.

Table 1

Geography Course Requirements and Recommendations for Middle and High School, Totals

	Middle School	High School
Required	4	3
Combined Course	20	10
<i>Combined Requirement</i>	11	10
<i>Combined Optional</i>	9	-
Optional - Suggested Course or Choice	9	4
Primary Focus (MS only)	2	-
Elective (HS only)	-	18
Not Required	8	14
Local Control	12	8

High School

There are only three states (Minnesota, New Hampshire, and Utah) that require a standalone geography course for high school graduation. Ten states require a combined geography and another social studies subject course for graduation. This includes World Studies and Contemporary Studies courses. Four states give students a choice between geography or another course to fulfill a social studies credit for high school graduation. There are 18 states that have elective credits that geography can fulfill. Fourteen states do not require any type of geography course for high school graduation. While eight states are complete local control and leave all high school graduation course requirements up to the local education agencies and school districts. Totals go over 51 because some states fulfill multiple categories (e.g., New Hampshire requires a standalone geography course and has an elective credit).

Middle School

There are four states that have a required standalone geography course in middle school. Twenty states offer a combined course in middle school, eleven of which are a required course, while nine are optional leaving the course offerings decisions to the local education agencies. There are nine states that identify a standalone geography course as optional, based upon a sample sequence of courses provided by the state social studies standards and or curriculum framework. There are two states that have social studies courses taught at middle school, and the primary focus of the standards at one of those grades is geography content. There are eight states that do not require any type of geography course in middle school, while twelve states are pure local control. Again, totals are over 51 due to some states fulfilling multiple categories.

Table 2

Geography Course Requirements/Recommendations, By State

State	Middle School	High School
Alabama	Required	No
Alaska	Local	Elective
Arizona	Combined Requirement	Optional
Arkansas	Optional	No
California	Combined Optional	Combined Requirement
Colorado	Combined Optional	Local
Connecticut	Optional	Elective
Delaware	Local	Elective
District of Columbia	Required AND Combined Requirement	Combined Requirement
Florida	Primary Focus	No
Georgia	Combined Requirement	No
Hawaii	No	Elective
Idaho	Optional	No
Illinois	No	Elective
Indiana	Combined Optional	Optional OR Combined Requirement
Iowa	Optional AND Combined Optional	Elective
Kansas	Optional	No
Kentucky	No	Elective
Louisiana	No	Elective
Maine	Local	No
Maryland	Local	No
Massachusetts	Combined Requirement	No
Michigan	Optional AND Combined Optional	Combined Requirement
Minnesota	Combined Requirement	Required
Mississippi	Combined Optional	No
Missouri	Optional	No
Montana	Local	Local
Nebraska	Combined Optional	Local
Nevada	Combined Requirement	Optional
New Hampshire	Local	Required AND Elective
New Jersey	No	No
New Mexico	No	Combined Requirement
New York	Combined Requirement	Combined Requirement
North Carolina	Combined Optional	No
North Dakota	Optional	Elective
Ohio	Required AND Combined Requirement	Elective
Oklahoma	Primary Focus	Elective
Oregon	Combined Optional	Local
Pennsylvania	Local	Local
Rhode Island	Local	Local
South Carolina	Optional	Elective
South Dakota	Required	Elective
Tennessee	Combined Requirement	Combined Requirement
Texas	Combined Requirement	Elective
Utah	Combined Requirement	Required AND Elective
Vermont	Local	Local
Virginia	Local	Optional OR Combined Requirement
Washington	No	Combined Requirement AND Elective
West Virginia	No	Combined Requirement AND Elective
Wisconsin	Local	Local
Wyoming	Local	No

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS ADOPTION/REVISION SCHEDULE

Table 3 showcases the years that the social studies standards were adopted and if there was a revision completed later that year is used instead. There are 33 states that have revised their social studies standards within the last five years (years 2017-2021), fifteen from 2012-2016, four from 2007 to 2011, one from 2002-2006, and only one is over ten years.

Table 4 provides state-by-state detail of when states last revised or adopted the standards and the upcoming revision/adoption year. Looking at upcoming revisions and adoptions, there are nine states that have revised or adopted their social studies standards in 2020 or are currently in the process. Twelve states will start the revision process in the next four years (2022-2025). Two states are set to revise their standards in 2026 and three states during the years 2028 – 2030. The remaining 26 states have no expected revision or adoption date scheduled for the social studies standards.

Table 3
Adoption Year of Social Studies Standards, totals

2017-2021	33
2012-2016	15
2007-2011	4
2002-2006	1
1997-2001	1

Note: Total is 54 because Pennsylvania (2009 & 2012), Rhode Island (2008 & 2012) and Utah (2016 & 2020) each have two dates.

Table 4
Social Studies Standards Adoption/Revision Schedule, By State

State	Current Year	Upcoming Year	State	Current Year	Upcoming Year
Alabama	2015	2021-2022	Montana	2020	N/A
Alaska	2016	2021-2023	Nebraska	2019	2026
Arizona	2018	N/A	Nevada	2018	2023
Arkansas	2014	2021-2022	New Hampshire	2020	N/A
California	1998	N/A	New Jersey	2020	2025
Colorado	2018/2020	2030	New Mexico	2009	N/A
Connecticut	2015	N/A	New York	2014	N/A
Delaware	2018	N/A	North Carolina	2020	N/A
D.C.	2006	2020	North Dakota	2019	N/A
Florida	2014	N/A	Ohio	2018	N/A
Georgia	2016	N/A	Oklahoma	2019	N/A
Hawaii	2018	N/A	Oregon	2018	2025
Idaho	2016	2022	Pennsylvania	2009 (4-12) 2012 (K-3)	N/A
Illinois	2017	2020	Rhode Island	2008 2012	2019
Indiana	2020	2025	South Carolina	2019	N/A
Iowa	2017	N/A	South Dakota	2015	2021-22 & 2028-29
Kansas	2020	N/A	Tennessee	2017	N/A
Kentucky	2019	2025	Texas	2018	2021-2022
Louisiana	2011	N/A	Utah	2020 (K-6), 2016 (7-12)	2026-2027
Maine	2019	2024	Vermont	2017	N/A
Maryland	2019	2024	Virginia	2015	2021-2022
Massachusetts	2018	N/A	Washington	2019	N/A
Michigan	2019	N/A	West Virginia	2016	2024-2025
Minnesota	2020-2021	2030	Wisconsin	2018	2024
Mississippi	2018	2025	Wyoming	2018	2023-2024
Missouri	2016	N/A			

EXPLORING THE LAST TEN YEARS

This survey is the sixth survey in a collection that explores the status of geography within the middle and high schools. So how has geography changed since the survey first started in 2009-2010 compared to 2020-2021?

GEOGRAPHY COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

To compare the surveys, it is important to address that the rubric for categorizing the geography course requirements has changed over the years. Below is a description of each rubric that was followed during the first five surveys. There has been some consistency in these categorizations, such as geography is required, geography is not required, and local control. Identifying geography courses as a combined course has also been an established classification of geography courses.

The classification of “optional”, however, has altered over the years. Optional consistently meant if students had a choice between World History and World Geography to fulfill a requirement (i.e., 2015-2016 survey). However, at times optional also included electives that did not specifically state geography (i.e., 2009-2010, 2011-2012, 2017-2018). And even further in the 2013-2014 survey, there is no optional or elective classification, and these states were classified as not requiring geography. In the 2020-2021 survey, there is now a distinction between “optional” and “electives”. The 2020-2021 version of optional also considers local control decisions (primarily at the middle school grades), therefore states that may have been classified as local control are now classified as optional.

In the 2017-2018 survey, geography was considered required if the primary focus of the course/standards was in geography content. In the 2020-2021 survey, this was turned into a new category “primary focus” to differentiate between states that had a clear geography course and those that did not. In the first five surveys, each state was only classified under one category, which has changed in the 2020-2021 survey to account for the various ways states require geography courses.

It is important to review these rubrics and keep them in mind when examining Tables 5-8. For more in-depth information, each survey is available on the [Gilbert M. Grosvenor Center for Geographic Education’s website](#) under “Publications” and “[State of the State Standards](#).”

2009-2010 SURVEY

1. Yes, geography is a **required** course.
2. Yes, **optional**. There is a choice between World History and Geography, or Geography can be chosen as an elective.
3. Yes, state required geography **combined** as part of a social studies course.
4. No, geography is **not required**.
5. **Local control**.

2011-2012 SURVEY

1. Yes, geography is a **required** course.
2. Yes, **combined**. Geography is part of a History and Geography course.
3. Yes, **optional**. Geography may be chosen by either a school district or student to fulfill a state social studies requirement.
4. No, geography is **not required**.
5. **Local control**, individual districts may require geography.

2013-2014 SURVEY

1. Yes, the state **requires** a stand-alone geography course.
2. No, the state does **not require** a geography course.
3. The state allows **local school districts** to decide what course are taught.
4. Geography is a **combined course** with other subjects.
5. If geography was a **choice** in a list of courses to fulfill it was **not considered required**.

2015-2016 SURVEY

1. Yes, a **stand-alone** geography course is required.
2. Yes, a geography/other social studies **combined** course is required.
3. No, a geography course is **not required**.
4. **Optional**- World History or World Geography required.
5. **Local school districts** set all course requirements.

2017-2018 SURVEY

1. Yes, a **geography** course is required (or geography content is the primary focus of the course/standards).
2. Yes, a geography/other social studies **combined** course is required.
3. No, a geography course is **not required**.
4. **Optional**, students choose between a geography course or another social studies course to fulfill a requirement (or elective).
5. **Local school districts** control and set course requirements.

2020-2021 SURVEY

1. Geography is a **required** standalone course for high school graduation.
2. Geography is **combined** with another social studies course and is REQUIRED for high school graduation.
3. Geography is given as an **option**- students choose between a geography course or another social studies course (high school) OR Geography is **OPTIONAL** because local education agencies ultimately decide how/when the standards are taught (middle school).
4. Geography content is the **primary focus** of the course/standards (middle school).
5. Geography can be chosen as an **elective** to fulfill a requirement.
6. Geography is **not required** to fulfill the social studies requirement.
7. Social studies courses are **local control** and the local education agencies set the course requirements.

High School

There has been a steady number of states that require geography for high school graduation over the last decade. Starting with six in 2009 (Minnesota, Mississippi, New Hampshire, South Dakota, Texas, and Utah), there was a decline to three in 2013 (Mississippi, South Dakota, Utah), an uptick back to six in 2017 (Minnesota, Mississippi, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, West Virginia), but in 2020 it is back to three states (Minnesota, New Hampshire, and Utah) that require a standalone geography course for high school graduation. The differences among these requirements over the decade can in part be due to law changes, e.g., Texas passed House Bill 5 in 2013 that no longer required geography for high school graduation. However, a deeper look at the surveys shows that in 2011 and 2013 Minnesota was classified as optional and local control, respectively, even though the state has consistently required 0.5 credits in geography.

