Appreciating Cultural Diversity

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Who am I?

- Second Generation Iranian American
- 2nd person in my family born in United States
- Family is Muslim, mostly non-practicing
- English/Persian language
Classroom Diversity

• What are the cultural backgrounds represented in this class?
• Surrounded by incredible diversity in just this classroom, now think of diversity on a global scale
But What is Culture?

- Social behaviors, arts, beliefs, and institutions of a society
- Non-material culture
- Material culture
Cultural Iceberg

Material Culture

Non-Material Culture
Material Culture

- All artifacts
- Architecture
- Jewelry
- Clothing
- Musical instruments
Material Culture
Material Culture
Material Culture
Non-Material Culture

- Beliefs
- Values
- Rules
- Languages
- Customs
Non Material Culture
Non Material Culture

감사합니다

Natick

Danke

Ευχαριστίες

Thank You

Köszönöm

Tack

Obrigado

Grazie

Дanke

Merci

Dank

Gracias

谢谢

ありがとう
Non-Material Culture
How Culture Influences Us

- The way we dress
- The food we eat or do not eat
- Notions of beauty
- Music we create and listen to
- The houses we build & live in
- The artifacts we use to decorate our homes
- The language(s) we speak and read
Negative Uses of Culture

- Cultural Appropriation
- Cultural Misappropriation
- Stereotypes
- Discrimination
Cultural Appropriation
Cultural Appropriation
Cultural Misappropriation
Cultural Misappropriation

New York Jews
San Francisco Chinamen
Cleveland Indians

No one, race or religion, should endure the ridicule faced by Native Americans. Please help us put an end to this mockery and racism, by visiting www.nooni.org or calling 2021-860-2767.

National Congress of American Indians
Negative Uses of Culture

• Sometimes people focus on difference to condemn, to ostracize, to persecute and even to exterminate
Respect and Understanding

see
the world
through
different eyes
As Global Citizens…

• We must learn from each other
• Not just TOLERATE but rather APPRECIATE each others differences
Experiencing Other Cultures

- Meeting other people
- Having friends from other cultures
- Travel
- Study Abroad
- Language/Music/Food/Dance/Literature/Movies/Documentaries
Additional Concepts

- Culture Shock
- Assimilation
Thank you

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