Cultural Competence

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Cultural Competence: Getting Started

- Diversity and World Cultures
- Regional Cultures
- Study-Abroad Abroad

How to Use This Guide
This guide will help you become more aware of different cultures and get started on building competence. Keep in mind that increasing knowledge, building skills, and changing attitudes to communicate efficiently and appropriately with others is an ongoing engagement with many different aspects in education.

- Understand more about cultures and cultural differences
- Become aware of local cultures
- Find quick facts about a country, an ethnic group, or a religion
- Learn about the history, cultures, and customs of a region or a country
- Prepare for going abroad

Technology
This subject of cultural awareness and competencies includes a variety of tools, such as International (interaction between at least two different cultures), International (within the same culture), cross-cultural (comparing cultures), and multicultural (more than one culture).

- Consult resources by historical periods
- Study through international experiences
- Read about different cultures and customs
- Learn about the history, cultures, and customs of a region or a country

Keep an Open Mind
Please note that the resources recommended within this guide may not reflect the University of Michigan or the library’s position. Although they may represent a particular perspective, often Western, with varying levels of candor, they should help you understand and respect some aspects of another culture without overlooking your own values. Nonetheless, these resources can generate new understandings, so it is important to keep in mind that every person online and elsewhere will view and interpret differently, keeping an open mind and adapting accordingly to specific circumstances may be helpful.

- Explore resources about open-mindedness
- Take a look at “On the University Open Mindset: A Psychological and Historical Analysis (2019)

Why is Cultural Awareness Important?
The University of Michigan has a large international and intercultural population, as demonstrated by the enrollment data below. You may encounter people with different customs and values that may affect communication and mutual understanding. Your cultural knowledge, sensitivity and appreciation will help you interact more respectfully with others and develop cross-cultural competency within the U.S. or abroad. Knowing about the local cultures of your destination may also help ease anxiety and allow for smoother and friendlier interactions.

University of Michigan - Ann Arbor
Student Enrollment by Country and Level
International Level Fall 2015 Total Enrollment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Total Enrollment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>India</td>
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<td>Vietnam</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

How to Increase Intercultural Awareness

- Pacific Cultural Training
- Online training resources with units and sections for learning about the concept of culture and how skills, attitudes and behavior affects appreciation to how others understand their own environment.

- Global Scholar Online Learning
- How to recognize online cultural resources when viewing and browsing sites. Using the style of other cultures online can be very effective and fun.

- World Editions Guide (resources)
- Visually appealing, short PPTs with simple suggestions for Americans traveling or visiting abroad.

- U-M Best Practices Traveling
- A U-M project website dedicated to helping students traveling abroad to learn how to cope with culture shock, stress, loneliness and more. Click on "Self-Assessment" to view an online mental health screening.

Ready to explore? Click on a tag below.

Cultural Competence: Getting Started
- Diversity and World Cultures
- Regional Cultures
- Study-Abroad Abroad

Need help finding additional information? Ask a Librarian.

Fun Reads
- Oberstudenten: Munich nightlife and beer culture
- From the big beer halls in Munich to the smaller, more intimate student locales, you will find a lot of fun and interesting experiences.
- Bavarian Country Life: A Look at Bavaria's Rich Culture and History
- From the beautiful architecture to the delicious food and drinks in Munich, you will find a lot of fun and interesting experiences.

- Shep Sheep That's My Sheep
- From the big sheep in Munich to the smaller, more intimate student locales, you will find a lot of fun and interesting experiences.
- Bavarian Country Life: A Look at Bavaria's Rich Culture and History
- From the beautiful architecture to the delicious food and drinks in Munich, you will find a lot of fun and interesting experiences.

- Across the puddle by Terry Pratchett
- From the big puddle in London to the smaller, more intimate student locales, you will find a lot of fun and interesting experiences.
- Bavarian Country Life: A Look at Bavaria's Rich Culture and History
- From the beautiful architecture to the delicious food and drinks in Munich, you will find a lot of fun and interesting experiences.

- The university open to the Open University
- From the big university in London to the smaller, more intimate student locales, you will find a lot of fun and interesting experiences.
- Bavarian Country Life: A Look at Bavaria's Rich Culture and History
- From the beautiful architecture to the delicious food and drinks in Munich, you will find a lot of fun and interesting experiences.