This is one example of why when change is present it is important to refer to the surveys to see how the researchers' classified states. Many states are local control and that has caused various discrepancies over the years to categorize course requirements and recommendations.

Table 5
Geography Course Requirements and Recommendations for High School, totals by year

	2009-2010	2011-2012	2013-2014	2015-2016	2017-2018	2020-2021
Required	6	5	3	4	6	3
Combined Course	8	5	7	6	11	10
Not Required	13	7	25	13	7	14
Local Control	7	17	16	24	15	8
Optional - World History or World Geography (2015 survey)	n/a	n/a	n/a	4	n/a	n/a
Optional/Elective (2009, 2011, 2017 survey)	17	17	n/a	n/a	12	n/a
Optional – Student Choice or LEA decision (2020 survey)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	4
Elective (2020 survey)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	18

Table 6
Geography Course Requirements and Recommendations for High School, classification by state by year

State	2009-2010	2011-2012	2013-2014	2015-2016	2017-2018	2020-2021
Alabama	No	Local	No	No	No	No
Alaska	Optional	Local	Local	Local	Local	Elective
Arizona	Combined	Combined	Yes	Option	Combined	Optional
Arkansas	No	Optional	No	No	Optional	No
California	Combined	Combined	Yes	Combined	Combined	Combined Requirement
Colorado	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
Connecticut	Optional	Local	No	Local	Optional	Elective
Delaware	Combined	Local	Yes	No	Local	Elective
District of Columbia	Combined	Combined	Yes	Combined	Combined	Combined Requirement
Florida	No	No	No	No	No	No
Georgia	No	No	No	No	No	No
Hawaii	Optional	Optional	No	No	Optional	Elective
Idaho	No	Local	No	No	No	No
Illinois	Optional	Optional	Local	Local	No	Elective

State	2009-2010	2011-2012	2013-2014	2015-2016	2017-2018	2020-2021
Indiana	Optional	Optional	No	Option	Optional	Optional OR Combined Requirement
Iowa	No	Local	No	Local	Local	Elective
Kansas	No	Optional	Local	Local	Local	No
Kentucky	Combined	Local	Local	Local	Local	Elective
Louisiana	Optional	Optional	Local	Local	Optional	Elective
Maine	Optional	No	Local	Local	Local	No
Maryland	No	No	No	Local	No	No
Massachusetts	Local	Local	Local	Local	No	No
Michigan	Combined	Combined	Yes	Combined	Combined	Combined Requirement
Minnesota	Yes	Optional	Local	Yes	Yes	Required
Mississippi	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Missouri	Optional	Optional	No	Local	Local	No
Montana	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
Nebraska	Local	Local	No	Local	Combined	Local
Nevada	Optional	Optional	No	Local	Combined	Optional
New Hampshire	Yes	Optional	No	Local	Optional	Required AND Elective
New Jersey	No	No	Local	Local	Combined	No
New Mexico	Combined	Combined	Yes	Combined	Combined	Combined Requirement
New York	Optional	Optional	No	Local	Combined	Combined Requirement
North Carolina	No	No	No	No	Optional	No
North Dakota	Optional	Optional	No	Local	Optional	Elective
Ohio	Optional	Optional	No	No	Local	Elective
Oklahoma	Optional	Optional	No	No	Optional	Elective
Oregon	Local	Local	Local	Local	Yes	Local
Pennsylvania	No	Local	Local	No	Local	Local
Rhode Island	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
South Carolina	Optional	Optional	No	No	Optional	Elective
South Dakota	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Elective
Tennessee	Optional	Optional	No	Combined	Combined	Combined Requirement
Texas	Yes	Yes	No	Option	Optional	Elective
Utah	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Required AND Elective
Vermont	Optional	Optional	Local	Local	Combined	Local
Virginia	Optional	Yes	No	Option	Optional	Optional OR Combined Requirement
Washington	Combined	Local	Yes	Combined	Combined	Combined Requirement AND Elective
West Virginia	No	No	No	No	Yes	Combined Requirement AND Elective
Wisconsin	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
Wyoming	No	Local	No	Local	Local	No

Middle School

Just like with high school, middle school classifications vary each year based upon the researchers and the rubric followed. Many states are local control, especially when it comes to determining middle school curriculum. Therefore, please refer to past surveys for a deeper understanding of the state’s requirements and recommendations.

Table 7
Geography Course Requirements and Recommendations for Middle School, totals by year

	2009-2010	2011-2012	2013-2014	2015-2016	2017-2018	2020-2021
Required	16	13	12	9	19	4
Combined Course	3	5	5	4	16	20
<i>Combined Requirement (2020)</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	11
<i>Combined Optional (2020)</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	9
Not Required	20	11	11	12	0	8
Local Control	12	22	23	26	16	12
Optional - World History or World Geography (2015 survey)	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	0	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>
Optional/Elective (2009-2010, 2011-2012, 2017-2018 survey)	0	0	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	0	<i>n/a</i>
Optional - Suggested Course but LEA decision (2020 survey)	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	9
Primary Focus (2020 survey)	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	2

Table 8
Geography Course Requirements and Recommendations for Middle School, classification by state by year

State	2009-2010	2011-2012	2013-2014	2015-2016	2017-2018	2020-2021
Alabama	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Required
Alaska	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
Arizona	No	No	Local	No	Combined	Combined Requirement
Arkansas	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Optional
California	Combined	Combined	Yes	Combined	Combined	Combined Optional
Colorado	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Combined Optional
Connecticut	No	Local	Local	Local	Yes	Optional
Delaware	Combined	Local	Yes	No	Yes	Local
District of Columbia	Yes	Combined	Yes	Combined	Combined	Required AND Combined Requirement
Florida	No	Local	No	No	Combined	Primary Focus
Georgia	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Combined Requirement
Hawaii	No	Local	Yes	No	Combined	No
Idaho	Yes	Local	Yes	Yes	Yes	Optional
Illinois	No	Local	Local	Local	Local	No
Indiana	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Combined Optional
Iowa	No	No	Local	Local	Yes	Optional AND Combined Optional

State	2009-2010	2011-2012	2013-2014	2015-2016	2017-2018	2020-2021
Kansas	Yes	Local	Local	Local	Yes	Optional
Kentucky	Yes	Yes	Yes	Local	Combined	No
Louisiana	No	No	No	No	Combined	No
Maine	No	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
Maryland	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Local
Massachusetts	Local	Local	Local	Local	Yes	Combined Requirement
Michigan	Yes	Yes	Yes	Local	Yes	Optional AND Combined Optional
Minnesota	Local	Yes	Local	No	Yes	Combined Requirement
Mississippi	Yes	Combined	Yes	Combined	Combined	Combined Optional
Missouri	No	No	Local	Local	Local	Optional
Montana	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
Nebraska	Local	Local	No	Local	Combined	Combined Optional
Nevada	Local	Local	Local	Local	Yes	Combined Requirement
New Hampshire	No	No	Local	Local	Local	Local
New Jersey	No	Local	Local	Local	Local	No
New Mexico	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Local	No
New York	Yes	Yes	Yes	Local	Local	Combined Requirement
North Carolina	Yes	Combined	No	No	Yes	Combined Optional
North Dakota	Local	Yes	No	Local	Local	Optional
Ohio	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Required AND Combined Requirement
Oklahoma	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Primary Focus
Oregon	Local	Local	Local	Local	Combined	Combined Optional
Pennsylvania	Combined	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
Rhode Island	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
South Carolina	No	No	No	No	Combined	Optional
South Dakota	Yes	Combined	Local	Local	Combined	Required
Tennessee	No	No	No	Combined	Combined	Combined Requirement
Texas	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Combined Requirement
Utah	No	No	No	No	Yes	Combined Requirement
Vermont	No	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
Virginia	No	No	Local	Local	Combined	Local
Washington	Yes	Local	No	No	Combined	No
West Virginia	Yes	Yes	No	No	Combined	No
Wisconsin	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local
Wyoming	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS ADOPTION/REVISIONS SCHEDULE

Some states try to revise their standards every five to eight years, while other states have no set plans for standard revision cycles. Or in the case like California, the standards stay the same and the curriculum framework is updated every eight years. In some cases, social studies standards revisions are pushed aside due to funding and budget restrictions. However, in this past survey, it was noticed that more than half of the states have updated their social studies standards within the last five years. There is no telling if this is purely coincidence that states have their revision cycle line up every so often, or if this was more of a purposeful revision plan to address many of the new events happening in the world that deal heavily with social studies subject areas. Such as a move for more ethnic studies (e.g., American Indian Tribal Groups/Indigenous People studies, African studies, Hispanic studies), an improved Holocaust education, and a momentum for a stronger civics' education led by the Educating for American Democracy project, propelled by current civic and political movements.

Each survey collects when the standards are adopted and revised and when their next revision is planned. Table 9 looks at that data from 2017-2018 and compares it to states social studies standards as reported in the 2020-2021 survey. States could have revised or adopted their social studies standards "early", for example, in 2017 Alabama's social studies standards were adopted in 2010 and the state had plans to revise the standards in 2020. Alabama in fact revised them in 2015. Some states completed their revisions/adoptions right "on time" like Arizona. Other states who did not have a planned revision/adoption year ended up either having "no change", or if new standards were released the "number of years" between is noted in the last column.

