



This is a graded discussion: 0 points possible

due -

5 66

Discussion #2-Cultural Collage

While there are no actual points attributed to this Discussion post since the project and presentation itself is worth 20 points, please reflect on your own cultural and linguistic background, religion, academic learning ability, learning styles, etc and how this has shaped and contributed to who you are as a person and/or a teacher/administrator/counselor/etc. Put together a story about your cultural identity in the form of a collage. It is the intention of this assignment for you to explore within yourself, your background, your language and your cultural disposition as a person teacher/administrator/counselor/etc and be able to share it in a way you might want your students to introduce and define themselves. In this assignment, I will grade on creativity, quality, comprehensiveness and focus in getting one's story across. Use pictures, words, phrases, illustrations and more to create your collage.

Do include a short paragraph describing what we will see in your collage.

Due Saturday, to the DB.

And again, while no points are attributed to this posting since your project and presentation are already 20 points, please consider respond to at least 2 others by Sunday, Week 3. This is such a wonderful way to get to know one another better and recognize some of our similarities and differences.



← Reply

○



[https://](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/147296)

[Erin Lynch \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/147296\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/147296)



Oct 18, 2020

This collage is a representation of my culture, language, ideals, and experiences. Represented is my Catholic upbringing and subsequent move toward atheism and Buddhist philosophy, as well as my experience living in different parts of the country. My language, Celtic heritage, my

experience as a girl/woman, and my beliefs regarding a whole food plant based diet are also represented. All of these things have shaped who I am today.

[TESOL COLLAGE Cultural Perspectives and Teaching Methods Fall 2020-1.pdf](#)

<https://my.uclaextension.edu/files/4555168/download?>

[download_frd=1&verifier=5zBi5JgszbYgoAa5hKhS8cInFQXNUdjnmtvFbda3](https://my.uclaextension.edu/files/4555168/download?download_frd=1&verifier=5zBi5JgszbYgoAa5hKhS8cInFQXNUdjnmtvFbda3)

← [Reply](#)



[Kelly H. Kim](#) (<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/146907>)

Oct 20, 2020

Erin,

I think your collage has a great mix of different things. While I'm not as familiar with some of the things represented such as the Buddhist philosophy and Celtic heritage, I can completely relate to your passion for plant based diet and what it's like to be a woman. I feel like I got to know you a bit better. Thanks for sharing!

← [Reply](#)



[Erin Lynch](#) (<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/147296>)

Oct 21, 2020

Thank you Kelly!

← [Reply](#)



[Luis Orozco \(He/Him/His\)](#) (<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/146922>)

Oct 20, 2020

Hi Erin!

I enjoyed looking at all of the details in your collage! Interestingly, I was also raised Catholic and found my way to Buddhism, but now I consider myself Agnostic. I admire those who can keep a plant-based diet, as it's much better for the environment. Unfortunately, I am too fond of cheese and my mom's birria, but I try to eat meat sparingly. What are some of your tips for making a successful transition to a plant-based diet?

← [Reply](#)



[Erin Lynch](#) (<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/147296>)

Oct 21, 2020

Hi Luis. Thanks. I started eating plant based for health reasons. I've always loved veggie, legumes and starches, so the transition to my main meals being plant based was not that difficult. I love processed sweets though and that's been the biggest challenge. The most influential things I read were The China Study by T. Collin Campbell and Prevent and Reverse heart disease by Caldwell Esselstyn. There's a great documentary called Forks Over Knives which highlights the information in both books, but the books take a much deeper dive into the research and clinical work.

← [Reply](#)



[Luis Orozco \(He/Him/His\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/146922) (<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/146922>)

Oct 21, 2020



Thank you for your reply, Erin! I have added those books to my kindle, and I look forward to reading them!

← [Reply](#)



[Kelly H. Kim](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/146907) (<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/146907>)

Oct 19, 2020



With this collage, I attempted to reflect as many aspects as possible of myself. I would like to begin with the pictures of some of the most beautiful cities I was lucky enough to call my 'home'. I was born and raised in Seoul but also have lived in Canada, Seattle and San Francisco over the last 17 years. This experience had a significant influence in my life by allowing me to broaden my perspectives, and to adapt the different cultures I've assimilated into. As represented with the picture of a shirt with two flags combined into one and with another picture of different Asian women's faces put together in one line, I am a multicultural Korean American woman. Not only with my nationality as a Korean and my residency in America, but I also consider myself being part of the Asian *immigrant* communities as they have their own distinctive culture in America. I am a military spouse, married to an active duty US Coast Guard so I am engaged in diverse communities of military families as well. On the far left, I included a black and white photo to represent the Christian life I hope to live. I have a special bond with my grandparents growing up, so I added a small picture of a senior lady in Korean traditional cloth in the corner. What I intended to show with the picture of people having conversations in suits is my career. I've always worked for corporates and now I work as an advisor at a consulting firm. Lastly, I try to stay active by working out and enjoy watching movies with friends and family during my spare time. I

find films like Parasite brilliant! I hope this visual presentation tells a story about my life, cultural identity, and disposition as a person and as a teacher to be.

Edited by [Kelly H. Kim \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/146907\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/146907) on Oct 20 at 12:20am

[WEEK 3 Collage_Kelly Hyesung Kim-1.pdf \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/files/4559358/download?download_frd=1&verifier=wwK7BHhAugDd8EuM3LWkE790y3XaVgNPCJJYwwbS\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/files/4559358/download?download_frd=1&verifier=wwK7BHhAugDd8EuM3LWkE790y3XaVgNPCJJYwwbS)

← [Reply](#)



[Luis Orozco \(He/Him/His\) \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/146922\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/146922)

Oct 20, 2020

Hi Kelly!