- U-M Resources
- Global Michigan
- For international opportunities and resources for study, work, and research.
- International Center
- For international students.
- BISS program
- Interdisciplinary program with courses, communication, and technology.
- Resources at U-M
- For the international learning.

- Library Contact
- Alexia Poures
- Contact: 209 North Library North

- U-M Portal in Foreign Languages
- Available in Arabic, Chinese, Dutch, French, German, Italian, Persian, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, and Turkish.

- Web Resources
- Subject feedback on Google Form.

This research project was completed by Stella Chen as part of the Michigan Library Scholars summer internship at the University of Michigan Library.
Cultural Competence: Diversity

Fun Resources

Standardized Land Use Maps

The Gender-Film-Canvas

The Uniform (website)

Child Care Television (website)

Whose English? Quiz (website)

There are many kinds of "English." Take this quiz and find out which kind of English you speak.

U of MI Resources

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

LIFEQUIFF is an initiative to acknowledge the education in Culture & Society, diversity and multiculturalism on the University of Michigan, where many students have attended.

The Program on Intergroup Relations

Diverse, inclusive, and equitable educational opportunities, including social justice, cultural competence, and intercultural relations. The University of Michigan - Office of Student Affairs.

Support Resources for Students

The Spectrum Center

External opportunities, resources and support available through the Spectrum Center to students with disabilities and learning differences. Help and resources for students with disabilities.

Expansive Report

This initiative addresses any issues related to student diversity and equity, including social injustices and inequalities. The website also features a list of frequently asked questions.

Services for Students with Disabilities and Learning Differences

Registration and accommodation services are available for students with disabilities and learning differences.

Center for Research on Learning and Teaching

The diversity and inclusion Global Learning initiative includes resources and guides related to diversity and inclusion in the classroom. Visit the Center for Research on Learning and Teaching website for more information.

American Diversity Demographics

There are many factors that contribute to our personal identity, such as accent, gender, and perception. The demographics vary greatly by groups and among communities.

American Indian and Alaska Native Americans as a Percentage of County Population: 2010

Blacks: 1940-2000

White: 1940-2000

Asian: 1940-2000

Hispanic: 1940-2000

American-Indian and Alaska-Native American: 1940-2000

American-Indian and Alaska-Native American: 2000-2010

The role of the University of Michigan

The Michigan experience is a unique educational opportunity that focuses on learning, growth, and development.

Some resources from the University of Michigan

Understanding Accents

"I have had a time understanding accents." (article)

This article discusses the challenges and benefits of understanding accents in different cultural contexts.

Get Involved

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Strategic Planning Efforts

Join a planning committee, participate in the conversation on be in action, or email ideas and input to diversity@umich.edu.

Visit the University of Michigan website for more information.
## Cultural Competence: World Cultures

Increase intercultural awareness and competencies for traveling abroad and living among culturally diverse populations.

### Basic Facts

#### World Factbook (website)

The CIA's basic statistical and factual reviews of countries' geography, society, government, economy, energy, communication, transportation, military and transnational issues.

#### Europa World Plus (database)

Regularly updated profiles, statistics and economic and political essays of regions and countries.

#### GlobalEdge (website)

Business-oriented insight to states, countries, trade blocs, markets and industries. Country short facts and statistics cover social tolerances. Includes external links to cultural resources.

#### NativePlanet Indigenous Mapping (website)

Demographic overview of indigenous communities in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Includes resource links for each group.

### News Sources

- **Newspaper Map**
  - Find newspaper websites by location on a map.

- **Library PressDisplay**
  - Browse electronic, recent issues of world newspapers by country.

### U-M Library Research Guides

- International, Regional, and National Data Sets
- News Sources
- Multicultural Studies
- Popular Culture
- Library Guide for International Students
- Intercultural Resources
- Indigenous Resources
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender & Queer Studies
- Women's Studies
- History (General)
- Musicology 130 - World Music
- Food Studies
- Religious Studies
- History of Art

### I want to browse by...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>People</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Series</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Global Road Warrior (database)**

This database provides basic country facts and lengthier articles on business, security, health, utilities, communication and entertainment. Addresses some stereotypes and demonstrates popular phrases in foreign languages. eBook versions available in Mirth.

