

GEOG 247 Cultural Geography

Course Introduction IV

Prof. Anthony Grande
Hunter College-CUNY

©AFG 2017

Lecture design, content and presentation ©AFG 2017. Individual images and illustrations may be subject to prior copyrights.

ASSIGNMENT #1 Due Thursday

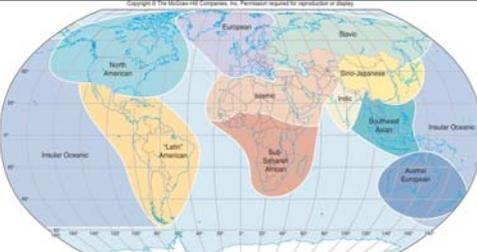
❖ **First required exercise is due next class: Thursday, September 14, 2017.**

- Focus is on **cultural ecology** and the theme **"Human Adaption"**.
- You are comparing two areas with unique physical characteristics with regard to human interaction and culture development.
 - Focus on the **"traditional"** response to the people's living in a unique natural environment.
 - Contrast the surroundings of the two groups; what makes them unique?

2

Cultural Realm

❖ A major world region with a **blend** of cultural traits that makes it stand out from others.



3

Pull-Push-Stay Questions?

Neighborhoods can become mini world culture regions.

People congregate in areas where things are **familiar** to them. **This is a pull factor.**

Some may **move out** because of this (things become unfamiliar) **This is a push factor.**

Others **do not want** to move or **cannot** move. **This is a stay factor.**



Ethnic Neighborhoods of New York City
Compiled from 2010 Census Data

4

Cultural Diversity

❖ **Spatial expression of human differentiation is displayed by such cultural traits as:**

language religion field patterns
clothing style architecture cuisine
rituals symbolization

- Where did it originate?
- Who developed/created it?
- Where is it found now?
- How did it get there?
- How it changed over the years?

5

Expressions of Culture

We can **see** and **identify** (recognize) elements within a cultural landscape and make **assumptions** that can lead to **associations**.



6

Distribution of Culture and Cultural Diversity

Spatial distribution of cultural traits/features is a way to study **cultural diversity**.

We need to be able to:

- ✓ Understand the creation of cultural **patterns**.
- ✓ Understand the **spread** (diffusion) of cultural features over time and space
- ✓ Determine if and how they have been **modified** (acculturation) by contact with other cultural features.

➤ **Be able to differentiate various types of culture found on earth: recognize them, locate them and track their diffusion.**

Types of Culture

The textbook identifies 7 types of culture:

1. **Material culture**
2. **Nonmaterial culture**
3. **Folk culture**
4. **Popular culture**
5. **Indigenous culture**
6. **Subculture**
7. **Mass culture**

CULTURE: way of life held in common by a group of people including:

- a) all of its learned features;
- b) the customary ways of doing things;
- c) the evolving process in which it is engaged; and
- d) the mix of symbols, beliefs, speech and practices associated with it.

Types of Culture

1. Material culture

Visible aspects of culture; physical and tangible objects (clothing, art, tools, buildings, musical instruments).



Central Africa



Bolivia



Italy

Types of Culture

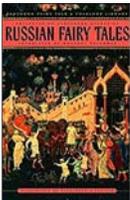
2. Nonmaterial culture

Oral and written traditions passed down through generations: beliefs, values, tales, songs, lore, superstitions.





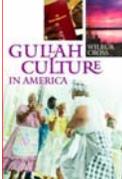




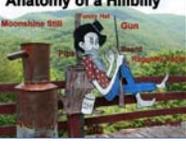
Types of Culture

3. Folk culture

Small, cohesive, insular, nearly self-sufficient group; clan structure; often isolated and homogenous; barter and trade economy.









Types of Culture

4. Popular culture

Dynamic group based in a large, heterogeneous society; features include individualism, innovation, and change; money-based economy; secular institutions. Includes advances in technology and increased leisure time.









Folk Culture vs Popular Culture: Russian Example

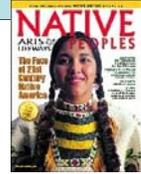
	Folk Culture of Russia	Pop Culture of Russia
Food	Pies with cabbage and other pies with green onion and eggs. Specially cooked buckwheat with butter.	McDonalds is a popular food chain in Russia. Pizza Sbarro is American pizza chain in Russia. Japanese chains are also very popular now.
Art/Music	Russian Folk Songs for example "Kalinka" and Podmoskovnye Vechera" (Evenings near Moscow). Russian nesting dolls and lacquered boxes are a traditional form of art.	Popular music now is the same as in the West, what is popular in the U.S. is popular in Russia. Russians like impressionist art very much (came from Europe).
Clothing	In the past traditional clothing was a long sleeveless dress with a shirt underneath and with a "kokoshnik" head piece. It was Sarafan and it was for girls. Boys wore high boots wide linen pants and a long cotton or silk shirt that you tied a skinny rope.	In the USSR jeans were not available so now everybody wears jeans. Italian designer brands are now popular to see on the streets. You will see Russian children with English writing on their shirt.
Shelter	Traditional houses were made of wooden logs with woolly grass in between each log to insulate the houses for the cold winters. In the cities there were stone buildings with small windows, richer people had the opportunity to have stone houses	Now there are skyscrapers dominating much of the city as what is happening in many other places. Now there are many suburbs in Russia and people work in the city and live in the suburbs.
Technology	In the past farming dominated much of Russia and many people used scythes. The plow was another traditional technology in Russia.	The smart phone is a popular technology but some people still use flip-phones. The car is another popular technology that changed life by a lot.
Beliefs	Before the revolution in 1917 Russia was a very religious country (Christianized in 988) and then after religion was prohibited until the fall of the Soviet Union. Russians were very superstitious before the christening of Russia because they were all pagans.	People started to believe in democracy that came from the West after the fall of the USSR. After the fall of USSR when religion became legal many people go to church and most are Russian Orthodox.