The picture of the older Korean lady in hanbok broke my heart since my grandparents are no longer alive, but I love that you are still connected with yours. Beautiful collage!

← [Reply](#)



[Erin Lynch \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/147296\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/147296)

Oct 21, 2020

Hi Kelly. I love how you represented your diverse experience and the many aspects of your personal identity in your collage.

← [Reply](#)



[Monta Wiley \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/126624\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/126624)

Oct 21, 2020

Hello Kelly, I love your collage !! It definitely showcase your life journey of where you came from and the continual journey of where you want to go. Parasite is a great movie btw

← [Reply](#)



[Ting Tai Lui \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/128284\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/128284)

Oct 22, 2020

Hi Kelly

I appreciate your global citizenship: living in Korea, Canada, and the US. It must be a precious experience you can share with your students. They will benefit a great deal from

you.

Your interpretation of Korean and Hollywood movies must be interesting and your perspective unique.

← [Reply](#)



[Russell Fung \(He/Him/His\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/147480) (https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/147480)

Oct 25, 2020

Hi Kelly!

That Vogue photo of the old lady says almost everything! I love it. Also, PARASITE! I LOVED that movie! Thank you for sharing your beautiful collage!

← [Reply](#)



[Erica Wahlgren](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/135386) (https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/135386)

Oct 20, 2020

In my collage, I have images representing family, education, women, religion, and places that have shaped me. I have an Italian flag and an image of a woman to represent my maternal grandmother. She is the matriarch of our family and she shaped much of my upbringing. She would bring my whole family together for meals and often speaks Italian. I also have a Swedish flag to represent my dad's side of the family. Most members of my dad's side of the family, including my dad, were adopted and as a result, are not actually Swedish but many of us adopted Swedish traditions that we practice as a family. Education has always been important to me and has been a big influence in my life so I have all three colleges I attended represented. I was raised Catholic and although I no longer identify as Catholic, my family does and it has remained a major influence in my life. Lastly, I have images representing the physical places that have shaped who I am including California, Los Angeles, the ocean, and the mountains.

[TESOL Culture Collage-1.pdf](https://my.uclaextension.edu/files/4560226/download?download_frd=1&verifier=8kObe1oV8MtmWUCRuWF28WveumBXTCCXWgPrJcNK) (https://my.uclaextension.edu/files/4560226/download?download_frd=1&verifier=8kObe1oV8MtmWUCRuWF28WveumBXTCCXWgPrJcNK)

← [Reply](#)



[Russell Fung \(He/Him/His\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/147480) (https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/147480)

Oct 21, 2020

Hi Erica!

UC San Diego was a big part of my college experience. I'm so happy to see this represented. I just saw that they are opening a Target store on campus and that blew my mind. Also, they have a SEVENTH COLLEGE now! Anyway, go Tritons!

Having two flags in your collage really stood out to me. It's really cool to see that you acknowledge cultures from both sides of your family.

[← Reply](#)**Erin Lynch** (<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/147296>)

Oct 21, 2020

Hi Erica. I love how you incorporate your Italian and Swedish heritage into your collage as well as the other aspects of your identity. I also grew up Catholic and no longer identify as Catholic and it is also a major influence in my life as well as I grew up with it and my extended family are still very much Catholic.

[← Reply](#)**Silver Park** (<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/147686>)

Oct 22, 2020

Hi Erica, my sister went to UCSD! And I'm from Los Angeles too :). Californians are all about the beach and the mountains as I love them also. I love how you put your spaghetti meatball. I love all kinds of food and all kinds of noodle dishes so spaghetti is one of my favorites. Thanks for sharing your post!

[← Reply](#)**Caitlin Flynn** (<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/135934>)

Oct 20, 2020

For this collage I tried to think about the unique cultures that I grew up in and that shaped me. My parents' ethnicities, their careers and the people that those things brought into our lives. I included the seal of my father's tribe and a seder plate since growing up passover was always

the most important holiday in our house. My parents were both actors and artists and instilled in me a deep appreciation for art as well as an understanding of the cooperative nature of creating something. We moved around a lot and travel has always been an important part of my life and something I really love.

[Caitlin Flynn Culture Collage .pdf \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/files/4560832/download?download_frd=1&verifier=tdGQEtFMpuBGWEPk5UyAHQFN46KvWGn9aguaoJdt\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/files/4560832/download?download_frd=1&verifier=tdGQEtFMpuBGWEPk5UyAHQFN46KvWGn9aguaoJdt)

← [Reply](#)



[Monta Wiley \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/126624\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/126624)

Oct 21, 2020

Caitlin, may I ask what food is that? I big on food, especially outside the norms of what I'm use to eating

← [Reply](#)



[Caitlin Flynn \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/135934\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/135934)

Oct 21, 2020

Sure, that's a seder plate used for Passover. It's more for symbolism than for really eating. As we read the Haggadah it will periodically instruct us to stop and, for example, take a spring of parsley from the plate and dip it into the salt water so we can remember the tears the Jewish people in Egypt shed during their captivity. The bone and egg don't get eaten as the bone stands in for lamb that would have been sacrificed at the temple before it was destroyed and the egg is a food for mourning the destruction of the temple. The bitter herbs are eaten to remind us of the bitterness of slavery and to remind us that even though we are now free others in the world are still suffering. The best part though is the charoset, its meant to represent the bricks the Jewish people made while they were slaves and it tastes so good. It's made from apples, figs, walnuts, red wine, cinnamon, and honey all blended together.