**CultureGrams (database)**

Simple and easy to read overviews of over 200 countries, focusing on different populations' customs, lifestyles and societies from an American perspective. Includes a Kids, USA, Canada and World Edition.

**Global Affairs Canada Country Insights (website)**

The Canadian government's country profiles and guides to national cultures from Canadian and local perspectives. Includes resource links for additional information on culture, history, geography, etc.

**Commisceo Country Guides (website)**

Country guides discuss language, culture, customs and etiquette. This website also features additional blog posts regarding cultural awareness.

**Countries and Their Cultures (2001 ebook)**

National entries include information on history, ethnic relations, urbanism, government, society, economy, religion, health, arts, food, etc.

### Images, Videos & Graphs

**CalPhotos: People & Culture (website)**

Photo bank of people and places.

**Ethnographic Video Online (database)**

Videos of family, cultural identity, gender roles, arts, religion, etc.

**Hofstede Country Cultural Dimensions Ratings (website)**

Graphical representation of countries' ratings of power distance, individualism, masculinity, uncertainty avoidance, long term orientation & indulgence.
Cultural Competence: Regional Cultures

Increase intercultural awareness and competencies for traveling abroad and living among culturally diverse populations.

Click on a region on the map or select a link below:

- USA & Canada
- Latin America & the Caribbean
- Europe
- Middle East & Northern Africa
- Sub-Saharan Africa
- Asia & Oceania
Cultural Competence: USA & Canada

Increase intercultural awareness and competencies for traveling abroad and living among culturally diverse populations.

Adjusting to the U.S.

- U-M SNRE Cultural Adjustment (website)
- Guide and videos for culture shock, greetings and academic adjustment with a focus on the U.S.
- U-M International Center: Adjusting to the U.S. (website)
- Questions for international students to think about when adjusting to the U.S. and Ann Arbor.
- International Student Guide to the U.S. (website)
- Guide for international students adjusting to college and American life.

National Cultures

- Culture Shock! (USA & Canada)
  Travel guide titles by country. Covers land and history, society, customs, local views, lifestyle, food, touristic activities, language, work and fast facts. Commentary can be blunt and colloquial.
- Culture Smart! (USA & Canada)
  Travel guide titles by country. Covers country overview, various ethnic groups, values and attitudes, customs and traditions, etiquette, local lifestyle, entertainment, transportation, business and communication.
- Global Affairs Canada - Country Information Canada (website)
  Canadian government’s country insight and cultural information for Canada from local perspective. Covers communication, dress, social institutions, entertainment, stereotypes, etc.
- Kids.gov Cultures & Ethnic Groups (website)
  U.S. government’s recommended links to resources related to African, Asian, Hispanic and Native Americans, and Women.
- Interchange Learn About the U.S. (website)
  Recommendations for American books, TV/movies, music, sports, food, touristic attractions, as well as cultural activities in individual states.

Encyclopedia of Ethnic Groups

- Gale Encyclopedia of Multicultural America (2000 ebook)
  Entries by American ethnic group. Covers history, food, language, customs, greetings, social and gender dynamics, arts, media, etc.
- Multicultural America (2011 ebook)
  Entries by immigrant groups in the U.S. Covers background, migration and assimilation, demographic profile, impact on the U.S., later generations, notable people, etc. Includes timeline, map and statistics.
- Encyclopedia of Canada’s Peoples (1999 book)
  Entries by Canadian ethnic group. Covers origins, migration, community, family, culture, religion, politics, etc.
- A Native American Encyclopedia (2015 book)
  Entries organized by region and ethnic group. Includes overview, history, religion, government, customs, economy, dress, war and contemporary issues.

Images, Videos & Graphs

- American Indian History Online (database)
  Summaries, videos, slideshows, biographies, primary sources, maps and graphs on American Indian groups.

Can't find what you're looking for? Try these resources:

- CultureGrams
- Global Road Warrior
- GoInGlobal
- Encyclopedia of World Cultures
- MyWorldAbroad
Cultural Competence: Latin America & the Caribbean

Increase intercultural awareness and competencies for traveling abroad and living among culturally diverse populations.

