This course will focus on helping teachers prepare to teach a one semester college-level course in Human Geography. Employing a blend of content presentations, effective teaching strategies, and technology, the Institute will provide an overview of the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of Earth’s surface. In addition, strategies to help students prepare for the AP exam will be addressed. All materials are updated for 2015.

Topics will include the following:

- The role literature plays in the geography classroom
- Using current events daily to strengthen critical-level thinking
- Strategies to create an exciting, innovative classroom atmosphere
- Incorporating writing methods that actually improve students’ skills
- Tap your local resources to bring the world into your classroom

BIO

_Susan Hollier_ taught Advanced Placement Human Geography, World Geography, and Honors World History at The Woodlands High School for 17 years. She consults for the College Board in Advanced Placement Human Geography and Pre-Advanced Placement World Geography, and is a National Training Leader for SoapStone, as well as having served as a reader for the Advanced Placement Human Geography Qualifying Test. She served on the TEA Lighthouse AP/TEKS Document Writing Team for Social Studies. Susan is a 2002 recipient of the Distinguished Teaching Achievement Award from the National Council of Geographic Education and is listed in Who’s Who in American Teachers. Her classes have received national recognition for winning the National NewsBowl Current Events Competition and placing in the National Geography Olympiad. She is the World Affairs Council Houston’s 2004 International Educator of the Year, a recipient of the Coca-Cola Scholars Joseph B. Whitehead 2006 Educator of Distinction Award and the 2007 Nobel National Society of High School Scholars Educator of Distinction Award. She has served as the K-12 Curriculum and Instruction Committee Member of the NCGE Executive Planning Board and was selected to present at the Inaugural International Symposium on Territorial Geography in Seoul, Korea and at the 4th International Conference on Geographic Naming and Geographic Education in Seoul. The Marshall Legacy Institute selected her as the 2010 Joan Wismer Award recipient in Washington, DC. In 2011, Ms. Hollier received the Texas A&M University Inspiration Award for Exceptional Secondary Education. Ms. Hollier holds a BS degree from Louisiana State University.