Edited by [Caitlin Flynn \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/135934\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/135934) on Oct 22 at 9:58am

← [Reply](#)



[Ting Tai Lui \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/128284\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/128284)

Oct 22, 2020

Hi Caitlin

Your family moved around a lot and travel has always been an important part of your life.

Your travelling experience will be a great asset to you when you are in the TESOL field. You can teach your students not only English skills but also the way you see the world outside the classroom. You can bring the world to the classroom!

Ting

[← Reply](#)



<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/146922>

Oct 20, 2020

I will describe each line of my cultural collage, starting from the top. I am Mexican-American, and I come from a large family of six sisters, so family was and still is very important. I chose a Thanksgiving picture of us since food and family were inextricably connected growing up. My mother showed her love through food, and we happily ate whatever she made, even when it was just beans, rice, and tortillas. Additionally, I grew up Catholic (even though I identify as Agnostic now), and we would all walk to the local church every Sunday as kids, so I chose to represent that with an alter of the Virgin of Guadalupe. I also grew up poor, represented by the empty wallet. The next line represents where I grew up, Los Angeles, and how important this city has been in shaping who I am. For instance, I went to school in LA and now teach composition and literature at a community college in LA, so the city and its people will continue to shape me for many years. Finally, the last line represents some of my ideology. I am a feminist and gay, and I practice Japanese tea ceremony, which has its own philosophy. In essence, all of these past experiences and lenses shape how I see others as well as my place in the world.

Edited by [Luis Orozco \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/146922\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/146922) on Oct 20 at 4:19pm

[LOrozco Cultural Collage-1.pdf \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/files/4560918/download?download_frd=1&verifier=FhkpGKQ3jUMposKfWcjQyimRbQaoboa9JXDyps8G\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/files/4560918/download?download_frd=1&verifier=FhkpGKQ3jUMposKfWcjQyimRbQaoboa9JXDyps8G)

[← Reply](#)



[Kelly H. Kim \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/146907\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/146907)

Oct 20, 2020

Luis,

Wow, you have six sisters! That's a big family. I like the part you showed your close relationship with your family. I also enjoy cooking and eating good food with my friends and family and I feel the connection when we all enjoy good meals together. I've never

lived in LA but I have lots of friends there so my husband and I used to take road trips to visit them pretty often when we lived in SF. Great stuff! Thanks for sharing.

[← Reply](#)



[Monta Wiley \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/126624\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/126624)

Oct 21, 2020

The empty wallet reference is something that really resonated with me also coming from poverty. As it is that struggle that makes us resilient to become something better. Amazing collage Luis !!!

[← Reply](#)



[Luis Orozco \(He/Him/His\) \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/146922\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/146922)

Oct 21, 2020

Hi Monta!

Yes, it definitely makes us more resilient!

[← Reply](#)



[Luis Orozco \(He/Him/His\) \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/146922\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/146922)

Oct 21, 2020

Hi Kelly!

Yes, it's amazing how food can communicate so many things. I appreciate how food is deeply connected to emotion and memory.

[← Reply](#)



[Erica Wahlgren \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/135386\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/135386)

Oct 22, 2020

Hi Luis,

I think you did a great job of conveying what is important to you and what has shaped you in your collage. Education, family, and being a feminist are also very important to me. It has been cool to look at these collages and see both how different we all are and all of the

things we have in common. We all have so much we can learn from and share with each other.

-Erica

← [Reply](#)



[Luis Orozco \(He/Him/His\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/146922) (https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/146922)

Oct 24, 2020

Thank you, Erica!

← [Reply](#)



[Melissa McConnell-Quinn](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/148617) (https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/148617)

Oct 23, 2020

Week by week, I enjoy reading your posts Luis. I enjoyed this assignment so that I could get to know my classmates a bit more. I remember you talking about your mom cooking in a previous post. That sounds like a special memory. Have a great week. MQ

← [Reply](#)



[Luis Orozco \(He/Him/His\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/146922) (https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/146922)

Oct 24, 2020

Thank you, Melissa! Your kind words are very much appreciated.

← [Reply](#)



[Monta Wiley](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/126624) (https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/126624)

Oct 21, 2020

I want to start this off with a famous quote from one of my favorite actors.

*"I think the prime reason for existence, for living in this world is **discovery**."* – **James Dean**.

Culture: The customs, arts, social institutions, and achievements of a particular nation, people, or other social groups. The year was 1985, which saw the infancy of various cultural trends

booming here in the United States. 1985 also marked another prominent moment, my arrival into this world. A young child to a single-parent mother, I came into this world place in a cultural environment of low poverty and a prescribed way of life adopted by most black males growing up and living in the area.

Although born into those neighborhood customs, curiosity consumed my mind, which inspired self-growth that would take me on a journey of discovery. This collage documents the life journey of Monta Wiley. Amid our participation in academics, sports, free-roaming, and other happenings, we find ourselves merging with a diverse group of individuals. While culturally different it is my belief that "WE ARE ALL ONE". Our differences can promote interest, our interests inspire engagement/collaboration, and all these steps contribute to one's growth.

