**9th Grade Social Studies Options: The Major Differences**

Email any questions to [***Jennifer.Cain@nisd.net***](mailto:Jennifer.Cain@nisd.net)

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|  | **Geography** | **Pre-AP Geography** | **Human Geography AP** |
| **Grading** | 50% Summative (tests, major projects)  50% Formative (Homework, daily work, quizzes) | 50% Summative (tests with essays, major projects)  50% Formative (Homework, daily work, essays, map analysis, quizzes) | 50% Summative (tests with essays)  50% Formative (Homework, daily work, case studies) |
| **Reading** | Teacher-led case studies and in-class reading, some out-of-class reading | 1 chapter per week  Some at home reading required | 1 chapter per week of college-level textbook reading and additional online articles |
| **Writing** | Short answer and short essay (in-class writing) | Five paragraph, thesis-based essays every six weeks (at home and in class) | Five paragraph, thesis-based essays and short answer writing assignments twice per year |
| **Tests** | 2 per six weeks with 25-35 multiple choice questions | 2-3 per six weeks, fill-in-the blank, short answer and essays on each test | 3 per six weeks  25 AP/college-level multiple choice and matching questions, FRQs on every test. |
| **Projects** | 1-2 in-class project, with some possible work out of class | One major in-class and at-home project assignment each six weeks | No in-class projects |
| **College Credit and GPA** | No college credit or bonus GPA points | **+5 points added to your GPA** after successful completion of the course; no college credit. | **+8 points added to your GPA** upon successful completion of the course; college credit for class upon passing the AP exam (in May). |