Table 9

Social Studies Standards Adoption/Revision Schedule

State	Previous Adoption Year from 2017/2018 Survey	Next Revision Year from 2017/2018 Survey	Adoption Year from 2020/2021 Survey	When adopted*
Alabama	2010	2020	2015	Early
Alaska	2006	N/A	2016	10 years
Arizona	2005	Currently under revision	2018	On time
Arkansas	2014	2020	2014	Late
California	1998	N/A	1998	No change
Colorado	2009	Currently under revision	2018/2020	On time
Connecticut	2015	N/A	2015	No change
Delaware	2016	N/A	2018	2 years
District of Columbia	2006	N/A	2006	No change
Florida	2008	N/A	2014	6 years
Georgia	2016	N/A	2016	No change
Hawaii	2007	Currently under revision	2018	On time
Idaho	2016	N/A	2016	No change
Illinois	2017	N/A	2017	No change
Indiana	2014	2020	2020	On time
Iowa	2017	N/A	2017	No change
Kansas	2013	2020	2020	On time
Kentucky	2015	N/A	2019	4 years
Louisiana	2011	N/A	2011	No change
Maine	2007	N/A	2019	12 years
Maryland	2015	N/A	2019	4 years
Massachusetts	2003	2018	2018	On time
Michigan	2007	Currently under revision	2019	On time
Minnesota	2011	2020/2021	2020-2021	On time
Mississippi	2010	Currently under revision	2018	On time
Missouri	2016	2019/2020	2016	Late

Montana	2000	2019	2020	On time
Nebraska	2012	2019	2019	On time
Nevada	2017	N/A	2018	No change
New Hampshire	2006	Currently under revision	2020	On time
New Jersey	2014	N/A	2020	6 years
New Mexico	2009	N/A	2009	No change
New York	1996	N/A	2014	18 years
North Carolina	2010	N/A	2020	10 years
North Dakota	2007	2018/2019	2019	On time
Ohio	2010	2018	2018	On time
Oklahoma	2012	N/A	2019	7 years
Oregon	2011	Currently under revision	2018	On time
Pennsylvania	2009 & 2012	N/A	2009	No change
Rhode Island	2008 & 2012	N/A	2012	Same
South Carolina	2011	2019	2019	On time
South Dakota	2015	N/A	2015	No change
Tennessee	2013	Currently under revision	2017	On time
Texas	2010	2019	2018	Early
Utah	2010 & 2017	N/A	2020 & 2016	10 years
Vermont	2017	N/A	2017	No change
Virginia	2015	N/A	2015	No change
Washington	2008	N/A	2019	11 years
West Virginia	2016	N/A	2016	No change
Wisconsin	1998	Currently under revision	2018	On time
Wyoming	2014	N/A	2018	4 years

* Note: Standards can have been adopted: 1) on time, 2) early, 3) late, 4) no change, or 5) the number of years between adoption if there was N/A under the “Next Revision Year from 2017/2018 survey”.

HOW TO READ THE INDIVIDUAL STATE INFORMATION SHEET

High School Graduation Requirements are linked here.

STATE

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

	Courses:	Credits:
Sr.9	World History	1
Gr. 10	U.S. History I	1
Gr. 11	U.S. History II	1
Gr. 12	U.S. Government Economics	0.5 0.5

Gr. 6	U.S. History
Gr. 7	Geography
Gr. 8	World History

Geography courses are identified based upon colors. The key is at the bottom of the page.

* Special Note.

* Special Note.

Specific notes about courses or other important information will be provided here.

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: World Geography; AP Human Geography; ...

MIDDLE SCHOOL: Geography Honors/Advanced Level (7th grade) and Geography (8th grade); ...

Any other geography courses that are offered will be listed here. These are available to be taken as

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[2010 Alabama Course of Study: Social Studies](#)

Adopted May 2010
Reviewed & Updated 2013
Modified March 2015
Effective 2014-2015
Next Revision 2021-2022

State Social Studies Standards are linked here.

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2019 – 2020 School Year

Grade 6: 58,767
Grade 7: 58,032
Grade 8: 55,856

Grades 6-8 statewide total student enrollment numbers are here, when available. Along with other geography course enrollments, when available.

AP Human Geography ALL: 706
AP Human Geography Grade 11: 174
AP Human Geography Grade 12: 81

AP Human Geography test enrollment numbers from the College Board will be here.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Not Available

Geography Course Identification Key

Required	Red
Combined Course	Green
Elective	Blue
Optional	Orange
Primary Focus	Purple

STATE INFORMATION SHEETS, ALPHABETICAL

ALABAMA

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: 4	Courses:	Credits:
Gr.9	World History: 1500 to Present	1
Gr. 10	U.S. History I: Beginnings to the Industrial Revolution	1
Gr. 11	U.S. History II: The Industrial Revolution to the Present	1
Gr. 12	U.S. Government	0.5
	Economics	0.5

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Gr. 6	U.S. Studies: The Industrial Revolution to the Present
Gr. 7	Geography (1 semester) Civics (1 semester)
Gr. 8	World History to 1500

* Students are required to pass the Civics Test in U.S. Government class in order to graduate.

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: World Geography; AP Human Geography; Contemporary World Issues and Civic Engagement; Geography (SL-Standard level, HL-Higher level, IB); Geography elective (course developed locally/9-12 grade); Human Geography; Geography-Maps and Regions (JROTC/9th grade); Geography of Tourism (NAF-National Academy Foundation/9th grade)

MIDDLE SCHOOL: Social Studies Intervention (PK-Pre-Kindergarten through 6th); Honors/Advanced Social Studies (PK-6); Geography Honors/Advanced Level (7th grade semester course); Pre-AP World History and Geography (8th grade)

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[2010 Alabama Course of Study: Social Studies](#)

Adopted May 2010
Reviewed & Updated 2013
Modified March 2015
Effective 2014-2015
Next Revision 2021-2022

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2019 – 2020 School Year

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grade 6: 58,767• Grade 7: 58,032• Grade 8: 55,856 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• AP Human Geography ALL: 706• AP Human Geography Grade 11: 174• AP Human Geography Grade 12: 81 |
|---|--|

CONTACT INFORMATION

Not Available

ALASKA

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: **3** Courses: Credits:
HS Alaska Studies 0.5
HS [Social Studies Electives](#)

- * Electives include American or world history, geography, economics, government/civics, sociology.
- * The state only requires 3 Social Studies credits for graduation but recommends 4.
- * It is common for public school districts to have additional credit requirements for graduation.

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

MS Local control

- * Anchorage School District middle school curriculum includes Grade 6 U.S. History, Grade 7 World Geography, Grade 8 U.S. History
- * Locally determined

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: Global Geography (9th grade), Global Geography Honors (9-12), Geography: Africa Studies (11-12), Geography: Asia Studies (11-12), Contemporary Problems (11-12), Environmental Studies (11-12), Geography: European Studies (11-12), International Relations (11-12), Geography: Latin America Studies (11-12), Geography: Middle East Studies (11-12), Geography: North America Studies (11-12), Geography: Pacific Rim Studies (11-12), United Nations (11-12), Geography: U.S. Regional Studies (11-12)

MIDDLE SCHOOL: Asian Studies, Culture of World Mythologies, Native Studies, World Cultures

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[Content and Performance Standards for Alaska Students \(5th Edition\)](#)

Adopted 2006
Revised 2016
Next Revision 2021 up for adoption in 2023

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2020 – 2021 School Year

- Grade 6: 10,123
- Grade 7: 10,075
- Grade 8: 9,832

2019 – 2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 62
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 14
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 7

CONTACT INFORMATION

Not Available

ARIZONA

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits:	Courses:	Credits:
3		
HS	American History, including Arizona history	1
HS	World History/Geography	1
HS	American Government, including civics and Arizona government	0.5
HS	Economics	0.5

* Local Education Agencies are responsible for creating their courses using the high school standards.

* Students are required to pass a Civics test.

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Gr. 6	Global Studies: World Religions and Cultures of the Eastern Hemisphere (Early Civilizations to 1500)
Gr. 7	Integrated Global Studies (Scientific Revolution & Enlightenment to present)
Gr. 8	Citizenship and Civic Engagement in Today's Society

* Each elementary grade level (K-8) has a storyline and content focus for the year.

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: Physical Geography, Earth and Space Science, World Geography, AP Human Geography, Geography, Pre-AP World History and Geography, World History and Geography, World Area Studies, World People Studies, Contemporary World Issues, Ancient Civilizations, Western Civilization, State-Specific Studies, United State and World Affairs, Issues of Western Humanities, Social Studies

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[History and Social Science Standards](#)

Adopted October 2018
Effective 2020-2021
Next Revision Not Scheduled

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2019 – 2020 School Year

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">Grade 6: 91,348Grade 7: 92,106Grade 8: 90,617 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">AP Human Geography ALL: 1,776AP Human Geography Grade 11: 79AP Human Geography Grade 12: 69 |
|---|---|

CONTACT INFORMATION

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ARKANSAS

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: 3	Courses:	Credits:
Gr.9	World History	1
Gr. 10	U.S. History	1
Gr. 11	Civics	0.5
Gr. 12	Economics with Personal Finance	0.5

* Students must pass the Arkansas Civics Exam

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Gr. 6	Social Studies - World History (Beginnings of Civilization through the middle of first millennium)
Gr. 7	Geography
Gr. 8	United States History (1800-1900)
Gr. 7-8	Arkansas History

* AK DOE course curriculum framework is intended to assist in district curriculum development, unit design, and to provide a uniform, comprehensive guide for instruction. It is not intended to be a state-mandated curriculum for how and when content is taught; these decisions are left to local districts.

* This is a sample sequence of courses based upon the state social studies standards and curriculum framework.

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: World Geography, Arkansas History (9-12), AP Human Geography (9-12), IB Geography (9-12)

MIDDLE SCHOOL: Energy and the Environment (7-8)

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[Arkansas Social Studies Curriculum Framework](#)

Revised 2014

Next Revision begins Summer 2021

State Board Approval Spring 2022

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2020-2021 School Year

- Grade 6: 37,641
- Grade 7: 38,785
- Grade 8: 39,096

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 1,488
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 195
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 364

CONTACT INFORMATION

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CALIFORNIA

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: 3	Courses:	Credits:
Gr. 10	World History, Culture, and Geography: The Modern World	1
Gr. 11	U.S. History and Geography: Continuity and Change in Modern U.S. History	1
Gr. 12	Principles of American Democracy	0.5
	Principles of Economics	0.5

* During the ninth grade, students take elective courses in history–social science. These elective courses, taken over two semesters, may consist of a two-semester sequence focused on a single topic or may be two separate courses on two different subjects.

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Gr. 6	World History and Geography: Ancient Civilizations
Gr. 7	World History and Geography: Medieval and Early Modern Times
Gr. 8	U.S. History and Geography: Growth and Conflict

* Curriculum frameworks provide guidance for implementing the standards
* This is a sample sequence of courses based upon the state social studies standards and curriculum framework.

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: World and Regional Geography, Physical Geography, Modern California, Survey of World Religions, Ethnic Studies

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[History - Social Science Content Standards \(1998\)](#)
[History - Social Science Framework \(2016\)](#)

Adopted 1998
Published 2000
Next Revision Not Scheduled

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2020-2021 School Year

- Grade 6: 441,675
- Grade 7: 460,703
- Grade 8: 468,367
- Grade 10: 496,383
- Grade 11: 480,561

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 17,761
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 1,070
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 1,191

CONTACT INFORMATION

Not Available

COLORADO

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: [varies](#) Courses: Credits:
HS Local control

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

- Gr.6 [Social Studies – focus on Western Hemisphere](#)
- Gr. 7 [Social Studies – focus on Eastern Hemisphere](#)
- Gr. 8 Social Studies – focus on early history of the U.S.