[Monta Collage-1.jpg \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/files/4563749/download?download_frd=1&verifier=BofHfiWaqyMFGERk7fyfzc0SJ264HVFNLpWSHrs1\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/files/4563749/download?download_frd=1&verifier=BofHfiWaqyMFGERk7fyfzc0SJ264HVFNLpWSHrs1)

← [Reply](#)



[Luis Orozco \(He/Him/His\) \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/146922\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/146922)

Oct 21, 2020

Hi Monta!

I loved your message about all being one. I agree that if we all look at each other with more empathy and understanding, this world would be a better place.

← [Reply](#)



[Michelle Akamine \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/153411\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/153411)

Oct 22, 2020

Hi Monta,

I think your collage conveys your message perfectly. I can tell that you have met with a diverse group of individuals and there is a clear sense of togetherness. I think that all of these experiences will help to shape the way you teach in the future.

← [Reply](#)



[Melissa McConnell-Quinn \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/148617\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/148617)

Oct 23, 2020

Week after week, I enjoy reading what you post. I enjoy learning your perspectives as you and I are different in so many ways. Have a good week.

[← Reply](#)

<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/142177>

Oct 21, 2020



Culture Collage

My name is Gabriela Miranda, I am 37 years old, mom of three children, a girl 7 years old, a boy 5 years old, and the third one is in my belly.

I am originally from Chile, it's a long and narrow country in western South America.

English is my second language at this moment, but for a long time was German because in my country we had a big German influence from the middle of the 19th century to the present.

There are many German schools in my country. They have played a significant role in the economic, political, and cultural development of the Chilean nation.

Spain conquered and colonized the region in the mid-16th century and the independence from Spain was in 1818.

We have several native groups from north to south, but everybody knows more about Mapuche, who inhabited what is now south-central Chile, and Rapa Nui native.

Rapa Nui is a magical Chilean Island in the southeastern Pacific Ocean, everything is fascinating there. Rapa Nui also known as Easter Island is most famous for its nearly 1,000 extant monumental statues, called "Moai".

In Chile, there are not many differences between the Spanish spoken in the northern, central, and southern areas of the country.

I am a Pharmacist, Bachelor of Science in Chemistry, and I have some experience working in a Lab, Pharmaceutical Industry, and in drugstores.

I've been living in Los Angeles, CA for about 3 years, because my husband works, however, my goal is to go back home to teach Science in English.

I have taught biology and chemistry to adults who wanted to finish their High School education, which was a very enriching experience. Last year, I volunteered at my children's school Library, and being close to students has spiked my interest to teach science once again.

My goal in this certificate program is to improve my English skills to become a better teacher. Once I am back home, I will teach Science in English because I am sure that it is a valuable skill for the future, especially for kids.

In Chile, most students have difficulty focusing on reading and comprehension, and I am convinced that they can use English as leverage to improve many other skills. I wish to be able to offer appropriate guidance to my future science students, to benefit them in the best possible way.

I see teaching as a cycle of reciprocal cause and effect, receiving, and paying forward. The student becomes the teacher to teach other students, and so the cycle continues...

[Culture Collage-1.pdf \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/files/4565068/download?download_frd=1&verifier=i8fm88XcWu2L45Tnzs2hKhrlR9N909arnHE5WthF\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/files/4565068/download?download_frd=1&verifier=i8fm88XcWu2L45Tnzs2hKhrlR9N909arnHE5WthF)

← [Reply](#)



[Silver Park \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/147686\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/147686)

Oct 22, 2020

Hi Gabriela, your culture of Moai in Rapa Nui reminds me of the movie Moana! Maybe the movie was influenced by this island. That's awesome how you're from Chile but you can speak German. I didn't know German had a big influence in Chile. Very interesting.

← [Reply](#)



[Caitlin Flynn \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/135934\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/135934)

Oct 22, 2020

Hi Gabriela,

I really liked seeing the complex ethnic history of Chile reflected in your presentation. It was really interesting and good to remember the ways the history of our countries is part of what makes the cultures we have.

← [Reply](#)



[Melissa McConnell-Quinn \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/148617\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/148617)

Oct 23, 2020

As someone who can only speak English, I am envious of your ability to speak multiple languages. I enjoyed reading about you. Congrats on Baby #3!

← [Reply](#)



[Silver Park \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/147686\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/147686)

Oct 22, 2020

I put together a collage with pictures that represent who I am as a person and what my background and culture is. I love all kinds of food. I would eat tacos everyday. We have a taco

truck right by our house and my sister and I would go there almost everyday. I say that my culture is mixed of different cultures because I was born in Korea but grew up in Los Angeles, CA. So I have variety of taste and preferences. I used to have a lot of Hispanic friends and that's why I love their food.

I call myself Korean-American. I'm not just Korean and I'm not just American. I'm proud of both cultures that I have. The picture on the right hand side upper corner is actually my own drawing of UNESCO. They decided to have "Kimjang(making Korean Kimchi)" as one of the cultural items. The bottom right picture and the picture above are two thanksgiving holiday meals from U.S. and Korea. I love both of thanksgivings because I love both of the food made in the countries. I loved drawing and creating art ever since I was little and I also used to love doing graffitis too back in high school. And as you can see in the pictures on the left hand corner, I'm engaged and about to be married. I was engaged in U.S. (the picture with my hand up was taken at Malibu) following the American culture of proposal. And I'm getting married in Korea (wedding studio picture taken in Busan, Korea) this Saturday :). I'm glad I'm getting to experience the two cultures in my engagement and wedding ceremonies. So this is me, Silver. An LA girl who now is starting to live back in Korea being married. Thank you for reading and viewing my collage!

