

**Geography, Culture and American Indian Studies**

What factors affect the creation of a person’s identity?  
 How does a person’s identity affect their life?

Our focus this block will be on Geography, Culture and American Indian Studies. We will be exploring these topics and our block’s theme of Identity through several focuses: group projects, chapter readings, writing reflections, choice explorations and participation in socratic seminars. Additionally, class will involve guided activities, videos, discussion, and work time.

**Essential Questions:**

- What are the five themes of geography? What are the essential components of culture?
- How did geography influence the development of culture in North America? How does geography influence culture now?
- Why did/do American Indian cultures differ across North America? What are the similarities and differences in the ways groups of American Indians met their needs?

	Work:	Points:	Due:
Week 1	Geography Reading Questions	5	Fri, Jan 6th
Week 2	Culture Reading Questions	5	Thur, Jan 12th
Week 3	Geography and Culture Quiz Writing Response	10 5	Thur, Jan 17th Thur, Jan 19th
Week 4	Group Cube Project Socratic Seminar 1	10 10	Thur, Jan 24th Thur, Jan 26th
Week 5	Choice Exploration Project Infinity of Nations Culture Quest	10 5	Thur, Feb 2nd Fri, Feb 3rd
Week 6	Socratic Seminar 2 National History Day Project	10 30	Thur, Feb 9th Fri, Feb 10th
	Participation	10	Ongoing

**Group “5 Themes” Cube Project:**

In groups, students will be assigned an American Indian geographical area and culture to research. Students will create a 3D “cube” with each side relating to one of the 5 themes of geography, as well one side dedicated to culture.

**Writing Response:**

Students will be provided with several writing prompts to choose from and points will be given for thoughtful, detailed responses.

**Seminar Discussions:**

Students will participate in two formal Socratic seminar discussions. Points will be awarded for preparation for and thoughtful contribution to these in class activities.

**NHD Final Project:**

Student will complete, evaluate and showcase their National History Day Projects.

**Infinity of Nations Culture Quest:**

Students will complete the Webquest and accompanying handout from the National Museum of the American Indian.

**Choice Exploration:**

Choose a topic related to our studies and complete an academic exploration!

- Create a Newspaper detailing a famous battle in Native American History (Wounded Knee, Little Bighorn etc).
- Learn about an art form specific to a certain Native American culture. Create your own replica and write a description detailing the history and significance of the art form.
- Create a set of 10 “Trading Cards” of famous Americans Indians. Include a picture of each and 5 important facts on each card (Include: Sequoyah, Tecumseh, Geronimo, Sitting Bull, Red Cloud etc.)
- Create a collage of images related to Manifest Destiny and it’s importance and impact in US History. Include a description of the significance of the images you choose.
- Write and illustrate a historical fiction children’s book about a Native American character. Through the story, weave information about your character’s culture.
- Research at least two different Treaties and their impact. Write a paper detailing the information you discover.
- **Free Choice-** prepare a proposal form and submit your idea for approval.