* Local school boards establish high school graduation requirements that meet or exceed the Colorado Graduation Guidelines, beginning with the graduating class of 2021.

* Locally determined.
* This is a sample sequence of courses based upon the state social studies standards.

* Graduation Guidelines begin with the implementation of: [Individual Career and Academic Plans \(ICAP\)](#), [21st Century Essential Skills](#), and [Colorado Academic Standards](#) for all content areas, including a course in Civics.

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: N/A

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[Colorado Academic Standards – Social Studies](#)

Adoption 2018
Revised 2020
Effective 2024
Next Revision 2030

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 6,869
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 356
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 171

CONTACT INFORMATION

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CONNECTICUT

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: 3	Courses:	Credits:
HS	U.S History III – Gilded Age – Present	1
HS	Civics and American Government	0.5
HS	Modern World History: Industrial Era – Present	1
HS	Elective	0.5

* 3 credits in social studies, including at least one credit in American history and at least one-half credit in civics and American government.
* Must pass end of the school year examination for American History.
* SAMPLE SEQUENCE: Remaining courses/credits identified based upon sample sequence provided by State.

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Gr. 6	World Regional Studies: The West (Middle America & the Caribbean, South America, Western & Eastern Europe)
Gr. 7	World Regional Studies: The East (Sub-Saharan Africa, Middle East & North Africa, Subcontinental Asia, East Asia)
Gr. 8	U.S. History II: The American Revolution, Trans-Mississippi Westward Interaction

* This is a sample sequence of courses based upon the state social studies standards/framework.
* A district could take several approaches to Grades 6/7; this is just one example. For districts wishing to embed the history of ancient civilizations (e.g., Egypt, Greece, China, Aztecs) into their K–12 sequence, this could be an appropriate place.

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: World Geography, Physical Geography, U.S. Geography, World History and Geography, AP Human Geography, Geography – Other, Particular Topics in Geography, Geography – Independent Study, IB Geography, Contemporary U.S. Issues, Contemporary World Issues, World People Studies, African American/Black Studies, Puerto Rican/Latino Studies, State-Specific Studies, World Area Studies

MIDDLE SCHOOL: World Geography, U.S. Geography, World Area Studies

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[Connecticut Elementary and Secondary Social Studies Frameworks](#)

Adopted February 2015
Next Revision Not Scheduled

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2019-2020 School Year

- Grade 6 Geography Subject: 966 (ALL Grade 6 SS courses: 28,125)
- Grade 7 Geography Subject: 4,251 (ALL Grade 7 SS courses: 31,059)
- Grade 8 Geography Subject: 90 (ALL Grade 8 SS courses: 29,912)
 - Grade 9 Geography Subject: 1,467
 - Grade 10 Geography Subject: 1,214
 - Grade 11 Geography Subject: 588
 - Grade 12 Geography Subject: 1,065

Individual Course Enrollments

- World Geography Grade 6: 964
- World Geography Grade 7: 4,247
- U.S. Geography Grade 8: 84
- World Geography Grade 9: 1,032
- World Geography Grade 10: 566
- World Geography Grade 11: 178
- World Geography Grade 12: 414
- AP Human Geography ALL: 1,226 (College Board data)
- AP Human Geography Grade 9: 166
- AP Human Geography Grade 10: 295
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 320 (CT data)
- AP HG Grade 11: 339 (College Board data)
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 467 (CT data)
- AP HG Grade 12: 419 (College Board data)
- Geography – Other: 14 (gr.9), 188 (gr.10), 16 (gr.11), 113 (gr.12)
- IB Geography: 43 (gr.11), 38 (gr.12)
- Topics in Geo: 255 (gr.9), 164 (gr.10), 31 (gr.11), 31 (gr.12)

CONTACT INFORMATION

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DELAWARE

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: 3 Courses: Credits:
HS U.S. History 1
HS Elective

* Social Studies Assessment is given in Grades 4, 7, and 11

* Delaware offers a Diploma of Alternate Achievement Standards (Beginning with Graduation Class of 2019).

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

MS Local Control

* Social Studies Assessment is given in Grades 4, 7, and 11

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: N/A

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[Delaware Standards for Social Studies](#)

Adopted 2018
Next Revision Not Scheduled

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 635
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 29
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 46

CONTACT INFORMATION

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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: <u>4</u>	Courses:	Credits:
Gr.9	World History and Geography I: Middle Ages to the Age of Revolutions	1
Gr. 10	World History and Geography II: The Industrial Revolution to the Modern World	1
Gr. 11	US History and Geography II: Industrial America to the Present	1
Gr. 12	Principles of US Government AND District of Columbia History and Government	1

* Course titles above are based on the social studies standards.

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Gr. 6	World Geography and Cultures
Gr. 7	World History and Geography: Ancient World
Gr. 8	US History and Geography I: Growth and Conflict

* Students in 6th through 9th grade take SAGE (Social Studies Assessment of Growth and Excellence), an online pretest and posttest.

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: World Cultures, AP Human Geography, IB Geography

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[Social Studies Pre-K through Grade 12 Standards](#)

Revised and Adopted 2006
Next Revision July 2020

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2019-2020 School Year

- Grade 6: 3017
- Grade 7: 2999
- Grade 8: 2580
- Grade 9: 3992
- Grade 10: 2698
- Grade 11: 2349
- AP Human Geography ALL: 194
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 91
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 72

CONTACT INFORMATION

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FLORIDA

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: 3	Courses:	Credits:
Gr.9	U.S. History	1
Gr. 10	World History	1
Gr. 11	Economics	0.5
Gr. 12	U.S. Government	0.5

- * Students must pass a statewide, standardized U.S. History EOC assessment
- * Beginning with the 2021-2022 school year, students taking the United States Government course are required to take the assessment of civic literacy identified by the State BOE
- * Students have [FIVE options](#) to earn a standard diploma: 1) 24-credit program, 2) 18-credit ACCEL option, 3) CTE Pathway, 4) IB Curriculum, 5) AICE Curriculum

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Gr. 6	Social Studies
Gr. 7	Social Studies
Gr. 8	Social Studies

- * Primary focus of the standards in Grades 6-7 is Geography. Primary focus of Grade 8 standards is American History.
- * Must take 1 course in Civics (1 semester).
- * Students must pass a statewide, standardized EOC assessment in civics education.

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: World Cultural Geography, AP Human Geography, AICE Geography Level 1 AS Level, Pre-AICE Geography IGCSE Level, IB Geography 1, IB Geography 2, IB Geography 3, IB Mid Years Program (MYP) World Geography, Pre-AP World History and Geography, Global Studies, Multicultural Studies

MIDDLE SCHOOL: World Geography, World Geography & Career Planning, World Geography & Digital Technologies, Geography: Asia, Oceania, Africa, Advanced World Geography, IB MYP World Geography and Career Planning, World Cultures, World Cultures and Career Planning, Advanced World Cultures, IB MYP World Cultures and Career Planning

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[Next Generation Sunshine State Standards – Social Studies](#)

Revised June 2014
Next Revision Not Scheduled

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

**2020-2021 School Year
Courses**

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • M/J WORLD GEOG: 861 | • WORLD CLTRL GEOG: 15,320 |
| • M/J WORLD GEOG: 317 | • AP HUMAN GEOG: 30,815 |
| • M/J WORLD GEOG & C/P: 550 | • AICE GEOG 1 AS: 777 |
| • M/J WORLDGEO&DIGTECH: 56 | • PRE-AICE GEOG IG: 812 |
| • M/J WORLD GEOG ADV: 501 | • IB GEOGRAPHY 1: 15 |
| • M/J GEOG: AS, OC, AF: 801 | • IB GEOGRAPHY 2: 78 |
| • IB MYP WRLD GEO: 216 | • IB GEOGRAPHY 3: 16 |
| • Global Studies: 2,267 | • M/J WORLD CLTRS C/P: 242 |
| • MULTICLTRL STUDIES: 676 | • M/J ADV WORLD CLTRS: 1,080 |
| • M/J WORLD CLTRS: 3,070 | • M/J IB MYP WLDCLTRCP: 1,026 |

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 31,506 (College Board data)
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 1,232 (College Board data)
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 1,522 (College Board data)

CONTACT INFORMATION

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GEORGIA

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: <u>3</u>	Courses:	Credits:
HS	U.S. History	1
HS	World History	1
HS	American Government/Civics	0.5
HS	Economics	0.5

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

- Gr. 6 **World Area Studies I**
- Gr. 7 **World Area Studies II**
- Gr. 8 Georgia Studies

* Grade 6 & 7 is a two-year World Area Studies course.
 * Grade 6 standards focus on Latin America, the Caribbean and Canada, Europe, and Australia.
 * Grade 7 standards focus on Africa, Southwest Asia (Middle East), Southern and Eastern Asia.

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: World Geography, Asian Studies, Latin American Studies, Middle Eastern Studies, Sub-Saharan Studies, Local Area Studies/Geography, IB Geography Year 1, IB Geography Year 2, World Area Studies

MIDDLE SCHOOL: World Area Studies

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[Social Studies Georgia Standards of Excellence – Kindergarten – Grade 12](#)

Adopted June 2016
Effective 2017-2018
Next Revision Not scheduled

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2020-2021 School Year

- Grade 6: 134,791
- Grade 7: 138,649
- Grade 8: 139,843

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 10,485
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 448
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 365

CONTACT INFORMATION

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HAWAII

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits:	Courses:	Credits:
4		
HS	U.S. History and Government	1
HS	World History and Culture	1
HS	Modern History of Hawaii	0.5
HS	Participation in a Democracy	0.5
HS	Social Studies basic elective	1

* A requirement for all graduates is a Personal Transition Plan to help students transition from high school to college and careers.

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Gr. 6	World History: Beginnings to CE 1500
Gr. 7	History of the Hawaiian Kingdom (0.5) Pacific Island Studies (0.5)
Gr. 8	U.S. History: The Constitution through Reconstruction

* The standards outline the content or conceptual focus of each grade or course.

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: AP Human Geography

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

Hawaii Core Standards for Social Studies (Introduction)				Adopted 2018
Grade 6	Grade 8	History of Hawaiian Kingdom	Modern History of Hawai'i	Effective 2019-2020
Pacific Island Studies	Participation in Democracy	US History and Government	World History and Culture	Next Revision Not scheduled

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2020- 2021 School Year

- Grade 6: 9,896
- Grade 7: 12,550
- Grade 8: 12,228

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 118
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 42
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 24

CONTACT INFORMATION

Not available

IDAHO

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: 5	Courses:	Credits:
Gr. 6-12	U.S. History I	
HS	U.S. History II	2
HS	Government	2
HS	Economics	1

* Students must pass a Civics and government proficiency test.