[Collage.pdf \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/files/4565681/download?download_frd=1&verifier=2hvyPsQMtEhI9rJPayRneOA8tTf5ABTKetqK2eng\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/files/4565681/download?download_frd=1&verifier=2hvyPsQMtEhI9rJPayRneOA8tTf5ABTKetqK2eng)

← [Reply](#)



[Caitlin Flynn \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/135934\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/135934)

Oct 22, 2020

Congratulations on you marriage! That's so exciting :D. You engagement/wedding photos look amazing.

← [Reply](#)



[Erica Wahlgren \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/135386\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/135386)

Oct 22, 2020

Hi,

Such a great collage! I like all the pictures of food you included. Living in LA definitely exposes you to a variety of people/cultures/foods and food is such a great way to bring people together.

-Erica

← [Reply](#)



[Monta Wiley \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/126624\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/126624)

Oct 22, 2020

Taco truck by your house ?! Im jealous. And congrats on the marriage.

[← Reply](#)



[Michelle Akamine \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/153411\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/153411)

Oct 22, 2020

Congratulations on your marriage! I feel like I can identify with a lot of the images. I also love drawing, particularly printmaking. It's refreshing to see some the image you created.

[← Reply](#)



[Melissa McConnell-Quinn \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/148617\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/148617)

Oct 23, 2020

Your story is fascinating Silver. My husband and I live in Saudi Arabia. Because of this assignment, we were having a discussion about culture and what defines us. We don't identify as Saudi at all. We still feel 100% American. Course, I was not raised in Saudi! I am fascinated with identifying with two cultures. How lucky for you to connect with both. Your LA life seems wonderful - taco truck!!

Congratulations to you and your soon to be husband!

[← Reply](#)



[Russell Fung \(He/Him/His\) \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/147480\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/147480)

Oct 25, 2020

Congrats on the wedding, Silver! That is so exciting! I love that 1/3 of your collage is food. I'm so hungry now!

[← Reply](#)



[Michelle Akamine \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/153411\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/153411)

Oct 22, 2020

In this collage, I thought about how my identity changed over time. I was lucky to live in three different cities: Los Angeles, Honolulu, and Tokyo, Japan. Moving to these places, I met lots of people and learned about their perspectives and think about how their experiences shaped them. This allowed me to rethink my identity as a Japanese-American and learn more about my identity as an Okinawan-American too. Although Okinawa is a part of Japan now, the culture is really different from mainland Japan. I became heavily interested in the music, even learning instruments like the *koto* and *sanshin*. The lyrics were in Okinawan, so I was able to learn some words and phrases of this endangered language. Both sides of my family are fairly religious, one with Buddhism and the other with Christianity. I, myself, was raised with Buddhism but was often exposed to Christian practices. Although I do not actively practice Buddhism, I find that some of the decisions and mindsets I have align with their principles. Lastly, language education was an important part of my life that allowed for me to learn more about the world around me. This also opened up possibilities and led me to become the person that I am today.

Edited by [Michelle Akamine \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/153411\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/153411) on Oct 22 at 5:52pm

[Akamine Cultural Collage-1.pdf \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/files/4566989/download?download_frd=1&verifier=52xpXu4FdfO76YhCasTCHqbO62m4wNjnkKjnzQFI\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/files/4566989/download?download_frd=1&verifier=52xpXu4FdfO76YhCasTCHqbO62m4wNjnkKjnzQFI)

← [Reply](#)



[Monta Wiley \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/126624\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/126624)

Oct 22, 2020

Hello Michelle, hope your day is going well. First off, I love your collage. Secondly, I got the opportunity to visit Japan last year and I can tell you it was one of my favorite experience, as I learned so much on my travels.

I must as a question as it relates to your journey to being the person you are today.

How were your able to adapt and grow through your various experiences living in three sectors of the world, especially since the areas are very diverse in culture and way of living ?

← [Reply](#)



[Michelle Akamine \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/153411\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/153411)

Oct 22, 2020

Hi Monta, thank you for your question. As you can probably imagine, living in LA, there is so much cultural diversity. I was able to look at some of the similarities

between my culture and others. The high school I attended was known for its diverse student population and so I got introduced to cultures from around the world. Then, moving to Hawaii, I was able to think about what it means to be Japanese and Okinawan. Hawaii has many Asian/Pacific Islanders and it is perhaps the only place I know where I can actually identify as Okinawan (in other places, people don't know where it is and most Japanese people don't consider Okinawan to be a separate ethnicity). When I lived in Japan, I was able to reflect on my ideals as an American. I was an exchange student and I was able to meet a lot of other international students. I was able to listen to the situation in their country as well as talk about the situation in America. I think immersing myself in a different culture and listening to other people's perspectives helped me to widen my views.

← [Reply](#)



Melissa McConnell-Quinn (<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/148617>)

Oct 23, 2020

Hi Michelle. I enjoyed reading your explanation of your collage Michelle. My husband and I had a conversation similar to the thought process that you described above. Who are we now? How have we changed over time? This was a great assignment in that aspect. It really caused some internal dialogue and dissection. I related to your post. MQ

← [Reply](#)



Melissa McConnell-Quinn (<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/148617>)

Oct 22, 2020

I put a lot of thought into what would go on this Cultural Collage. My husband and I had a discussion about this over dinner. Who are we? What experiences have defined us? With the election coming up in the USA, why do we believe what we believe? What have we come from and experienced that have made us who we are today?

