## BUS 236: Cultural Mapping (Less Transparent)

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## Purpose

Use this assignment to recognize cultures you identify with (remember, culture goes beyond race and ethnicity). Culture is about groups operating within a decided structure. This includes spoken/unspoken rules. There are often consequences for breaking cultural rules. Those who stay within the protocol of the group often receive praised and are acknowledged for meeting the group expectations.

Use circles to represent each culture you identify with. Some of your circles will overlap each other, and some will not – depending on how much the cultures connect FOR YOU. The more connected you find the cultures to be, the more the circles should overlap.

Once completed, this assignment becomes an infographic (visual representation), from your personal perspective, of how your identified cultures intersect. This assignment will be circles of a visual representation.

Take your time. Analyze cultural connections. You might do lots of erasing on this assignment!

### Skills

1. Identify (at least six) cultures of which you are a member.
2. Demonstrate the interconnectedness of your identified cultures. The more connected you see your chosen cultures the more the circles overlap.
3. Use circles to represent each culture. Create an infographic (visual representation) of your six identified cultures

KnowledgeThis assignment will also help you to become familiar with the following important content knowledge of culture:

1. Self-reflection on cultural awareness. You should gain clarity in understanding your perspective on cultural awareness is *uniquely* your own.
2. Increasing awareness of cultural intersectionality as an employee and/or as a student.

## Task

1. Make a list of six to eight cultures you identify with.
2. Classify your identified cultures as connecting or not.
3. Rearrange your connecting cultures in a box.
   1. If your cultures connect with many other cultures, duplicate them in the appropriate boxes
4. Identify each culture with a circle.
5. The more the cultures connect for you, the more overlap there is with the circles.
6. If a culture does not connect with any other of your chosen cultures, that circle does not overlap with any other.
7. Map your circles.
8. Do a rough draft before submitting your work to clearly represent your cultural intersectionality.

## The example below is from my perspective:

Initial List

*African American, woman, educator, North Seattle College, over 40, Historically Black College or University (HBCU) attendee, Christian, Seattleite*

## Consider whether these culture overlap:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| African American  Woman  Educator  North Seattle College | African American  Woman  40+  Educator |
| HBCU  African American  Woman | African American  Woman  Christian |

Each culture is represented by a circle. If the cultures overlap, so should the circles.

Woman

Christian

40+

HBCU

Educator

NSC

Seattleite

African American

## Consider the Following for Successful Completion of This “Mapping” Assignment:

* Analyze the example:
  + ***Do you notice…?***
  + How cultures of HBCU and Christianity do not overlap with 40+, Seattleite and NSC?
  + African American culture overlaps with all my chosen cultures?
  + NSC overlaps will all except Christian and HBCU?
* In your work, be deliberate in identifying your chosen cultures
* How will you organize your “circles” to demonstrate intersectionality?
* What is the relationship between your “connected” cultures?
* What conclusion(s) can you draw by studying your infographic?
  + What influences your cultures?
  + Is each culture equally important to you?
* How does looking at your created infographic help capture your cultural awareness?

**Get started on creating your infographic**

**Build a list of cultures:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

**Rearrange your cultures…list “connected” cultures in the same box:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

On a piece of scratch paper, start mapping your circles. Complete page 5 as the final version of your infographic. Take picture and upload into Canvas.

Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Start building your infographic!

Only turn in this page

TILT Cultural Mapping Assignment Takeaways:

The question I often heard from students is “…why do we have to do this assignment?”. I realized I was not sure.

When starting the process of TILTing this assignment, I had to spend some time gaining clarity as to why the students should do the Cultural Mapping assignment. I approached this work from the perspective of the **value** doing this assignment creates.

In the purpose, I remind students that culture goes beyond race and ethnicity.

I found it important to explain students are to take time and reflect on cultures they are part of, and whether their identified cultures overlap. It is also important to let students know that the more the cultures connect, the more the circles representing each culture overlaps. If cultures do not overlap, the circles stand alone. I found it important to remind students this assignment is from THEIR perspective.

It is important for students to take their time and analyze how the cultures they identify with are connected and overlap.

Focusing on the skills and knowledge sections of this assignment, I homed in on skills and knowledge that create value for students today, and years down the road.

The task section is about guiding students through the process without giving specific instructions. I find it important to give them a bit of freedom in how they do what they do with this work.

When I stepped back to describe the process of how to get to the “circles” I used my own examples. I started with an initial list moved my identified cultures into lists that overlap. It is important step for students to process before trying to “map” their circles.

Two things I appreciate about this assignment

learning that creating a visual aid such is this is called an infographic

It is okay to have a few rough drafts before getting to a version that is worth keeping (and turning in).