

“Creating encounters with difference that make a difference”

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INTERCULTURAL OPENNESS ASSIGNMENT



ATTITUDE OF INTERCULTURAL OPENNESS

When you have an attitude of intercultural openness, you are open to interacting with other people who are culturally different from you. You begin to initiate and develop relationships with other people who come from a different country, have a Passport from a country other than your own, and often who speak a native language other than your own. Intercultural openness eventually leads to the ability to suspend judgment when interacting with cultural differences.

In this assignment you are to build a collage of “selfie” photos (self-portrait photo of self and another person usually taken with a camera phone) of yourself with persons who are culturally different from you, that you have been cross culturally open with, and initiated the opportunity to begin to build a relationship and perhaps a friendship. The assignment is to identify culturally different persons who come from a country different than you do, who have a Passport from a country different than you do, and ideally who speak a native language different from your first language. Sit down with one of these persons, perhaps sharing a meal or attending an event together. During this time you will exchange answers to the following list of questions. Without providing the name of the person or any identification, write the person’s responses in Word document or other file. Take a picture of yourself with this other person and begin to place these pictures together as a collage. You might consider using [Popplet](http://popplet.com/) software to construct this assignment. See <http://popplet.com/>

Rubric	High (2)	Med (1)	Low (0)
“Selfie” Photos	4 or more photos	2 to 3 photos	1 photo
Questions	20 to 26 questions answered; answers are complete and clear	16 to 20 questions answered; answers are complete and clear	less than 16 questions are answered; answers are incomplete and/or not clear



“Strength lies in differences,
not in similarities”

Stephen R. Covey







1. Describe your family lineage or constellation ... parent(s), brothers, sisters, ages, birth order, grandparents & etc.
2. What is one word you would use to describe yourself as a child?
3. If you could change one thing about how you were raised as a child, what would it be?
4. How do you recharge or recuperate your energy at the end of a difficult day?
5. If you were to thank one person for helping you become the person you are today, who would it be and why?
6. When are you the happiest?
7. What one memory do you most treasure?
8. Fill in the blank: If you really knew me, you'd know_____.
9. What would you be doing if you weren't a student or at your current job?
10. What more are you wanting as a student or in your career right now?
11. How do you react to stress?
12. What movie or novel character do you most identify with?
13. What quality in yourself would you hate to see emulated in others, especially children?
14. If you were to start a company from scratch, what values would you build it on?
15. What would you most regret *not* having accomplished by the end of your life?
16. What characteristic do you most admire in others?
17. What kind of impact do you believe you have on people?
18. What super power would you like to have?
19. What would your "perfect" day consist of?
20. What's the most important lesson you've learned in the last year?
21. How do you think your coworkers/peers see you?
22. If you ruled the world, what would you change on Day 1?
23. If you knew you only have one year left to live, would you change anything about the way you are living right now?
24. What one thing about yourself do you want in your elegy?
25. What are you most afraid of, relating to failing?



INTERCULTURAL KNOWLEDGE AND EFFECTIVENESS RUBRIC

Definition

A set of behaviors, attitudes, and policies that come together to enable systems, agencies, or professionals to work effectively in cross-cultural situations.

		Proficient 3	Emerging 2	Developing 1
Knowledge <i>Cultural self-awareness</i> 		Articulates insights into own cultural rules and biases (e.g. seeking complexity; aware of how her/his experiences have shaped these rules, and how to recognize and respond to cultural differences and shifts in response).	Recognizes new perspectives about own cultural rules and biases (e.g. not looking for sameness; comfortable with the complexities that new perspectives offer.)	Identifies own cultural rules and biases (e.g. with a strong preference for those rules shared with own cultural group and seeks the same in others.)
Knowledge <i>Knowledge of cultural worldview frameworks</i> 		Demonstrates understanding of the cultural worldview frameworks of the members of the organization, its history, and its styles, practices, and values.		
Skills <i>Empathy</i> 		Interprets and understands the perspectives and worldviews of others in a sensitive and empathetic way, recognizing the feelings and needs of others.		
Skills <i>Verbal and nonverbal communication</i> 		Articulates and understands the cultural communication styles and preferences of others, and uses appropriate verbal and nonverbal communication to share information and build relationships with culturally different others.		
Attitudes <i>Curiosity</i> 		Asks questions and seeks to understand the cultural perspectives and values of others to build relationships and improve communication.		
Attitudes <i>Openness</i> 		Initiates and develops interactions with culturally different others. Suspends judgment in valuing her/his interactions with culturally different others.	Initiates and develops interactions with culturally different others. Begins to suspend judgment in valuing her/his interactions with culturally different others.	Expresses openness to most, if not all, interactions with culturally different others. Has difficulty suspending any judgment in her/his interactions with culturally different others, and is aware of own judgment and expresses a willingness to change.

Emerging 2

Begins to initiate and develop interactions with culturally different others. Begins to suspend judgment in valuing her/his interactions with culturally different others.

Developing 1

Expresses openness to most, if not all, interactions with culturally different others. Has difficulty suspending any judgment in her/his interactions with culturally different others, and is aware of own judgment and expresses a willingness to change.

• Adapted from AAC&U Core Value Rubrics