The very first part that I added to this collage was my educational and religious backgrounds. They go hand-in-hand as I went to a Catholic School from Kindergarten - 12th grade. I was raised in church, served on the alter, went through 5 of the 7 Sacraments (thankfully no last rights and I won't be becoming a nun or a priest). Religion is a large part of who I am and is extremely important in my marriage and my family. As an adult, I have not been to a Catholic Mass in years, however my husband and I attend Christian services. There is also a picture on the collage of Jason and I on one of our mission trips.

My family is from a small town in Massachusetts. My parents were born there, graduated from high school there, got married there, and still live there. My brother leads the same path. I was the first person in my family to go to college. For me, it really wasn't an option. My parents wanted me to have an education. My dad always said, "They can take away your house, your car, and your husband can leave you. But no one can ever take away your education." My dad worked a second job to pay for my catholic education and unbeknownst to me as a child, my parents would take second mortgages out on their house to pay for school too. The small town that I grew up in is not diverse. 95% of the families there are caucasian. In my graduating class, there were only 4 people of color to our 110 white students. I did not see diversity as a child.

As I got older, I began experiencing things that I was not able to as a child. My parents gave me a wonderful childhood and I am 1000% appreciative. However, it was not until my mid-late 20s where I was exposed to the theater, sporting events, concerts, exercise, and travel. I moved to North Carolina when I was 25 and went from small town life to hopping city life. I had friends with money and that was something I'd never had before. For me, it was such an unfamiliar world and I wanted to figure out how to be apart of it. I do not have a lot of money but I decided I wanted to live a life with experiences that I had not dreamed about prior to 25 years old. Living in the south was my first true exposure to different races, religious groups, and honestly, it was the first time that I witnessed racism first hand. My jaw dropped when some people spoke. I was such a naive kid.

From there, I went to California. Again, I was exposed to new culture, people, religions, and educational values. I lived in Northern California and for the first time, lived around Native Tribes. I was in my early 30s at this point and still was exposed to new learnings each day. I am so blessed to have had these experiences.

I was raised to work hard and earn the things that I wanted. For me, the only way that I knew how to do that was through an education. I kept going and here I am at 40, taking another class. I would never have moved internationally on my own. I'll be honest, I'm not that brave. But my husband's job took us to Saudi Arabia and now I feel like I could go anywhere.

My true fear as a white, Catholic girl from Massachusetts is that I am going to offend someone unintentionally. My continued exposure to people and new cultures has really helped me in this area. I look forward to learning more from y'all.

[Cultural Collage - MMQ.pdf \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/files/4567539/download?download_frd=1&verifier=Wt3p3TXjBUfHTlJwbl3ecN8xMrkiY3QITGSFLwcZ\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/files/4567539/download?download_frd=1&verifier=Wt3p3TXjBUfHTlJwbl3ecN8xMrkiY3QITGSFLwcZ)

← Reply



[Luis Orozco \(He/Him/His\) \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/146922\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/146922)

Oct 24, 2020



Hi Melissa!

It really is incredible to think about all of the sacrifices parents made to give their children the best upbringing they could provide.

The Phantom of the Opera was the first musical I saw live (when I was in my early 20s). I remember being blown away by it, and I look forward to the day when theaters will open again.

The fact that you have such incredible conversations with your husband shows how intelligent and caring you are. You've had some great experiences, and your constant self-improvement and introspection is truly admirable.

← [Reply](#)



[Kim Doan \(She/Her/Hers\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/151802) (https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/151802)

Oct 24, 2020

I agree with you Luis! Melissa's story, her journey, her open-mindedness, ability to self-reflect and to learn is so admirable. She has faced each challenge and each fear with such grace and strength. It is an important and inspiring take-away for me.

← [Reply](#)



[Shuo Niu](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/139757) (https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/139757)

Oct 26, 2020

Hello Melissa,

Thank you for your post and your share of the story. I am touched.

I had been in North Carolina in my most years of Undergraduate studies: (Greensboro) and my graduate studies in Raleigh. I was in Rochester before, so I could totally feel you about the sudden exposure. I thought I was experiencing culture shock enough that nothing would ever shock me again and yet, 3 years later, it was like: HA!! SURPRISE!!! XD

I do enjoy the super warm weather and sweet temper of people in NC though. Now that I have moved back to China, I will really miss that place.

Shuo

← [Reply](#)

[https://](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/147001)[Aya Takeichi-Leitz \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/147001\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/147001)

Oct 23, 2020

A brief description of what we are seeing in the collage

This collage describes me very well. I am Japanese. I was born and raised in Japan and moved to the United States in 2006. Since then, I've been working for a Japanese Asset Management Company in New York City.

In this collage, you see my nationality, Japan. I speak Japanese and English and hope to be an English teacher in Japan after my retirement. Although now I am based in the US, I visit Japan 2 to 3 times a year and enjoy running around Tokyo and Kamakura, where I grew up. Also seen in many pictures is that I run a lot. I am a very passionate marathon runner! I completed over 100 marathons all over the world. To be able to run many races is a blessing. I have met so many great people through running. It is amazing that we share the same activity in so many different countries, different cultures, and different environments. Running is a big part of me. I am so grateful that I am bilingual and be able to travel so often to experience such diversity.

