



**Bristol Public Schools**  
**Office of Teaching & Learning**

<b>Department</b>	Social Studies
<b>Department Philosophy</b>	<p>The primary objective of the social studies program is to prepare students to become thoughtful individuals whose academic background and skills will enable them to function successfully in an increasingly complex, multicultural, and changing world. The social studies program must provide students with an intellectual framework of knowledge, the skills necessary to process information, and the capacity to understand and appreciate people from backgrounds and cultures different from their own. Further, the program is intended to develop an informed, discriminating citizenship essential to effective participation in the democratic processes of governance and the fulfillment of the nation’s democratic ideals.</p> <p>While history forms the foundation for social studies, concepts from other social sciences, including geography, economics, psychology, and sociology must be integrated through the department’s course offerings to provide students with a firm understanding of the principles and methodologies in the social studies discipline. Students learn to use tools that allow them to think like historians, political scientists, economists, sociologists, and psychologists.</p> <p>We recognize that there are many differences among our students; they come to us with a variety of talents, interests, goals, and objectives in life. We are committed to the development and maintenance of a curriculum that reflects and celebrates this incredible diversity while also preparing each and every student to meaningfully participate in civic life and take their place in the global community.</p>
<b>Course</b>	African American/Black and Puerto Rican/Latino Studies
<b>Course Description</b>	<p>The course is an opportunity for students to explore accomplishments, struggles, intersections, perspectives, and collaborations of African American/Black and Puerto Rican/Latino people in the U.S. Students will examine how historical movements, legislation, and wars affected the citizenship rights of these groups and how they, both separately and together, worked to build U.S. cultural and economic wealth and create more just societies in local, national, and international contexts. Coursework will provide students with tools to identify historic and contemporary tensions around race and difference; map</p>

	economic and racial disparities over time; strengthen their own identity development; and address bias in their communities.
<b>Grade Level</b>	11, 12
<b>Pre-requisites</b>	Successfully completed World History/AP Human Geography and Modern American History
<b>Credit (if applicable)</b>	Social Studies

[SERC and BOE African American/Black and Puerto Rican/Latino Studies Curriculum](#)