

Sociology Multicultural Unit

America is a society characterized by a diversity of cultures and subcultures. A culture is a human group which shares a number of essential aspects of daily life. Language, customs, traditions, religion and values are some of the shared products that define each cultural group. Each human group creates both material and non-material culture. Material culture for example includes physical objects (money, homes, cars) while non-material culture addresses the beliefs, values and behavior share by a particular group. Taken together, this material and non-material culture shapes the emotional, cognitive, spiritual, and social experiences of individuals within the group.

Sociologists are interested not only in the specific things that define a culture but also in how that particular culture impacts both the individuals within it and the larger society around it.

This unit will introduce students to various cultures in the US and throughout the world. They will then select a culture other than their own and examine how the emotional, cognitive, spiritual and social domains of this culture impacts society.

Unit Objectives:

Define culture

Identify and discuss the five basic components of culture

Understand how cultural practices vary among and within human groups or societies

Understand cultural variation

**Textbook: Sociology, 5th edition. Thomas, W. Laverne
Chapter Two: Cultural Diversity**

Assessments: Powerpoint Cultural Presentation

Five page essay (Follow rubric guidelines on both the presentation and the essay).

Day 1-Students will define culture, and differentiate between material and non-material culture.

Day 2 - Students will define and discuss the five components of culture, physical objects, language symbols, values and norms.

Day 3- Students will continue discussion of chapter two.

Day 4- Students will spend class time in Library researching different cultures.

**Day 5- Students will select a culture and begin the research process.
(use rubric as a research guide)**

Day 6- Students will divide into groups of three and share information about the culture they are researching.

Day 7- Students will continue research process and begin to build powerpoint presentation.

Day 8- Students will begin Powerpoint presentations

Day 9- Last day for Powerpoint presentations

Day 10- Cultural field trip---Students will enter a one page summary of the day's activity, including the cuisine and cultural origin of the restaurant. (activity is optional)