[Cultural Collage Aya-1.pdf \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/files/4569568/download?download_frd=1&verifier=vtlt5AwulwDdiGMVAXhyFFK7QcNeIWLR4VmlOV6E\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/files/4569568/download?download_frd=1&verifier=vtlt5AwulwDdiGMVAXhyFFK7QcNeIWLR4VmlOV6E)

[← Reply](#)[http](http://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/151802)[Kim Doan \(She/Her/Hers\) \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/151802\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/151802)

Oct 24, 2020

Hi Aya!

I loved seeing all those pictures of you running in your collage! It's amazing that you've run in over 100 marathons all over the world. I totally admire that you've done that and am a little jealous actually. Despite being very active, I can barely run around my neighborhood block without feeling like my throat is on fire. Thank you for sharing your story. It was nice to "meet" you.

Kim

[← Reply](#)[https://](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/147480)[Russell Fung \(He/Him/His\) \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/147480\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/147480)

Oct 23, 2020

This collage encapsulates my experience growing up as an Asian-American male in the 80's and 90's. Much of my identity was formed from exposure to television and movies. On-screen representation varied, and I often felt unseen. The collage references a TV sitcom, "Full House," where I saw someone who looked like me. An Asian kid was best friends with Stephanie Tanner. That dude was so dope! He was an all-American kid with no accent. After that, I never saw an Asian character like that for the rest of my childhood. I kept seeing Asian kids and teens who were "othered" for their appearance and accents. This still makes me so upset. Today, there has been a growing movement towards authentic representation in media. There is still a lot to grow from and I am optimistic.

[Russell Fung - Cultural Collage -1.pdf \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/files/4569639/download?download_frd=1&verifier=hh3wfAWmwpdKU1Cg6uEjOVI0WGVUNYq2SwOSIEyt\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/files/4569639/download?download_frd=1&verifier=hh3wfAWmwpdKU1Cg6uEjOVI0WGVUNYq2SwOSIEyt)

← [Reply](#)



[Kim Doan \(She/Her/Hers\) \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/151802\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/151802)

Oct 24, 2020

Hi Russell!

I can totally relate to your sentiment about:

1. the lack of Asian American representation in media and
 2. your critique of the ways in which Asian Americans are "othered" when represented.
- As members of the "model minority" we're supposed to be satisfied with the status quo even when it is blatantly racist or unfair. Within our culture, there is a lot of value placed on certain professions and discouragement from careers that are self-expressive or creative. It's a good thing that Hugh Jackman never told himself there's plenty of talented white guys already in the industry, then pursued a 9-5 job. Which brings me to this point, with the creation of YouTube, it's encouraging to know that there are talented Asian Americans who are willing to step up and to show up. Change happens so slowly and incrementally but it gives me hope to see people like Awkwafina, Ryan Higa, Kina Grannis, the Fung Brothers, Anna Akana and other Asian Americans achieve some measure of success through youtube. Social media allows today's artists the ability to exert at least a little more control over the content that they create and gives them the freedom to be unapologetic about challenging racist and hurtful stereotypes. This isn't an excuse for the film industry to continue the practice of white-washing when casting actors and actresses for minority roles, but it is a vehicle through which Asian American artists can circumvent a system that has historically ignored and dismissed them.

Edited by [Kim Doan \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/151802\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/151802) on Oct 24 at 6:31pm

← [Reply](#)



[Russell Fung \(He/Him/His\) \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/147480\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/147480)

Oct 25, 2020

Thank you for your response! It's funny that you mentioned some of my acquaintances in the industry: Anna Akana, Fung Brothers, etc. were very much a part of my community and I worked with them a few times. They never felt like they made it, but at the same time, they seemed to appreciate the new avenue that was Youtube at the time. I'm very glad a new generation of people get to see themselves represented that way, rather than traditional broadcast TV.

[← Reply](#)



[Geronima Garcia \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/130244\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/130244)

Oct 24, 2020

Hi Russell,

I too was super into the Power Rangers and Captain Planet (not sure if you watched that cartoon). What is funny is that I didn't have a true awareness of the diversity on these shows until I was much older. As a kid I loved the Yellow Ranger (Trini) because she was strong and different, plus she had the saber-toothed tiger. Now, I can look at the show and realize that whether subconscious or not, I was drawn to the show because it reflected many people and as you said how they could "come together to serve the community (and save the world)."

Thanks for sharing!

Geronima

[← Reply](#)



[Russell Fung \(He/Him/His\) \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/147480\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/147480)

Oct 25, 2020

Geronima, I watched everything in the 90's, haha. I loved Captain Planet because you had a cast of characters from different parts of the globe. I loved Trini! RIP, Thuy Trang!

[← Reply](#)



[Geronima Garcia \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/130244\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/130244)

Oct 23, 2020

My culture collage is simultaneously a representation of my culture and the development of my identity as a student and educator. For this reason, I included my name as Ms. Garcia, as teaching is such an integral part of my identity. The background image is a Quetzal, the national bird of Guatemala. My mother immigrated from Guatemala fifty years ago and made her life in America, raising two children, while working full time and pursuing her high school diploma (compulsory education is only offered through 6th grade in Guatemala). Also included is a picture of my family in the house where I grew up.