* Courses such as geography, sociology, psychology and world history may not count towards this requirement.

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Gr. 6-9	Geography – Western Hemisphere
Gr. 6-9	Geography – Eastern Hemisphere
Gr. 6-9	World History and Civilization

* State standards serve as minimum requirements. Local school districts chose to adopt their own curriculum to meet standards.

* This is a sample sequence of courses based upon the state social studies standards.

* Locally determined.

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: N/A

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[Idaho Content Standards – Social Studies](#)

Adopted August 2016

Next Revision 2022

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 444
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 27
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 19

CONTACT INFORMATION

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ILLINOIS

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: <u>2</u>	Courses:	Credits:
HS	U.S. History OR U.S. History and Amer. Patriotism & Government	1
HS	Civics	0.5
HS	Elective	

* Graduation requirements changed for 2020 due to pandemic. This does not reflect that amendment (changed to 1.5 credit)

* Students must pass a government and Constitution test

* Other mandates include instruction studying African American History, Civics and Patriotism, Consumer Education, Holocaust and Genocide Study, Irish Famine Study, and the Study of the History of Women. Other notable days observed are Arbor and bird day, Leif Erikson day, American Indian day and Illinois Law week.

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

MS	U.S. History
MS	American Patriotism and Government
MS	Civics (half semester)

* Curriculum is local control, this is a sample recommendation of middle school courses.

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: N/A

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[Illinois Social Science Standards \(introduction document\)](#)

Standards by grade level can be found [here](#)

[Illinois Priority Learning Standards \(8/2020\)](#)

* The Priority Learning Standards are not a replacement of learning standards, but a starting point for discussions on prioritization of learning standards at local district level, issued during the pandemic

Adopted January 2016

Revised 2017

Effective 2017-2018

Next Revision 2020

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 12,781
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 335
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 519

CONTACT INFORMATION

Not available

INDIANA

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits:	Courses:	Credits:
HS	U.S. History	2
HS	U.S. Government	1
HS	Economics	1
HS	World History & Civilization OR Geography & History of the World	2

* Core 40 and Honors Diploma options effective with class of 2016.

* Starting with the class of 2023, Indiana offers [three \(3\) Graduation Pathways](#) – 1) Core 40 diploma, 2) Learn and Demonstrate Employability Skills, and 3) Postsecondary-Ready Competencies.

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Gr. 6	Social Studies - History, Places, and Cultures in Europe and Americas
Gr. 7	Social Studies - History, Places, and Cultures of Africa, Asia, and Southwest Pacific
Gr. 8	Social Studies - U.S. History

* Standards emphasize the following at each grade:
Grade 6 – Western World (Europe, North America, South America, Central America, the Caribbean region, Antarctica. Grade 7 – Eastern World (Asia, Africa, the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Middle East, the Pacific Islands, Australia, New Zealand). Grade 8 – U.S. History Growth and Development through 1877

* While the standards may be used as the basis for curriculum, they are not a curriculum and are selected by the district/school and adopted by the local school board.

* This is a sample sequence of courses based upon the state social studies standards.

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: World Geography, Geography and History of the World, Applied Geography and History of the World, AP Human Geography, Cambridge International A Level Geography, Cambridge International AS Level Geography, IB Geography Higher Level, IB Geography Standard Level, Ethnic Studies, Indiana Studies, Applied Indiana Studies, African Studies, Asian Studies, Latin American Studies

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[Indiana Academic Social Studies Standards](#)

Adopted 2020
Next Revision 2025

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 1848
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 205
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 130

CONTACT INFORMATION

Not available

IOWA

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: <u>5</u>	Courses:	Credits:
HS	U.S. History	1
HS	U.S. Government	0.5
HS	Elective	

* Must receive instruction on the government of Iowa

* Not all content specifications need to be covered at each grade level, but all content specifications must be covered at sometime within Grade 9-12.

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Gr. 6	Social Studies – World Regions and Cultures
Gr. 7	Social Studies – Contemporary Global Studies
Gr. 8	Social Studies - U.S. History and Civic Ideals

* Locally determined.

* This is a sample sequence of courses based upon the state social studies standards.

* Not all content specifications need to be covered at each grade level, but all content specifications must be covered at sometime within Grades K-6 and Grades 7-8.

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: N/A

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[Iowa Social Studies Standards](#)

Adopted May 2017

Effective 2020-2021

Next Revision Not Scheduled

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 1517
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 25
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 30

CONTACT INFORMATION

Not available

KANSAS

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: 3	Courses:	Credits:
HS	World History	
HS	U.S. History	
HS	U.S. Government	

- * A course of instruction in Kansas history and government is also required.
- * Concepts of economics and geography should be included.

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

MS	Ancient World History: Beginnings to 1300 CE
MS	Kansas History (no earlier than 7 th grade)
MS	Geography
MS	U.S. History: Constitution through International Expansion

- * Not a state-mandated curriculum for how and when content is taught, just a recommendation.
- * This is a sample sequence of courses based upon the state social studies standards.
- * Locally determined

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: World Geography, Particular Topics in Geography, IB Geography, AP Human Geography, U.S. Geography, World History and Geography, Geography – Independent Study, Geography – Workplace Experience, Geography – Other, World Area Studies, State-Specific Studies

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[Kansas History, Government, and Social Studies Standards \(back up link\)](#)

Adopted March 2020
Next Revision Not Scheduled

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 514
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 9
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 7

CONTACT INFORMATION

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KENTUCKY

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: 3 Courses: Credits:
HS [Social Studies](#)
HS [Social Studies](#)
HS [Social Studies](#)

- * Social Studies aligned with the ILP and covering the KAS for Social Studies
- * Additional course options aligned to the KAS for Social Studies could include, but are not limited to: Social Studies 1, 2, 3, Geography/AP Human Geo, World History (or AP), US History (or AP), Economics, etc.
- * Students must pass a state-mandated civics test
- * Students must successfully complete a course/program in financial literacy

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Gr. 6 Development of Civilizations
Gr. 7 Growth & Expansion of Civilizations
Gr. 8 The United States: 1600-1877

- * Standards outline minimum standards students should learn and does not dictate curriculum.
- * This is a sample sequence of courses based upon the state social studies standards.
- * Locally determined

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: Geography, AP Human Geography

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[Kentucky Academic Standards – Social Studies](#)

Adopted July 2019
Next Revision 2025

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 3983
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 69
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 125

CONTACT INFORMATION

Kentucky Social Studies Team

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LOUISIANA

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Credits: [4](#) Courses: Credits:
[or 2](#)

TOPS One of the following: U.S. 1
 University History, AP History, or IB
 & TOPS History of the Americas I
 Tech

Gr. 6 Social Studies - World History

TOPS One of the following: Civics, 1
 University American Government, AP
 & TOPS U.S. Government and Politics:
 Tech Comparative, AP U.S.
 Government and Politics:
 United States

Gr. 7 Social Studies - U.S. History

TOPS Two units chosen from the 2
 University following four options:
 (a) **One of** European History
 (or an equivalent course),
 (b) **One of World Geography**
 (or an equivalent course),
 (c) **One of** World History (or
 an equivalent course),
 (d) **One of** Economics (or an
 equivalent course),
 (e) History of Religion
 (f) AP Psychology

Gr. 8 Social Studies - Louisiana History

* Different pathways for diploma – 1) Jump Start
 TOPS Tech Pathway (Career Diploma), or 2) TOPS
 University Pathway. Students may choose both.

* Locally controlled.
 * This is a sample sequence of courses based
 upon the state social studies standards.

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: World Geography, AP Human Geography, IB World Geography, Physical Geography, or
 Geography: Cambridge AICE-AS (Honors), World Geography: Gifted and Talented World/Human Geography,
 African American Studies

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[Louisiana Student Standards – Social Studies](#)

Adopted 2011
 Next Revision Not scheduled

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2020-2021 School Year

- Grade 6: 53,001
- Grade 7: 54,058
- Grade 8: 53,886

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 3563
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 80
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 88

CONTACT INFORMATION

Not available

MAINE

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: 2 Courses: Credits:
HS American history,
government, civics, and
personal finance

- * Instruction in American history, government, citizenship, and Maine studies must align.
- * The Maine Department of Education interprets "year" to mean the successful completion of a course.
- * Maine Native American history and culture must be taught in all elementary and secondary schools, both public and private.

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

MS Local control

- * Locally determined

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: N/A

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[Maine Learning Results for Social Studies](#)

Adopted 2019
Next Revision 2024

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA**2020-2021 School Year**

- Grade 6: 13,084
- Grade 7: 13,370
- Grade 8: 13,649

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 261
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 68
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 73

CONTACT INFORMATION

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MARYLAND

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: <u>3</u>	Courses:	Credits:
HS	U.S. History	1
HS	Modern World History	1
HS	American Government	1

* Students must pass a Government assessment

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Gr. 6	Social Studies
Gr. 7	Social Studies
Gr. 8	U.S. History

* Locally determined

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: N/A

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[Maryland Social Studies Standards and Framework](#)

Adopted 2019*
Revision set for Grade 6 & 7 2020-2021
Next Revision 2024

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 2776
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 751
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 1052

CONTACT INFORMATION

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MASSACHUSETTS

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits:	Courses:	Credits:
3		
HS	U.S. History I & II	1
HS	World History I & II	1
HS	Electives: Economics OR U.S. Government & Politics	1

* Standards for Personal Financial Literacy and News/Media Literacy may be taught as standalone courses or integrated into other courses.

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Gr. 6	World Geography and Ancient Civilizations I
Gr. 7	World Geography and Ancient Civilizations II
Gr. 8	U.S. & Massachusetts Government and Civic Life

* Regions for grade 6 are: Western Asia, North Africa, and the Middle East; Sub-Saharan Africa; and Central America, the Caribbean, and South America.

* Regions for grade 7 are: Central and South Asia, East Asia, Southeast Asia and Oceania, and Europe.

* It is important for grades 6–7 instruction in history and social science to address all the World Geography and Cultures Content Standards.

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: N/A

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[Massachusetts Curriculum Framework for History and Social Science](#)

Adopted June 2018
Next Revision Not Scheduled

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 1108
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 196
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 417

CONTACT INFORMATION

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MICHIGAN

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: 3	Courses:	Credits:
HS	U.S. History and Geography	1
HS	World History and Geography	1
HS	Economics	0.5
HS	Civics	0.5

- * MI graduation requirements state, "Proficiency in State Content Standards for Social Studies"
- * The courses above reflect the recommended sequence of study.
- * Gr. 8-12 must include instruction about genocide, including, but not limited to, the Holocaust and the Armenian Genocide.