Getting Started  Diversity  World Cultures  Regional Cultures  Study/Work Abroad

News Sources
- Newspaper Map
  Find newspaper websites by location on a map.
- Library PressDisplay
  Browse electronic, recent issues of world newspapers by country.

Academic Texts
- Latin America Reader series
  Titles by country. Anthologies of essays from different authors on history, politics and society.
- Perspectives on... series
  Anthology of essays on history, politics, society and culture that provide a multiperspective view.
- Perspectives on Las Americas (ebook)
  Includes discourse on identity, popular culture and transnational political culture.
- Perspectives on the Caribbean (book)
  Includes discourse on identity, beliefs and globalization.

U-M Library Research Guides
- AAS 473: Brazil History and Culture
- Anthropology 330: Mexico: Culture and Society
- Brazilian Studies
- Caribbean Art and Visual Culture
- DAAS 495: Transforming History: Haiti, Cuba and the Caribbean Region
- From Colonial Saint-Domingue to Independent Haiti
- LACS 321 Inca, Aztec and the Spanish Conquest
- LACS 321: Indigenous Identity and Community in the Neoliberal Andes
- Latin American & Caribbean Studies

National & Regional Cultures

Regional
- Pop Culture Latin America: Media, Arts, and Lifestyle (2005 book)
  Overview of contemporary Latin American popular culture. Covers music, social movements, sports, performances, tourism, literature, icons, language, media, cinema, religion and arts.
- Endangered Peoples of Latin America: Struggles to Survive and Thrive (2001 book)
  Chapters sorted by region and communities. Provides information on traditional economy, social and political organization, religion, and threats to survival.

National
- Culture Shock! ebook series (Latin America & the Caribbean)
  Travel guide titles by country. Covers land and history, society, customs, local views, lifestyle, food, touristic activities, language, work and facts. Commentary can be blunt and colloquial.
- Cultures and Customs of Latin America and the Caribbean series
  Titles by country. Introduces country and its history, then covers religion, customs, media, cinema, literature, and arts in more depth.
- Culture Smart! book series (Latin America & the Caribbean)
  Travel guide titles by country. Covers country overview, various ethnic groups, values and attitudes, customs and traditions, etiquette, local lifestyle, entertainment, transportation, business and communication.

References by Subject

History & Culture  Arts & Literature  Beliefs

History & Culture
- Encyclopedia of Latin American History and Culture (2008 ebook)
  Entries by concept. Covers Portuguese-speaking regions and includes people, places, works, policies, languages, etc.
- The Oxford Encyclopedia of Mexican American Cultures (2001 ebook)
  Entries by concept. Includes people, arts, religion, major civilizations' geography, cultural ecology, language and history.
  Entries by concept. Includes arts, literature, media, political and social institutions, biographies, etc.
- Historical Dictionaries of Latin America & The Caribbean book series
  Encyclopedia titles by country. Brief entries on concepts, major historical and recent events, places and people.

Images, Videos & Graphs

Videos
- Latin America in Video (database)
  Spanish video database for a variety of fields browsable by country.
- Americas (1993 video)
  English & Spanish video on issues that prevail in Latin America.

Graphs
- Glencoe World Geography textbook - Ch.8: The Cultural Geography of Latin America (PDF)
  Simple overview of Latin American people, history and culture. Includes graphs and maps for ethnic groups, languages, migration and urbanization, historical empires and religions.

Can't find what you're looking for? Try these resources:
Latin American Network Information Center (website)
CultureGrams  Global Road Warrior  GainGlobal  Encyclopedia of World Cultures  MyWorldAbroad

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Cultural Competence: Europe

Increase intercultural awareness and competencies for traveling abroad and living among culturally diverse populations.

Regional & National Cultures

All Resources  Print Only

Regional

Entries by ethnic group. Includes flag, map, descriptions of the people, their homeland, history, language, religion, etc.

Ethnic Groups of Europe: An Encyclopedia (2011 book)
Entries by ethnic group. Overview discusses history, demography, language, etc.

