

Is Your Student Ready for “Advanced Placement Human Geography & Civics”?

Students in Lincoln Public Schools have the opportunity to choose to take an Advanced Placement (or AP) course for their freshman level social studies course. It is the only Advanced Placement class offered to freshman in Lincoln Public Schools. The AP Human Geography & Civics course is equivalent to an introductory college-level course in human geography. There are no prerequisites for AP Human Geography & Civics. However, in an AP level course, students should be able to read and understand college-level texts independently, and should possess the initiative to work in a rigorous and fast paced environment. In addition, students will need to understand how to analyze primary and secondary sources through writing and civil discourse.

AP Human Geography & Civics introduces high school students to college-level introductory human geography and cultural geography. The content is presented thematically rather than regionally and is organized around the discipline’s main subfields: economic geography, cultural geography, political geography, and urban geography. Case studies are drawn from all world regions, with an emphasis on understanding the world in which we live today.

The goal for the course is for students to become more geoliterate, more engaged in contemporary global issues, and more informed about multicultural viewpoints. In Lincoln Public Schools, AP Human Geography & Civics will include instruction on local, state, and national government to emphasize goals of civics education. The year-long course will meet all LPS 9th grade social studies graduation requirements. Students in AP classes earn weighted credit in their high school GPA. Listen to AP Human Geography teachers and students speak about the course [here](#).

Advanced Placement classes are distinct from differentiated and honors courses in that students are taught a nationally certified curriculum and are exposed to the rigor of introductory college-level work, with the support of their high school teachers. The College Board’s Advanced Placement program enables willing and academically prepared students to pursue college-level studies with the opportunity to earn college credit while still in high school. Students learn to think critically, construct solid arguments, and see many sides of an issue - skills that prepare them for college and a multitude of career opportunities. For more information about Advanced Placement classes, please visit the [College Board’s Advanced Placement website](#).

Students should talk to their social studies teacher or counselor for more information. Please consider the below criteria for “AP readiness.” It is not necessary for a student to meet all the below criteria in order to be successful in the course. However, the criteria may serve as talking points as you consider your options.

Student should possess a(n):

- Interest in Social Sciences
- Initiative
- Willingness to be challenged
- Ability to think analytically
- Intellectual curiosity

Student demonstrates:

- Exemplary attendance
- Superior grades
- Consistent homework completion
- High level reading and writing skills
- Organizational skills
- Time management skills