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Gr. 6	World Geography
Gr. 7	World History and Geography
Gr. 8	Integrated U.S. History

- * Standards are not state curriculum. Each district can use it as they see fit.
- * This is a sample sequence of courses based upon the state social studies standards.

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: Varies by district, only offered at the following: Genesee ISD: 0.5 credit-Geography-Other, 0.5 credit-Geography CR, 0.5 credit-Geography Foundations; Gobles Public School District (district only): 0.5 credit each-Human Geography A&B; New Haven Community Schools: 0.5 credit-World Geography A (district only); Mancelona Public Schools: 0.5 credit each-World Geography A& B
MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[Michigan K-12 Standards Social Studies](#)

Adopted June 2019
Next Revision Not Scheduled

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 963
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 67
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 199

CONTACT INFORMATION

Not available

MINNESOTA

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: 3.5	Courses:	Credits:
HS	U.S. History	1
HS	World History	1
HS	Government and Citizenship	0.5
HS	Geography	0.5
HS	Economics	0.5

* Courses must encompass all of the academic standards.

* Students must pass a Civics test, however the test is not required for graduation.

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Gr. 6	Social Studies – Minnesota Studies
Gr. 7	Social Studies – U.S. Studies (1800 – present)
Gr. 8	Social Studies – Global Studies

* Geography is the lead discipline in Grade 8 Global Studies.

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: World Geography-Overview, Particular Topics in Geography, IB Geography, AP Human Geography, Human Geography, World History and Geography, World Area Studies, World People Studies, State-Specific Studies, U.S. Ethnic Studies

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[Minnesota K-12 Academic Standards in Social Studies \(2011\)](#)
[2020 Minnesota K-12 Academic Standards in Social Studies \(First Draft\)](#)

Adopted 2013 (2011 Version)
Revised 2020-2021
Effective 2025
Next Revision 2030

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

Course Offerings

2018-2019 School Year

- World Geography – Overview: 416 courses
- Particular Topics in Geography: 58 courses
- IB Geography: 7 courses
- AP Human Geography: 118 courses
- Human Geography: 166 courses
- World History and Geography: 235 courses

Student Enrollment

2019-2020 School Year

- Grade 6: 67,893
- Grade 7: 68,641
- Grade 8: 67,498
- AP Human Geography ALL: 6194
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 568
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 222

CONTACT INFORMATION

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MISSISSIPPI

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS			MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS			
Credits:	Courses:	Credits:		<u>Option 1</u>	<u>Option 2</u>	<u>Option 3</u>
HS	World History: Age of Enlightenment to Present	1	Gr. 6	Civics and the World	Early World History	Civics and the World
HS	U.S. History (1877 to Present)	1	Gr. 7	Early World History	Compacted U.S. History from Exploration to Reconstruction AND Civics and the World	Early World History
HS	U.S. Government	0.5	Gr. 8	U.S History Exploration to 1877	Mississippi Studies (0.5)/Compacted Introduction to World Geography (0.5)	U.S. History Option to add Mississippi Studies (0.5) and/or World Geography (0.5)
HS	Economics	0.5	Gr. 9	Mississippi Studies/ Introduction to World Geography/ AP Human Geography	World History: Age of Enlightenment to Present	World History: Age of Enlightenment to Present
HS	Mississippi Studies	0.5				

* Mississippi students starting in 2018-19, choose their diploma options: 1) Traditional Diploma, 2) Academic endorsement, 3) Distinguished Academic endorsement, or 4) Career and Technical Education endorsement.
 * Geography is NOT required for graduation but it can be combined with Mississippi Studies, which IS required.

* Early World History - from Pre-Historic Era to Age of Enlightenment
 * This is a suggested course sequence secondary options for grades 6-9.
 * For Option 2, the standards for the World Geography and Citizenship course must be integrated into the U.S. History and the Introduction to World Geography courses taught in the 7th and 8th grades.
 * For Option 3, U.S. History from Exploration to Reconstruction must be taught in the 8th grade. MS Studies and Geography are taught in addition to the U.S. History course as separate courses.

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: Introduction to World Geography (compacted with Mississippi Studies), Introduction to World Geography (0.5 credit), AP Human Geography (0.5 or 1 credit Social Studies advanced elective), Advanced World Geography (1 credit Social Studies advanced elective), Principles of Geography (1 credit Social Studies advanced elective), African American Studies (1), Minority Studies (0.5), Humanities (0.5)

MIDDLE SCHOOL: Introduction to World Geography (compacted with Mississippi Studies)

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[2018 Mississippi College- and Career- Readiness Standards for the Social Studies](#)

Adopted 2018
Effective 2019-2020
Next Revision 2025

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2020-2021 School Year

- Grade 6: 35,419
- Grade 7: 36,889
- Grade 8: 37,005

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 191
 - AP Human Geography Grade 11: 13
 - AP Human Geography Grade 12: 9
-

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Jen Cornett, Coordinator, K-12 Social Studies, Professional Development jcornett@mdek12.org

MISSOURI

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: 3	Courses:	Credits:
HS	U.S. History	1
HS	U.S. Government	0.5

- * Social Studies coursework should emphasize American history, Missouri government, and Missouri history as required by state statute.
- * Need to pass the U.S. and Missouri Constitutions.
- * Need to pass American civic exam.
- * Students must complete at least one-half unit of credit that covers personal finance.

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

MS	American History
MS	Geography
MS	World History

- * Locally determined.
- * Standards do not dictate curriculum.
- * This is a sample sequence of courses based upon the state social studies standards.

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: N/A

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[Show-Me Standards](#) (1996)

Adopted 2016

[Missouri Learning Standards](#) (2016)

Effective 2019-2020

[Priority Standards](#) (2021)

Next Revision Not scheduled

*Missouri Learning Standards are expectations aligned with the Show-Me Standards

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2019-2020 School Year

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grade 6: 70,841• Grade 7: 71,213• Grade 8: 69,262 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• AP Human Geography ALL: 929• AP Human Geography Grade 11: 142• AP Human Geography Grade 12: 235 |
|---|---|

CONTACT INFORMATION

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MONTANA

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: 2 Courses: HS Local Control Credits:

* School districts can establish their own graduation requirements. However, minimum state requirements must be met.

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

MS Local Control

* Locally determined.
* Must align with standards.

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: Global Studies, AP Human Geography

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[Montana Content Standards for Social Studies for K-12](#)

Adopted November 2020
Effective July 2021
Full Implementation June 2026
Next Revision Not Scheduled

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2020-2021 School Year

- Grade 6: 11,476
- Grade 7: 11,882
- Grade 8: 11,609

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 193
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 14
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 24

CONTACT INFORMATION

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NEBRASKA

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: 30 Courses: Credits:
HS Local control

* U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service Naturalization test required before 12th grade.
* Beginning 2023-24, students must complete at least five of the minimum credit hours in a personal finance or financial literacy course.

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Gr. 6 **World Studies I**
Gr. 7 **World Studies II**
Gr. 8 U.S. History

* U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service Naturalization test required before 8th grade.
* The Nebraska Department of Education does not mandate the curriculum or instructional materials used within a local school.
* This is a sample sequence of courses based upon the state social studies standards.

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: Geography, Geography Honors, AP Human Geography

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[Nebraska Social Studies Standards](#)

Adopted November 2019
Next Revision 2026

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 1,250
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 14
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 34

CONTACT INFORMATION

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NEVADA

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: 3	Courses:	Credits:
HS	American Government	1
HS	American History	1
HS	World History OR Geography	1

- * The above requirements are until June 30, 2022
- * Beginning July 1, 2022, 3 units to include ½ unit of American Government, 1 unit of American History, 1 unit of World History OR **Geography**, 0.5 unit of Economics
- * Different diploma options. Courses in **Geography** or World History can be taken to fulfill the requirement for Humanities, Social Studies, or as an elective course.
- * Students must pass a Civics Exam

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

MS	Early World Civilizations (prior to 1500)
MS	World Geography and Global Studies
MS	Early U.S. History and Civic Ideals

- * Students will explore the above content areas during middle school. Districts may decide the length and content of the course (semester or year) and the order in which the content is taught.

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: AP Human Geography, World Geography

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[Nevada Academic Content Standards for Social Studies](#)

Adopted September 2018
Next Revision 2023

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2020-2021 School Year

- Grade 6: 37,157
- Grade 7: 39,030
- Grade 8: 39,752

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 2,075
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 47
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 42

CONTACT INFORMATION

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NEW HAMPSHIRE

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: <u>5</u>	Courses:	Credits:
HS	U.S. and NH history	1
HS	World History or Global Studies	1
HS	Geography	1
HS	U.S. and NH government/ civics	0.5
HS	Economics	0.5
HS	Elective	1

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

MS Local control

- * Locally determined.
- * Standards do not establish statewide curriculum.
- * Middle school instruction must include study of history and government and the constitutions of the United States and New Hampshire.

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: Global Studies

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[K-12 Social Studies New Hampshire Curriculum Framework](#) (2006)

Adopted 2006
Revised 2020
Next Revision Not scheduled

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 60
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 13
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 25

CONTACT INFORMATION

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NEW JERSEY

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: 15 Courses: Credits:
Gr. 9-10 World History 5
Gr. 9-10 U.S. History I, including NJ
history
Gr. 11-12 U.S. History II

* Integration of civics, economics, geography, and global content in all course offerings

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Gr. 6 Social Studies
Gr. 7 Social Studies
Gr. 8 Social Studies

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: World Culture and History, AP Human Geography

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[2020 New Jersey Student Learning Standards – Social Studies](#)

Adopted June 2020
Next Revision 2025

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2019-2020 School Year

- Grade 6: 105,547
- Grade 7: 107,419
- Grade 8: 106,144
- Grade 9 Other SS or History: 10,606
- Grade 10 Other SS or History: 7,343
- Grade 11 Other SS or History: 14,076
- Grade 12 Other SS or History: 29,225
- AP Human Geography Enrolled: 2,642
- AP Human Geography ALL Tested: 2,137 (State Data)
- AP Human Geography ALL: 2,309 (College Board)
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 600
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 1,129

*Other SS or History does NOT include World History, US History I & II, Economics, Psychology, Sociology, or AP/IB courses and Dual Enrollment courses.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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NEW MEXICO

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: 3.5	Courses:	Credits:
Gr.9	U.S. History and Geography	1
Gr. 10	World History and Geography	1
Gr. 11	U.S. Government	0.5
	Economics	0.5
Gr. 12	New Mexico History	0.5

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Gr. 6	Social Studies
Gr. 7	Social Studies
Gr. 8	Social Studies

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: World History and Geography, U.S. History and Geography, AP Human Geography, Contemporary World Issues

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

Social Studies Standards

[Grades K-4](#)

[Grades 5-8](#)

[Grade 9-12](#)

[9-12 SS Extended Grade Band Expectations](#)

Adopted June 2009

Next Revision Not scheduled

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 320
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 20
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 45

CONTACT INFORMATION

Not available

NEW YORK

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: 4	Courses:	Credits:
Gr.9	Global History and Geography I	1
Gr. 10	Global History and Geography II	1
Gr. 11	U.S. History and Government	1
Gr. 12	Participation in Government and Civics	0.5
Gr. 12	Economics, the Enterprise System, and Finance	0.5

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Gr. 6	Social Studies - The Eastern Hemisphere
Gr. 7	History of the U.S. and New York State I
Gr. 8	History of the U.S. and New York State II

* Grade 5 is on the history and geography of the Western Hemisphere. Grade 6 is on the history and geography of the Eastern Hemisphere.