Types of Culture (cont'd)

5. Indigenous culture

Native to an area; distinguished by traits and conditions that may be different from the dominant national culture that usually was derived from colonization/occupation.



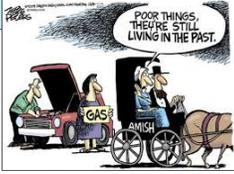


Aborigine tribesmen Australia

Types of Culture (cont'd)

6. Subculture

A unique group within the dominate culture; have norms, values, and material practices that differentiate them from the culture to which they belong.

<http://study.com/academy/lesson/american-subcultures-definition-examples.html>

Types of Culture (cont'd)

7. Mass culture

A culture that is produced, marketed and spread through the media; has a very wide audience that goes beyond individual cultures and overlaps them (a form of acculturation).

Result of people's mobility, access to technological innovations (as the telegraph, radio and television), and **the globalization process that spreads information and phenomena through free market system and encourages homogenization.**

Visual media: Television, YouTube, Hollywood films, visual arts, advertising
Digital media: Access to all types of social media through the Internet.
Print media: Widely read popular publications as "The New York Times," "People," "O-The Oprah Magazine," "AARP," "Vogue," "Forbes."

Sub and Mass Cultures

- ❖ **No culture is pure. Variations have always existed.**
 - Through invasion (war and migration), occupation, exploration, trade and religious zeal, people **have spread** their culture to others and have **been influenced** by the cultural traits of those with whom they have been in contact.
 - In the age of **globalization** and **ease of information sharing**, the rate of adaptation, blending and acculturation within culture groups has rapidly increased.
- ❖ **"Survival regions" do exist:** Areas where the essence of the original culture remains.



17

Survival Regions of the US



18

Culture of the Use of Alcoholic Beverages

- ❖ The **use** or **non-use** of alcoholic beverages by people is a cultural phenomena.
- **By-product of natural fermentation processes** affecting berries, fruits and grains.
- **Long history:** traces of alcoholic drink found in vessels over 9000 yrs old. Depiction of the use of wine and other spirits found on ancient murals and in ancient writings.
- **Used for medicinal and religious purposes**, esp. the benefit of an "altered state of consciousness."
- **Prohibitions developed** as drunkenness impeded reliability and clear thinking.

19

Alcoholic Beverage Preference

Figure 2.9
Fundamentals of the Human Mind, Second Edition
© 2014 W. H. Freeman and Company

Alcohol: Per Capita Consumption

Total alcohol per capita (15+ years) consumption, in litres of pure alcohol, 2010

The boundaries and names shown, and the designations used on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the World Health Organization concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Shaded areas represent territories whose administrative status is not clearly defined and for which limited data are available.

World Health Organization
Department of Non-Communicable Disease Prevention and Control
© 2012 WHO. All rights reserved.

21

Interactive Map

<http://ghostinthedata.com/>

22

Wine Regions

The essence of wine varies with growing conditions and well as production methods. Wine regions produce distinctive products. Yet these can vary from year to year.

Wines are associated with **national and ethnic cuisines** and become part of the **cultural heritage** of an area.

Copyright About-France.com

<https://www.wine-searcher.com/regions.html>

23

Tolerance toward Alcoholic Beverages in Texas

CULTURAL ATTITUDES TOWARD ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AS SHOWN BY LOCAL LIQUOR OPTION* AND ILLEGAL DISTILLING

LOCAL LIQUOR OPTION*

NUMBER OF ILLEGAL STILLS SEIZED IN COUNTY

0-10000000
10000000-20000000
20000000-30000000
30000000-40000000
40000000-50000000
50000000-60000000
60000000-70000000
70000000-80000000
80000000-90000000
90000000-100000000
100000000-110000000
110000000-120000000
120000000-130000000
130000000-140000000
140000000-150000000
150000000-160000000
160000000-170000000
170000000-180000000
180000000-190000000
190000000-200000000

24

Traditional (folk) Architecture

Hot and wet

Hot and dry

Traditional (folk) Architecture

Cold and wet designs

Shape? Predominant cold wind direction

Clothing Styles

Know your thobe

Headwear N Africa and SW Asia

China-Japan-Korea

Similar but different.

NEXT

Culture and the Physical Environment