In my collage you can also see the church I have attended since early childhood. This church is the center of the community I grew up in, Delhi in Santa Ana, CA. Delhi was one of two segregated Latino communities in Santa Ana during the 1920's. As a credential student, I learned about a particular court case that gave me a completely different view on this community as well as my role as a Latina scholar. Mendez v. Westminster (1947) called for the desegregation of Orange County Schools and eventually all California schools, nearly eight years before Brown v. Board of Education. Learning about this case was pivotal in my understanding of the true implications of discrimination for the people in my community. In addition, the context for education in California and the community I grew up in led me back to the Horace Mann quote I read during my first year of college, "Education, then, beyond all other devices of human origin, is the great equalizer of the conditions of men, the balance wheel of the social machinery." Finally, to represent my education, I included a picture of my only niece on the day of my graduation from Chapman University. Rather than including a picture of myself on that day, I felt that including a picture of her better represents the seeds of knowledge and the power of education that I hope were planted that day.

[Culture Collage-1.jpg \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/files/4569792/download?download_frd=1&verifier=efdtMhKgiPqZEs9mypFavUJ1yz41iBccL5cmP4B\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/files/4569792/download?download_frd=1&verifier=efdtMhKgiPqZEs9mypFavUJ1yz41iBccL5cmP4B)

[← Reply](#)



[Kim Doan \(She/Her/Hers\) \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/151802\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/151802)

Oct 24, 2020

Hi Geronima!

Thank you for taking the time to share the background information about your church. Although I heard of the Mendez v. Westminster case years ago, I had forgotten the details and was reminded of how important and impactful that case was. I also couldn't agree with you more about education being the "great equalizer of the conditions of man, the balance wheel of the social machinery." What is unfortunate is that sometimes, there is very limited

access to high-quality education and/or life situations prevent those who need education the most from being successful students. In my work at the non-public school, where violent and disruptive students are sent when they have demonstrated over a number of incidents and years that it is not safe to keep them in public schools, I met with students who were incredibly bright but had very real and life threatening disabilities that prevented them from accessing education. Some of these disabilities were biological but some were a result of having been born with drugs in their system. Despite my desire to help my students at the non-public school to learn, it was discouraging to see the negative influences impact their progress.

It was nice to "meet" you!

Kim

[← Reply](#)



[Shuo Niu \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/139757\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/139757)

Oct 26, 2020



Hello Geronima:

Thank you for your post and presentation. I think it is really cool to see how you could develop your personality and your identity through your experience. I myself is also a student with a multi-cultural background. I realize that sometimes, I take my background for granted and think it is absolutely similar case as other people. But then I get to meet more people and realize the value of my own cultural background.

Shuo

[← Reply](#)



[Kim Doan \(She/Her/Hers\) \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/151802\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/151802)

Oct 24, 2020



I used Prezi to organize my collage since it's a platform that I am familiar with and enjoy using. I chose to go with the map background because it represents both my geographical and cultural influences. My father was educated by priests under a French colonialist government in Vietnam and learned to speak French, English and Vietnamese. While at home, he observed Buddhist traditions with his parents but when at school was required to learn about Catholicism. My spiritual back ground is very similar and influenced by the Christian ideals of

my adopted country as well as Buddhist teachings. There is text in my collage to explain the different influences that define me.

https://prezi.com/5xdbfp3cekkn/?utm_campaign=share&utm_medium=copy
(https://prezi.com/5xdbfp3cekkn/?utm_campaign=share&utm_medium=copy)

Edited by [Kim Doan \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/151802\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/151802) on Oct 24 at 5:36am

← [Reply](#)



<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/137566> **Grace Shin (She/Her/Hers)** (<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/137566>)

Oct 24, 2020

Hey everyone!

I chose a pastel theme to represent that I am a soft-hearted person. My heart is full of love and I have a lot of love to give so I plastered many hearts all around. Everything in my life is a bit faded except for the two most important people in my life - my grandma and my mom. I speak Korean with my grandma and am so thankful that I can communicate with her. I speak English and Korean, sometimes even Konglish, with my mom, who is pictured on the right. They are my counselors and my inspirations. They are why I am the person I am today. I give them a lot of credit for teaching me the morals, giving me the mindset to strive forward, certain personality traits, both good and bad, how to have grit and perseverance, and the root of why I have the faith I have today. The images represent many of the things I enjoy including food, my betta fish, reading, writing, music and art. There are some symbols that represent feminism, education, growth, positivity, and peace. I chose only one word to be in the center: Hope. Hope is what I have to give and what helps me move forward in any and all situations.

[Cultural Collage SHIN.pdf \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/files/4571512/download?download_frd=1&verifier=uBAvrXK1u2X85XKVtwGUzHAFJHoLdZ9rdKBAASOe\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/files/4571512/download?download_frd=1&verifier=uBAvrXK1u2X85XKVtwGUzHAFJHoLdZ9rdKBAASOe)

← [Reply](#)



<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/147480> **Russell Fung (He/Him/His)** (<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/147480>)

Oct 25, 2020

Whoa, Grace! Your collage is so pretty and clean! I loved how all the symbols were integrated so seamlessly. Great job!

← [Reply](#)



[Shuo Niu \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/139757\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/30870/users/139757)



Oct 26, 2020

<https://prezi.com/view/ziWjwmLcXoqNa8eln0Kc/>

This is a link to my Prezi presentation. Because most of my stuff are not here with me in the quarantine hotel, sadly, I cannot take photos... Hope you guys enjoy it :)

[← Reply](#)