* This is the sequence of courses based upon the state curriculum framework.

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: IB Geography, AP Human Geography, Global History and Geography

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[Learning Standards for Social Studies](#) (1996)
[NYS K-8 Social Studies Framework](#) (March 2016)
[NYS 9-12 Social Studies Framework](#) (February 2017)

Adopted Framework April 2014
Effective 2019-2020
Next Revision Not scheduled

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2019-2020 School Year

- Grade 6: 198,969
- Grade 7: 200,888
- Grade 8: 198,213
- Grade 9: 211,978
- Grade 10: 203,562
- Grade 11: 191,168
- Grade 12: 189,493
- IB Geography: 63 (Gr.12), 64 (Gr.11), 167 (Gr.10), 28 (Gr.9)

- AP Human Geography ALL: 4,481
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 820
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 935

Course Enrollment in AP Human Based on State Data

- Grade 12: 1,267 (Scored 3 or Higher: 879)
- Grade 11: 1,000 (759)
- Grade 10: 637 (596)
- Grade 9: 3,234 (1,917)
- Not HS: 34 (2)

CONTACT INFORMATION

Not available

NORTH CAROLINA

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: 4	Courses:	Credits:
HS	World History: Issues and Patterns	1
HS	American History	1
HS	Founding Principles of the USA and North Carolina: Civic Literacy	1
HS	Economics and Personal Finance	1

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Gr. 6	Social Studies – World Studies I: Development of Civilizations
Gr. 7	Social Studies – World Studies II: Modern Era
Gr. 8	Social Studies – North Carolina and U.S. History

* These standards and objectives are not intended to be the curriculum, nor do they indicate the whole of a curriculum which will be written by a local public-school unit (LEA) or school.

* This is a sample sequence of courses based upon the state social studies standards.

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: 21st Century Global Geography, 21st Century Global Geography Honors, African American Studies (Honors), American Indian Studies (Honors), Latin American Studies (Honors), World Humanities (Honors), American Humanities (Honors), AP Human Geography, World Regional Geography, Physical Geography I, General Physical Geography, Cultural Geography, Introduction to Geography, IB Geography SL, IB Geography HL, CIE Geography AS, CIE Geography A

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[North Carolina Social Studies Standards Elementary Grade 6](#) [Grade 7](#) [Grade 8](#)
[North Carolina Social Studies Standards High School](#)

Adopted February 2021
Effective 2021
Next Revision Not scheduled

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 8,676
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 1,770
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 1,584

CONTACT INFORMATION

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NORTH DAKOTA

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: 3	Courses:	Credits:
Gr. 11	U.S. History	1
Gr. 12	American Government	0.5
Gr. 12	Economics with Financial Literacy	0.5
HS	Elective (Geography, Psychology, Sociology, North Dakota Studies, etc.)	1

- * Students must pass the ND Civics Test
- * World History is suggested for Grade 10 (as an elective) and should incorporate geography standards.
- * Geography standards must be addressed in other classes if not offered as a standalone course.

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Gr. 6	Social Studies –World History I
Gr. 7	Social Studies – World Geography
Gr. 8	North Dakota Studies and U.S. History

- * While the standards represent a statewide reference point, local school districts are encouraged to use the standards as a guide for developing their own local, customized social studies curriculum. The standards themselves do not specify a course in which the study needs to take place; rather, standards can be applied to multiple grade levels and areas of study.
- * This represents a scope and sequence of courses.

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: World Area Studies, World People Studies, Geography, North Dakota Studies, State Studies, AP Human Geography

MIDDLE SCHOOL: Geography

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[North Dakota Social Studies Content Standards](#)

Adopted August 2019
Next Revision Not scheduled

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2020-2021 School Year

- Grade 6: 8,755
- Grade 7: 8,909
- Grade 8: 8,833

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 128
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 0
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 2

CONTACT INFORMATION

Not available

OHIO

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits:	Courses:	Credits:
3		
HS	American History	0.5
HS	American Government	0.5
HS	World History and Civilization	0.5
Hs	Elective	1.5

* Students must receive instruction in economics and financial literacy (in high school)
* End-of-course exams will be aligned to the American History and American Government in the 2019-2020 school year.

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Gr. 6	Regions and People of the Eastern Hemisphere
Gr. 7	World Studies from 750 B.C. to 1600 A.D.: Ancient Greece to the First Global Age
Gr. 8	U.S. Studies from 1492 to 1877: Exploration through Reconstruction

* Grade 5 content standards focus is on the theme of Regions and People of the Western Hemisphere

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: Contemporary World Issues, World Geography

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[Ohio's Learning Standards Social Studies](#)

Adopted February 2018
Next Revision Not scheduled

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2020-2021 School Year

- Grade 6: 129,596
- Grade 7: 137,706
- Grade 8: 139,938

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 2,307
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 346
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 534

CONTACT INFORMATION

Not available

OKLAHOMA

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: 3	Courses:	Credits:
HS	U.S. History	1
HS	U.S. Government	0.5
HS	Oklahoma History	0.5
HS	Elective	1

* Students are tested in U.S. History

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Gr. 6	Social Studies
Gr. 7	Social Studies
Gr. 8	Social Studies

* The primary focus of the Grade 6 standards is Geography: Western Hemisphere. The primary focus of the Grade 7 standards is Geography: Eastern Hemisphere. The primary focus of Grade 8 is on U.S. history.

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: World Human Geography

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[Oklahoma Academic Standards Social Studies](#)
[Oklahoma Social Studies Framework](#)

Adopted August 2019
Next Revision Not scheduled

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 511
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 63
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 95

CONTACT INFORMATION

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OREGON

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: 3 Courses: Credits:
HS Courses reflect HS standards in civics and government, economics, financial literacy, multicultural studies, geography, history (U.S. and world), and social science analysis
* Ethnic Studies HB2845, Holocaust & Genocide SB664 and SB13 Tribal History/Shared History: Social Sciences ALL must be taught.
* Locally determined

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Gr. 6 **Social Studies**
Gr. 7 **Social Studies**
Gr. 8 U.S. History – through Reconstruction
* The standards focus on the Western Hemisphere in Grade 6, and the Eastern Hemisphere in Grade 7.
* Schools and districts should align instruction to these standards.

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: N/A

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[Oregon K-12 Social Studies Academic Content Standards - 2018](#)
[2021 Social Science Standards Integrated with Ethnic Studies](#)

Adopted May 2018
Revised February 2021 integrating ethnic studies
Effective March 2026-2027
Next Revision 2025

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2020-2021 School Year

- Grade 6: 44,012
- Grade 7: 46,031
- Grade 8: 46,200

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 2,284
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 264
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 128

CONTACT INFORMATION

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PENNSYLVANIA

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: 0 Courses: HS Local control Credits:
* [Five Pathways to meet graduation requirements](#): 1) Keystone Proficiency, 2) Keystone Composite, 3) CTE Concentrator, 4) Alternative Assessment, 5) Evidence-Based. Students must pass three Keystone Exams (Algebra I, Biology, and Literature)

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

MS Local control
* Standards serve as a framework for districts to develop specific curriculum
* Locally determined

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: N/A

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[Pennsylvania Academic Standards](#) for Geography
[Primary](#) [Elementary](#) [Secondary](#)
[Pennsylvania Curriculum Framework](#)

Adopted June 2009 (4-12) & May 2012 (PK-3)
Next Revision Not scheduled

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2020-2021 School Year

- Grade 6: 132,132
- Grade 7: 137,115
- Grade 8: 137,629

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 2,855
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 546
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 467

CONTACT INFORMATION

Not available

RHODE ISLAND

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: 3 Courses: Credits:

HS Local control

- * Locally determined
- * Students can earn a Pathway Endorsement beginning with the graduating class of 2021 in one of six discipline areas: 1) The Arts Pathway Endorsement, 2) Business and Industry Pathway Endorsement, 3) Humanities and World Languages Pathway Endorsement, 4) Public Service Pathway Endorsement, 5) Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Pathway Endorsement, and 6) Teaching Pathway Endorsement.

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

MS Local control

- * GSE's are not intended to represent the full curriculum for instruction and assessment locally, nor are they meant to simply replace existing social studies curriculum
- * Locally determined

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: N/A

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[Rhode Island Grade Span Expectations \(GSEs\) for Social Studies](#)

Adopted December 2008 (C&G, HP 1-3) and November 2012 (HP 4-5, G, E)
Next Revision 2019

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2020-2021 School Year

- Grade 6: 10,485
- Grade 7: 10,854
- Grade 8: 11,111

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 159
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 15
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 52

CONTACT INFORMATION

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SOUTH CAROLINA

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: 3	Courses:	Credits:
Gr. 11	U.S. History and Constitution	1
Gr. 12	U.S. Government	0.5
HS	Economics and Personal Finance	0.5
HS	Elective	1

* End-of-Course Exam is required for United States History and the Constitution

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Gr. 6	World Civilizations
Gr. 7	Geography of World Regions
Gr. 8	South Carolina and the United States

* The standards in this document are not sequenced for instruction and do not prescribe classroom activities, materials, instructional strategies, approaches, or practices. The South Carolina Social Studies College- and Career-Ready Standards is not a curriculum.

* This is a sample sequence of courses based upon the state social studies standards.

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: Human Geography

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[South Carolina Social Studies College- and Career-Ready Standards](#)

Adopted January 2019
Next Revision Not scheduled

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2020-2021 School Year

- Grade 6: 60,666
- Grade 7: 61,977
- Grade 8: 62,594

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 5,753
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 63
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 78

CONTACT INFORMATION

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SOUTH DAKOTA

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: 3	Courses:	Credits:
HS	U.S. History	1
HS	U.S. Government	0.5
HS	Elective	1.5

* A half credit of Personal Finance or Economics is a separate graduation requirement that is not included in the 3 for Social Studies.

