

PSY 132 – Psychology and Culture

CULTURE PROJECT

This assignment is designed to allow you to explore and learn about one specific culture by interacting with an individual from that culture as well as from doing research on that culture. You will have the opportunity to share the information you learn from your cultural exploration with others in the class.

Objectives

Learn about a particular culture through direct interaction with that culture as well as through research.

Tasks

You will be paired with an international student that represents a culture different than your own (an “International Partner”). By interacting with your international partner you have an opportunity to learn information directly, and to develop interpersonal skills, sensitivity, and awareness with regard to another culture. Additionally, you will have the opportunity to teach this individual about your culture, and thereby be a teacher as well as a learner.

Project Components

There are two (2) components to this assignment, a paper and a class presentation. Information for both of these components should come from interacting with your International Partner, as well as from obtaining additional information from other interviews, activities, or publication material. All sources used for the project should be detailed in a reference section included at the end of your paper. Your paper should contain information on the following topics described below.

1. Cultural Information and Uniqueness

Discuss what you learned about the culture in general from your exploration. Include aspects of this culture that make it unique or special. What does this culture offer that we can celebrate.

2. Cultural Values

Discuss what is important or valued by this culture and why. Include what are some of the positive aspects of this culture.

3. Cultural Challenges

Discuss some of the challenges faced by this culture (e.g., stereotypes, myths, obstacles, ideas, traditions, etc.).

The presentation will be given during class time, and you may invite your International Partner to join you. If your partner is unable to attend, you may use videotaping or audio taping, with permission, to allow the class to see/hear your partner during your presentation. If you are having difficulty working out details or need special equipment, contact Dr. Gray for help.

Format

To be acceptable, the paper is to be **typed, double-spaced**, on 8½" x 11" paper. Place your name in the upper right-hand corner of your paper. If there are multiple pages, then the pages must be **stapled** in the upper left-hand corner. Plagiarism (copying from another source) is grounds for a paper to be rejected. **Papers that do not follow these format criteria will not be accepted.**

Point Values

This project is worth a maximum of 75 points. There are 50 points possible for the paper and 25 points possible for the class presentation.

Due Date

This assignment is due **NO LATER THAN Thursday, March 24th, 2005.**