Eastern Europe: An Introduction to the People, Lands, and Culture (2005 book)
Volumes organized by region, entries by country. Covers geography and demography, minorities, language, political systems, cultural development, etc.

Encyclopedia of Eastern Europe: From the Congress of Vienna to the Fall of Communism (2000 book)
Entries by concept. However, there are country-specific entries on geography, art, culture, language, literature, etc.

Southeast Europe: People and Culture (website)
Select a country to view introductory text and additional articles related to art, dance & theater, film, gastronomy, literature, music and sports.

National

Culture Shock! ebook series (Europe)
Travel guide titles by country. Covers land and history, society, customs, local views, lifestyle, food, touristic activities, language, work and fast facts. Commentary can be blunt and colloquial.

Cultures and Customs of Europe book series
Titles by country. Introduces country and its history, then covers religion, customs, media, cinema, literature, and arts in more depth.

Culture Smart! book series (Europe)
Travel guide titles by country. Covers country overview, various ethnic groups, values and attitudes, customs and traditions, etiquette, local lifestyle, entertainment, transportation, business and communication.

Pop Culture Germany! (2006 book)
Overview of contemporary German popular culture. Covers music, social movements, sports, performances, tourism, literature, lichen, language, media, cinema, religion and arts.

Images & Videos

Europeana Collections (website)
Database of artworks, artifacts, books, videos and sounds from museums, libraries and universities across Europe.

Sputnik Images (website)
Photo bank of historical images and coverage of current Russian and international events. Website viewable in English and Russian.
Regional & National Cultures

Regional

Encyclopaedic Ethnography of Middle-East and Central Asia (2005 book)
Entries by ethnic group. Includes overview of geography and population, language, history, society, family, ethnic conflict, economy, religion, culture, etc.

Pop Culture Arab World!: Media, Arts, and Lifestyle (2005 book)
Overview of contemporary Middle Eastern popular culture. Covers music, social movements, sports, performances, tourism, literature, icons, language, media, cinema, religion and arts.

Endangered Peoples of Africa and the Middle East: Struggles to Survive and Thrive (2002 ebook)
Chapters sorted by region and communities. Provides information on traditional economy, social and political organization, religion, and threats to survival.

Global Connections: Middle East Culture (website)
Basic introduction to culture, language, religion of the Middle East in general, with timeline (up to 2002) and links to additional information.

National

Culture Shock! ebook series (Middle East & Northern Africa)
Travel guide titles by country. Covers land and history, society, customs, local views, lifestyle, food, touristic activities, language, work and fast facts. Commentary can be blunt and colloquial.

Cultures and Customs book series (Northern Africa) & Cultures and Customs of the Palestinians (2004 book)
Titles by country. Introduces country and its history, then covers religion, customs, media, cinema, literature, and arts in more depth.

Culture Smart! book series (Middle East & Northern Africa)
Travel guide titles by country. Covers country overview, various ethnic groups, values and attitudes, customs and traditions, etiquette, local lifestyle, entertainment, transportation, business and communication.

Images & Videos

Creative Dissent: Arts of the Arab World Uprisings (website)
The Arab American Museum's online exhibit of photos, graffiti images, videos and songs about the uprisings in the Arab World from 2010 to 2013. Curated by U-M associate professor & PhD student.

Yousef Jameel Centre for Islamic and Asian Art (website)
The University of Oxford Ashmolean Museum's online collection of art from the Islamic Middle East, China, Japan, Southeast Asia, India and the Himalayas.
Cultural Competence: Sub-Saharan Africa

Increase intercultural awareness and competencies for traveling abroad and living among culturally diverse populations.

### News Sources
- **Newspaper Map**
  - Find newspaper websites by location on a map.
- **Library PressDisplay**
  - Browse electronic, recent issues of world newspapers by country.

### Academic Texts
- **Global Nollywood: The Transnational Dimensions of an African Video Film Industry (ebook)**
  - Essays about the transformation, spread, audience and appropriation of Nollywood, Nigeria’s video film industry.
- **Perspectives on Africa (book)**
  - Anthology of essays on history, politics, society and culture that provide a multiperspectival view. Includes discourse on kinship, hunter-gatherers, beliefs, arts, gender relations, historical and modern transformations.