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Gr. 6	World History
Gr. 7	Geography
Gr. 8	U.S. History

* The committee, with input from educators throughout the state, revised the former Grade 6-8 social studies standards to facilitate effective instruction and student mastery with emphasis on an in-depth study of the above subject areas.

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: N/A

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[South Dakota Social Studies Content Standards](#)

Adopted August 2015

Next Revision 2021-2022 and 2028-2029

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2020-2021 School Year

- Grade 6: 11,838
- Grade 7: 11,974
- Grade 8: 12,107

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 308
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 5
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 4

CONTACT INFORMATION

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TENNESSEE

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: 3	Courses:	Credits:
HS	U.S. History and Geography: Post-Reconstruction to the Present	1
HS	World History and Geography: The Industrial Revolution to the Contemporary World	1
HS	U.S. Government and Civics	0.5
HS	Economics	0.5

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Gr. 6	World History and Geography: Early Civilizations Through the Fall of the Western Roman Empire
Gr. 7	World History and Geography: The Middle Ages to the Exploration of the Americas
Gr. 8	United States History and Geography: Colonization of North America to Reconstruction

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: Contemporary Issues, U.S. History and Geography, World Geography, World History and Geography, AP World Geography

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[Tennessee Social Studies Standards](#)

Adopted July 2017
Effective 2019-2020
Next Revision Not scheduled

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 5,504
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 124
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 249

CONTACT INFORMATION

Not available

TEXAS

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: 3	Courses:	Credits:
HS	U.S. History Studies Since 1877 (or AP equivalent)	1
HS	U.S. Government (or AP equivalent)	0.5
Gr. 12	Economics with Emphasis on the Free Enterprise System and Its Benefits	0.5
HS	Elective	1

* World Geography Studies/AP Human Geography is often taught at the ninth grade.

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Gr. 6	Social Studies - World Cultures
Gr. 7	Social Studies - Texas History
Gr. 8	Social Studies - U.S. History from early colonial through Reconstruction

* The courses are titled Social Studies, but standards reflect these major themes.

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: World Geography Studies, AP Human Geography (0.5 or 1 credit), IB Geography SL, IB Geography HL, Ethnic Studies: Mexican American Studies, Ethnic Studies: African American Studies, Geographic Information Systems, Raster Based Geographic Information Systems

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Social Studies](#)

Adopted 2018
Next Revision 2021-2022

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2020-2021 School Year

- Grade 6 Social Studies: 404,561 (414,357)
- Grade 7 Social Studies: 419,552 (421,347)
- Grade 8 Social Studies: 419,006 (422,505)
- Grade 9: 436,523
- World Geography Studies (Gr. 9-12): 324,324
- AP Human Geography as World Geography Substitute (Gr. 9-12): 63,469
- AP Human Geography as elective (Gr. 9-12): 545
- IB Geography SL: 105
- IB Geography HL: 21
- Geographic Information Systems (Gr. 9-12): 107
- Raster Based Geo Info Systems (Gr. 9-12): 60

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 44,020
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 863
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 615

CONTACT INFORMATION

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UTAH

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: 3	Courses:	Credits:
HS	U.S. History	1
HS	Geography	0.5
HS	Civilizations	0.5
HS	U.S. Government and Citizenship	0.5
HS	Local Education Agency (LEA) Discretion	0.5

* Students must pass a civics test

* General Financial Literacy (0.5) is required for graduation.

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Gr. 6	Social Studies - World Studies
MS	U.S. History
MS	Utah Studies

* Board requires 1.5 units of credit of social studies instruction in Grades 7-8.

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: World Geography, AP Human Geography, World/Cultural Geography CE, Advanced Geography, Geography II, World Geography – Gifted, World Geography – Honors, World Geography – SPED, World Geography – DLI Honors, IB Geography SL 1, IB Geography LS 2, IB Geography HL 1, IB Geography HL 2, Geography Elective, Utah Studies

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[Utah Core State Standards for Social Studies](#)
[Grades K-2](#) [Grades 3-6](#)
[Grades 7-12](#)

Adopted 2016 (7-12) & 2010 (K-6)
Revision K-6 2019-2020
Adopted K-6 2020-2021
Effective K-6 2021-2022
Next Revision K-12 2026-2027

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 5,205
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 62
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 60

CONTACT INFORMATION

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VERMONT

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: Courses: Credits:
HS [Global Citizenship Proficiency](#)

* Proficiency-Based Graduation Requirements (PBGRs) are the locally-delineated set of content knowledge and skills connected to state standards that, when supplemented with any additional locally-developed requirements, have been determined to qualify a student for earning a high school diploma. Vermont’s Education Quality Standards (EQS) require that schools’ graduation requirements be rooted in demonstrations of student proficiency, as opposed to time spent in classrooms.

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

MS Local control

* Vermont includes Social Studies, along with World Languages, as content areas under Global Citizenship.

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: N/A

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[The College, Career and Civic Life \(C3\) Framework for Social Studies State Standards Education Quality Standards Series 2000](#)

Adopted 2017

Next Revision Not scheduled

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2020-2021 School Year

- Grade 6: 5,684
- Grade 7: 5,918
- Grade 8: 5,933

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 51
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 11
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 29

CONTACT INFORMATION

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VIRGINIA

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: 3	Courses:	Credits:
HS	Virginia and U.S. History	1
HS	Virginia and U.S. Government	1
HS	World History OR World Geography OR World History and Geography	1

* History is a verified credit – where students must pass an exam to meet graduation requirements.
* Also has an Advanced Studies Diploma which requires 4 standard units, plus 1 verified.

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

MS Local control

* The standards and Curriculum Framework are not intended to encompass the entire curriculum for a given grade level or course, nor to prescribe how the content should be taught. School divisions are encouraged to incorporate the standards and Curriculum Framework into a broader, locally designed curriculum.
* Locally determined

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: World Geography, World History & Geography to 1500 AD, World History & Geography 1500 AD to the Present, AP Human Geography, IB Geography

MIDDLE SCHOOL: Virginia Studies

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[Standards of Learning Documents for History & Social Science](#)

Adopted March 2015
Next Revision 2021-2022

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2020-2021 School Year

- Grade 6: 95,586
- Grade 7: 98,957
- Grade 8: 99,499

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 5,799
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 853
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 1,089

CONTACT INFORMATION

Christonya Brown, History and Social Science, Standards, Curriculum Framework, and Enhanced Scope and Sequence

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WASHINGTON

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: 3	Courses:	Credits:
Gr.9-10	Contemporary World History, Geography, and Problems	0.5
Gr. 9-10	Social Studies Elective (may include .5 credits of a second semester of Contemporary World History or the equivalent)	1
Gr. 11	U.S. History and Government	1
Gr. 12	Civics and Contemporary World Problems	0.5

* State of Washington requires that students be administered a civics assessment in grades 4 or 5, 7 or 8, and 11 or 12.
* Local tribal history is a required curriculum.

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Gr. 6	World History
Gr. 7	Washington State
Gr. 8	U.S. History

* Locally determined. Districts are responsible for determining the most appropriate materials to address the learning standards and for providing those to teachers and students.
* This is a sample sequence of courses based upon the state social studies standards.

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: Contemporary World History, Geography, and Problems

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[Social Studies Learning Standards](#)

Adopted September 2019
Next Revision Not scheduled

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2020-2021 School Year

- Grade 6: 84,218
- Grade 7: 86,452
- Grade 8: 86,693
- Grade 9: 85,863

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 5,013
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 41
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 85

CONTACT INFORMATION

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WEST VIRGINIA

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Credits: 4	Courses:	Credits:
Gr.9	World Studies (or AP equivalent)	1
Gr. 10	U.S. Studies (Comprehensive) (or AP U.S. History)	1
HS	Civics for the Next Generation (or AP Government and Politics))	1
HS	Contemporary Studies (or AP equivalent) OR Elective	1

Gr. 6	Social Studies - expands the role of citizenship and patriotism.
Gr. 7	Social Studies - focuses on the impact of the human/ environmental interaction in ancient civilizations, the rise of the European nations, and the Age of Imperialism.
Gr. 8	Social Studies – West Virginia Studies

* Beginning with the 2020-2021 9th grade cohort students who take US Studies must utilize Contemporary Studies as their Personalized Credit unless they are utilizing JROTC Courses I-IV

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: Geography, AP Human Geography, IB Geography, World Studies, Contemporary Studies

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[College-and-Career-Readiness Standards for Social Studies](#)

Adopted July 2016
Next Revision April 2024-2025

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2020-2021 School Year

- Grade 6: 19,166
- Grade 7: 19,663
- Grade 8: 19,788

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 560
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 169
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 58

CONTACT INFORMATION

Not available

WISCONSIN

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: 3 Courses:
HS Local Control

* Civics is Required

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

MS Local control

* Locally elected school boards adopt academic standards in each subject area to best serve their local community.

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: N/A

MIDDLE SCHOOL: N/A

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[Wisconsin Standards for Social Studies](#)

NEW 2021 [Wisconsin Alternate Social Studies](#)

Adopted May 2018

Next Revision 2024

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2020-2021 School Year

- Grade 6: 60,555
- Grade 7: 61,928
- Grade 8: 63,374

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 4,100
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 295
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 302

CONTACT INFORMATION

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WYOMING

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits: 3	Courses:	Credits:
HS	History	1
HS	American Government	1
HS	Economic Systems and Institutions	1

* Wyoming state law requires instruction on the state and federal constitution.

MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

MS Local control

* Locally determined

OTHER GEOGRAPHY COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL: World Geography, Geography, World Geography Seminar 1, World Geography Seminar 2, Geography (Gr. 10-12), R-Geography, World History and Geography, APEX Geography, Transfer Geography, Physical Geography, World Regional Geography (Gr. 11-12),

MIDDLE SCHOOL: Geography, Culture and Conversation (Gr. 6-8), Social Studies BE (Gr. 7-8), World Cultures and Geography (Gr. 7), CBV MS Geography (Gr.6-8), MS World Culture and Geography (Gr.6-8), Physical Geography (Gr. 7-8)

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

[Wyoming Social Studies Content and Performance Standards \(2014 & 2018\)](#)

The 2018 ADDITION was based on a required review of the standards to address traditional culture, history and contemporary contributions of American Indian tribes of the region.

Adopted 2014
Revised 2018 Additions
Effective 2014 & 2018
Implemented 2017-2018 Additions 2021-2022
Next Revision 2023-2024

STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

2020-2021 School Year

- Grade 6: 7,278
- Grade 7: 7,508
- Grade 8: 7,676

2019-2020 School Year

- AP Human Geography ALL: 182
- AP Human Geography Grade 11: 3
- AP Human Geography Grade 12: 2

CONTACT INFORMATION

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