

Unit

3

Cultural Identity

Cultural Geography

The following information corresponds to Chapters 4 & 5 in your textbook. Fill in the blanks to complete the definition or sentence. Note: All of the following information in addition to your reading is important.

What is Identity, and How are Identities Constructed? (Chapter 5)

- _____ is “how we make sense of ourselves.” (_____ = culture’s view of the differences between men and women)
- One of the most powerful ways to construct an identity is by _____; we define the “other” and then we define ourselves as “not the other.”
- _____ - a categorization based on skin color and other physical characteristics; racial categories are political and social constructs since they are predicated on the fact that some _____ differences (especially skin color) are more important than others (e.g. height).
 - _____ - a combination of genetic traits (e.g. eye color, body size).
 - _____ - the expression of those traits (e.g. brown eyes, tall build).

THE TRUTH ABOUT SKIN COLOR

- Sunlight stimulates the production of _____, which protects the skin from ultraviolet rays (more melanin = darker skin); also, vitamin ____ production is stimulated by the penetration of ultraviolet rays (less melanin = less skin pigmentation = more production of vitamin D).
- Natural selection in areas with _____ days in the winter and more oblique sun angles (e.g. higher _____, as in Northern Europe) favored those with less skin pigmentation.

- _____ - an ideology of difference that ascribes significance and meaning (usually negative) to culturally, socially, and politically constructed ideas based on phenotypical features.
- Notions of _____ supremacy are premised on the idea that groups with particular physical characteristics are more advanced, capable, or intelligent (_____ often arise out of these notions).

Residential Segregation

- _____ segregation (a.k.a. affinity segregation) is the “degree to which two or more groups live separately from one another, in different parts of the urban environment.”
- Overall residential segregation by race/ethnicity in the U.S. has been _____ from 1980 to 2000.
- _____ and _____ is when new immigrants to a city often move to areas occupied by older immigrant groups. In New York _____ “invaded” the immigrant _____ neighborhood of East Harlem; today often referred to as Spanish Harlem, or _____ (“neighborhood” in Spanish).
- Although New York City may identify _____ under one “box” they may be from many different places (e.g., Mexico, Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic,...)
- New immigrants often focus their attention on _____, creating businesses to serve the community and reflect their culture (rather than changing the facades of apartment buildings).

Ethnicity and Place

- The term “ethnic” comes from the _____ word *ethnos*, which means *people* or *nation*, but it is used in the contemporary world to label groups that share some prominent trait (but no single trait).
- The adjective, *ethnic*, refers to culture (traditions, customs, language, religion,...) and, in a more vague sense, to _____ ancestry (but it is different from race).
- _____ is a term often reserved for small, cohesive, culturally linked groups who stand apart from the dominant culture (often as a result of _____).
- It is estimated that the 200 or so independent countries recognized by the United Nations are made up of about _____ ethnic groups (increased migration has complicated this even further).
- If people identify define their ethnicity as “Swiss American”, this is problematic – due to the different languages and regions. The strongest identities in Switzerland are often at the _____ level (distinguishes cultural groups).
- The concept of ethnicity is very _____. Ex) Language groups that occupied North America before the arrival of the _____ (e.g., Iroquois, Apache, etc.) are generally not described as ethnic groups, while individual populations migrating from patterns of similar complexity in Europe are always called ethnic groups (e.g., Germans, Bohemians, etc.).

How Do Power Relationships Subjugate Certain Groups of People?

- _____ - “social relations stretched out”
- _____ - “articulations of those social relations as they have come together, over time, in that particular location”
- Power relationships can subjugate entire groups (e.g., data that undercounts the _____ of women). _____ (GNI) includes neither the unpaid labor of women in the household, nor the work done in the _____ economy (private, often home-based activities). If women’s work of this sort were given a dollar value, the world’s GNI could increase by as much as _____-_____!
- Although much of _____ is dominated numerically by women, they have difficulty in acquiring _____ from banks or _____ titles from the government; traps many in a cycle of poverty.
- Thousands of girls in _____ still have their marriages arranged; in 2001, more than 7,000 women *were recorded* as victims of _____.
- In general, areas with multiple ethnicities are more accepting of each other when the _____ is good; but resentment and blame rises during a downturn (“they took all the jobs”).
- Asians are often labeled as the “_____” (hardworking and prosperous); but most success has gone to the _____ wave of migrants, and lower paying jobs going to the _____ migrants.
- _____ has occurred in many southern cities in the U.S.; in southeastern Los Angeles, the Hispanic population jumped from 4% in 1960 to over 90% in 2000.
- In 1992, one of the worst riots broke out in southcentral Los Angeles (sparked by a “not guilty” verdict in the _____ trial); was the result of the impact of _____ loss (relocation of manufacturing jobs) & _____ changes (90% African American in 1970; about 50/50 African American and Hispanic by 1990).

Local and Popular Culture (Chapter 4)

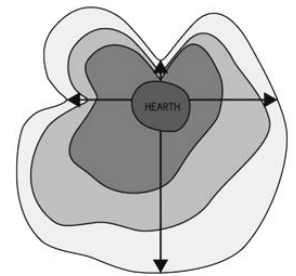
- _____ culture is small, incorporates a homogeneous population; typically rural and cohesive in cultural traits; _____ culture is large, incorporates heterogeneous populations; typically urban with quickly changing cultural traits.
- A _____ culture is a group of people who see themselves as a community, sharing experiences, customs & traits.
- _____ culture of a group = things constructed; _____ culture = beliefs, practices, values, etc.

How Are Local Cultures Sustained?

- During the 1800s, the U.S., Canada, Australia, Russia (colonial powers) ... all had official policies of _____.
- Today, many groups are working to push back assimilation and revive their culture; many local cultures work to avoid _____ - the process by which other cultures adopt customs & use them for their own benefit.
- With the rise of globalization comes the opposite effect of _____ (seeking out the regional (local) culture by peoples of an area and reinvigorating it in response to the uncertainty of the world). Cite at least TWO examples:
- Ethnic enclaves, or _____, reflect their inhabitants’ perceptions of the natural environments they left behind (and the one selected upon arriving); (e.g., Hasidic Jews in Brooklyn, or Italian Americans in the North End of Boston)
- _____ occurs when something that previously was not regarded as an object to be bought or sold, becomes an object that can be bought, sold, or traded; can be material or nonmaterial (e.g., observing Amish culture of Lancaster).

How is Popular Culture Diffused and Seen in the Cultural Landscape?

- _____ has been drastically altered by advances in transportation and communication; _____ explains how quickly innovations diffuse (being much faster through interconnected places).
- Typically, a hearth begins with _____ diffusion, then spreads through _____ diffusion.
- _____ occurs when people within a place produce an original aspect of popular culture, making it their own.
Give an example of this:



R. TIME-SPACE COMPRESSION

- The supremacy of the “Big Three” sports in the U.S. (baseball, basketball, football) have been challenged by _____ sports (surfing, X-Games,...); the proliferation of _____ has enabled these sports to gain popularity.
- _____ describes the loss of uniqueness of place; one place looks like the next (i.e., skyscrapers).
- _____ - _____ - cultural borrowing and mixing; what happens at one scale is not independent of what happens at other scales (e.g., strip in Las Vegas or the World Showcase at Epcot representing various parts of the planet).
- _____ is when people in a local place mediate and alter regional, national, and global processes.