### U-M Library Research Guides
- **African and Diaspora Art and Visual Culture**
- **African Studies**
- **Lusophone Africa**

### Regional & National Cultures

#### Regional
  - Entries by ethnic group. Visual guide to history, language, ways of life, social structure, culture & religion.
  - Entries by region, country and major civilizations. Visual guide to history and peoples of countries.
  - Brief introductory entries on African language families, languages by country, and peoples and nations by country.
  - Broad introduction to African cultural diversity, gender dynamics, geomorphology, climate, history, population, economies, resources, current development and issues, etc.
- **Into Africa: A Guide to Sub-Saharan Culture and Diversity (2009 ebook)**
  - General introduction to African communities, communication, customs, business etiquette, travel tips and regional differences.

#### National
- **Culture Shock! ebook series (Africa)**
  - Travel guide titles by country. Covers land and history, society, customs, local views, lifestyle, food, tourist activities, language, work and last facts. Commentary can be blunt and colloquial.
- **Cultures and Customs of Africa book series**
  - Titles by country. Introduces country and its history, then covers religion, customs, media, cinema, literature, and arts in more depth.
- **Culture Smart! book series (Africa)**
  - Travel guide titles by country. Covers country overview, various ethnic groups, values and attitudes, customs and traditions, etiquette, local lifestyle, entertainment, transportation, business and communication.
- **Society and Culture Complete Report ebook series**
  - Entries by country. Information on gift-giving, greetings, holidays, life cycles, religion, sports, stereotypes, folklore, women, etc. Identical report and additional information on Global Road Warrior.
- **Historical Dictionaries of Africa series**
  - Encyclopedia titles by country. Brief entries on concepts, major historical and recent events, places and people.

### Websites

#### Art & Life in Africa
- Visual galleries and topic essays on art in and related to everyday life, education, ancient times, medicine, cultural exchange, etc. Country pages display key facts and figures, historical summary and local artworks.

#### Our Africa
- Country specific facts and figures, videos, images and descriptions of poverty, healthcare, food, daily life, people, culture, geography, nature, music, family, economy, education, jobs, history, politics, tourism, etc.

#### African Writing Online
- Short texts from African writers and articles about African literary works and authors.

#### AfricaGuide
- General African arts and culture, food, tribe, music, festivals information, basic country overviews, photo library and articles related to touristic travels in Africa.

#### Africa: The Art of a Continent
- The Guggenheim Museum’s introductory online exhibit to artifacts, films and photographs from Africa. Use the clickable map to view by region.

Can't find what you're looking for? Try these resources:
- CultureGrams
- Global Road Warrior
- GoInGlobal
- Encyclopedia of World Cultures
- MyWorldAbroad
Cultural Competence: Asia & Oceania

Increase intercultural awareness and competencies for traveling abroad and living among culturally diverse populations.

Regional & National Cultures

All Resources  Print Only

Regional

- Encyclopedia of the Peoples of Asia and Oceania (2009 book)
  Entries by ethnic group. Includes an overview of location, time period, ancestry and language, followed by a timeline and details about history, cultural identity, etc.

  Encyclopedic entries by ethnic group. Overview describes population and history.

- Encyclopedia of Modern Asia (2003 ebook)
  Entries by concept. Includes people, festivals, themes, and subject entries on architecture, cuisine, cinema, literature, etc.

- Charting the Pacific (website)
  Discover stories of lives in the Pacific and explore maps, country profiles, and regional statistics and issues.

National

- Culture Shock! ebook series (Asia & Oceania)
  Travel guide titles by country. Covers land and history, society, customs, local views, lifestyle, food, tourist activities, language, work and fast facts. Commentary can be blunt and colloquial.

- Cultures and Customs book series (Asia)
  Titles by country. Introduces country and its history, then covers religion, customs, media, cinema, literature, and arts in more depth.

- Culture Smart! book series (Asia & Oceania)
  Travel guide titles by country. Covers country overview, various ethnic groups, values and attitudes, customs and traditions, etiquette, local lifestyle, entertainment, transportation, business and communication.

- Etiquette Guides ebook series (China, Korea & the Philippines)
  Titles by country. Includes information on character and values of the people, social etiquette, business etiquette and useful expressions.

