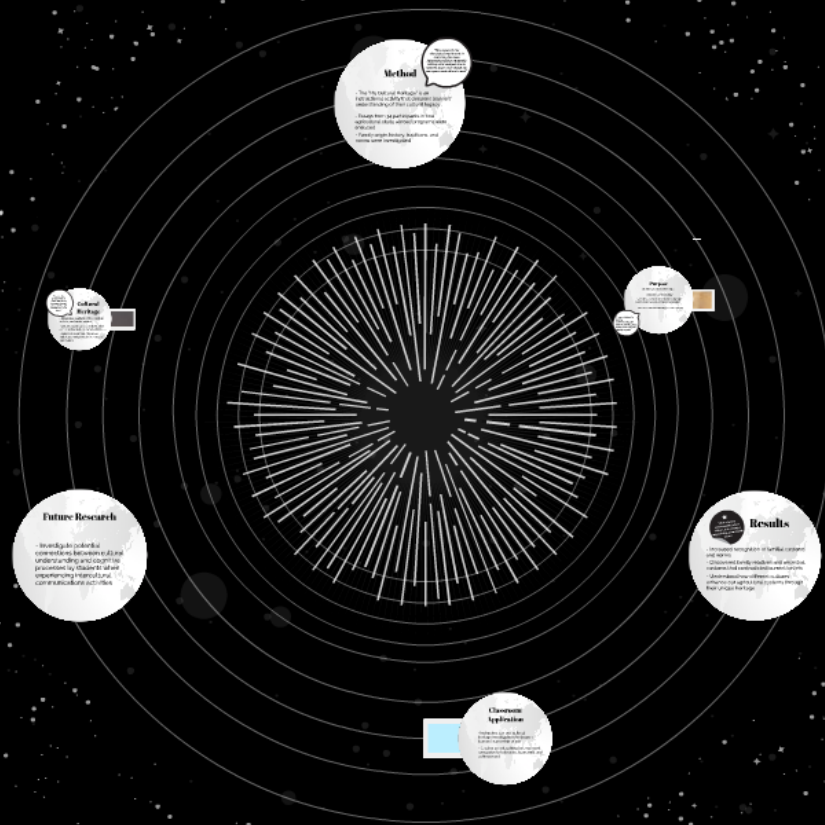


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# Self-Identity

Understanding Cultural Heritage Prior to High-Impact Educational Experience



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# Self-Identity

Understanding Cultural Heritage Prior to High-Impact Educational Experience

*"I feel better prepared to go travel the world, having a stronger sense of who I am and where I come from."*

# Cultural Heritage

- Integrated pattern of knowledge, beliefs, and social norms
- Values, goals, and practices, that define individuals' characteristics
- Aids in the self identity of an individual and provides a sense of belonging



# Method

*"This research has stimulated my interest in searching for more information about my family history, and compels me to want to learn more about my own peers and others I meet."*

- The "My Cultural Heritage" is an instructional activity that deepens learners' understanding of their cultural legacy
- Essays from 34 participants in two agricultural study abroad programs were analyzed
- Family origin, history, traditions, and norms were investigated

# Purpose

Studying cultural heritage:

- Validates self-Identity
- Creates a sense of culture to divulge a common aspect of interconnection
- Increases understanding of core ethics



*"I have attained a greater understanding for how my families have come to be and how I identify myself."*



A large circular graphic with a white background and a faint world map. Inside the circle, there is a dark circular callout containing a white star and a quote. To the right of the callout is the word "Results" in a large, bold, serif font. Below "Results" is a list of three bullet points. The background of the entire slide is black with white stars.

★  
"I have a better  
understanding of our  
culture and a stronger  
appreciation of our family  
values."

# Results

- Increased recognition of familial customs and norms
- Discovered family relatives and ancestral customs that contradicted current beliefs
- Understood how different cultures enhance our agricultural systems through their unique heritage

# Classroom Application



- Instructors can use cultural heritage investigations to deepen learners' ownership of self
- Creates an educational environment conducive to tolerance, teamwork, and achievement.

# Future Research

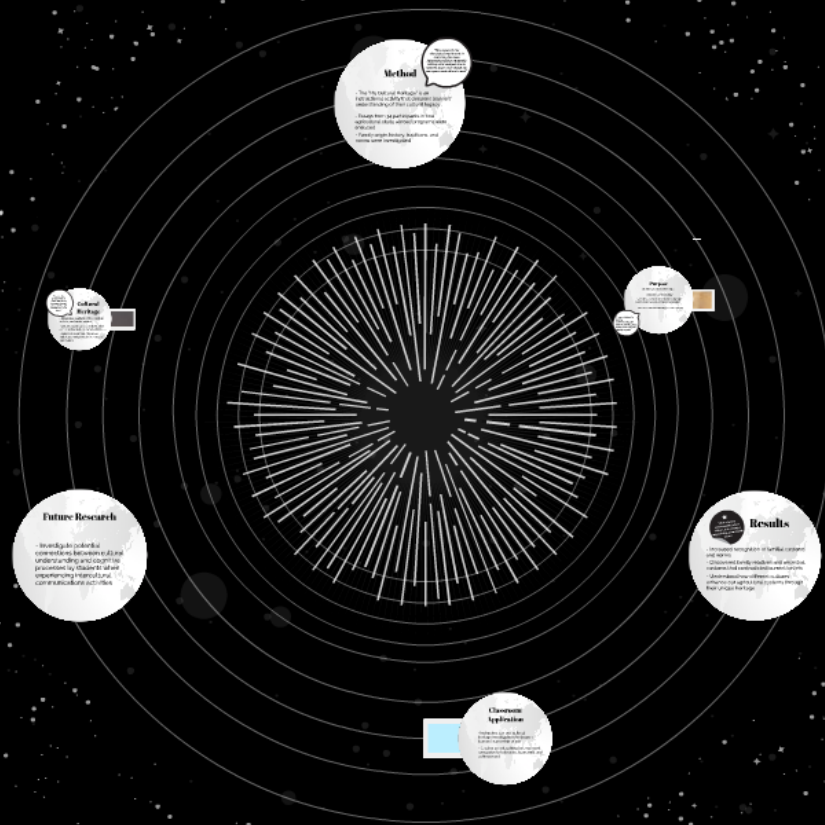
- Investigate potential connections between cultural understanding and cognitive processes by students when experiencing intercultural communications activities



**Sherice Perkins, Tobin Redwine, Gary Wingenbach,  
Tracy Rutherford, Emily Evans, Emily Bost, &  
Anne-Marie Prochaska  
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**Wash Jones  
Prairie View A&M University**

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Tracy Bollenbaker, Ed.D., Jason, Ed.D., Ron, B.  
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# Self-Identity

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