- The Encyclopedia of New Zealand (website)
  New Zealand government's online encyclopedia with entries on different ethnic groups, regions, creative and daily life, government, social concepts, nature, etc.

Images, Videos & Documents

- ECAI Pacific Language Mapping (website)
  Language atlas of the Pacific area, Southeast Asia, and Madagascar.

- Yousef Jameel Centre for Islamic and Asian Art (website)
  The University of Oxford Ashmolean Museum's online collection of art from the Islamic Middle East, China, Japan, Southeast Asia, India and the Himalayas.

- Trove (website)
  The National Library of Australia's digital collection of Australian books, images, newspapers, maps, music, websites, etc.

- Coconet TV (website)
  Interactive timeline, games, photos, blogs, videos about and from people in the Pacific.

- Tribal Asia (2004 book)
  A photobook of tribes in ancient Arabia, India, mountains, Central Asia and Malay archipelago.

Can't find what you're looking for? Try these resources:

CultureGrams  Global Road Warrior  GoinGlobal  Encyclopedia of World Cultures  MyWorldAbroad
Cultural Competence: Study/Work Abroad

Increase intercultural awareness and competencies for traveling abroad and living among culturally diverse populations.

Getting Started  Diversity  World Cultures  Regional Cultures  Study/Work Abroad

Things to keep in mind when preparing to go abroad...

U-Pacific Cultural Training
Online training resource with units and sections for learning about the concept of culture and how skills, attitudes and behaviors affect adaptation to a new and unfamiliar environment.

Global Scholar Online Learning
This interactive online course outlines what to do and expect before, during and after going abroad with many videos. Upon completion of the course, you can receive a 'Global Scholar Certificate.' Registration required.

World Citizens Guide (brochures)
Visually appealing, short PDFs with simple suggestions for Americans traveling or working abroad.

U-M Resilient Traveling
U-M's project website dedicated to helping students traveling abroad to learn how to cope with culture shock, stress, loneliness and more. Click on 'Self-Assessment' to take an online mental health screening.

Going Abroad Articles

MyWorldAbroad
Articles address various concerns related to international job and program applications, and emphasize that there are valuable skills to be learned before, during and after going abroad. Additional features include self-evaluations and resource links.

GoOverseas
Short overview of select countries and cities. Various articles about studying, teaching, interning and volunteering abroad. Includes program search.

GoAbroad.com
Read articles and reviews, and search for study, volunteer, intern and teach abroad programs.

TransitionsAbroad
Articles on work, study, travel and living abroad. This website has a large leisure travel section and its own online magazine.

Business-Specific Webpages

GoinGlobal
Country guides & USA/Canada City Career Guides provide business-focused cultural advice. Includes employer profiles, visa regulations, job application guidelines and trends, and jobs/internships listing.

World Business Culture
Business culture and etiquette guide to countries.

Business Insider Country Communication Chart
Diagrams of how different nationals negotiate business.

Passport to Trade European Business Culture
Select a country to read more about its business culture (communication, etiquette, etc.). Also includes information about the country, its history, cultural taboos, education, transport, being a foreigner in the country, and additional resource links.

How to speak and act?

Etiquette 101: Listen Up! (article)
How to say hello, good-bye, please, thank you and help in various languages, and country-specific greeting tips.

Journey/Woman What Should I Wear & Where (website)
*What to wear* tips for women traveling to select countries.

CultureCrossing Etiquette Guide (website)
Community-built and basic work and study etiquette guides by country.

Eating Abroad: The Cultural Resonance of Food (article)
An article that shares food tips for travelers.

U-M Resources

Global Michigan
U-M's portal for international opportunities and resources.

International Center
View more U-M webpages and resources for study, work & travel purposes.

Center for Global and Intercultural Studies
LSA-affiliated study abroad programs and tips. Click into "Intercultural Learning" under "Students" to view courses at U-M.

M-Compass
Portal to study or intern abroad programs.

U-M Library Research Guides

Study Abroad Top 10 Countries
Prep Course for Japan Trip - Library Guide
Career Resources
Funding for Students
Funding Sources for School of Public Health Graduate Students
Grants and Funding
Social Work: Global Practice
Stamps International Experience

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