Fulbright Hays: Crossroads of Civilizations

Curriculum project
Cultural Comparisons: Central Asia and Hispanic Countries

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Course Audience
Higher Education: students of basic levels in Spanish

Overview:
This curriculum project is designed to expose students to the cultural particularities of Central Asia comparing them with the ones from Hispanic countries. Students will prepare a short presentation about different topics of culture.

Student Learning Outcomes:
- Identify cultural differences among countries.
- Explore various cultural aspects of culture such as food, weather or language.
- Describe orally several aspects of Central Asia culture.

Procedure/Lesson sequence:
The lesson sequence described below can and should be adapted for diverse instructional contexts. This project emphasizes the oral production of the students based on various aspects of culture. Links to resources to help the students find information about the countries can be found in the “materials section.”

Step 1-Culture appreciation
-The professor will explain certain characteristics of Central Asia and Hispanic culture. There are some important links at the material section to talk about it.

Step 2- Instructions about their project presentations
Students will select the topic that they want to talk about in class and they also will be informed about the instructions to follow when they are presenting (see the materials).

Step 3-Dates for the presentations
The following class, the professor will bring the same list of topics for the presentations and the dates. If the class is large, the project can be in pairs.

Assessment:
The instructor can evaluate the student using the rubric added in this curriculum project (see materials).
Materials section

Information about Central Asia

Central Asia
https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asia_Central
Asia Central, región geoestratégica
https://elordenmundial.com/asia-central-region-geoestrategica/
El papel geoestratégico de Asia Central

Possible topics for the presentations

1. Comparing capitals
Astana
https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Astana%C3%A1n
Astaná la futurista capital de Kazajistán
https://mercuriopedia.wordpress.com/2015/04/21/astana-la-futurista-capital-de-kazajistan/

Ciudad de México
https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ciudad_de_M%C3%A9xico
https://www.visitmexico.com/es/destinos-principales/ciudad-de-mexico

2. Food
Gastronomía en Kazajistán
https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gastronom%C3%ADa_de_Kazajist%C3%A1n
Sabores de Kazajistán
http://kazajistanblues.blogspot.com/2007/06/sabores-de-kazajstn.html

Gastronomía de Perú
https://www.viajejet.com/platos-tipicos-de-peru/
https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gastronom%C3%ADa_del_Per%C3%BA
https://www.aboutespanol.com/diez-platos-fundamentales-de-la-cocina-peruana-1190601

3. Weather
El clima en Kazajistán
https://www.turismokazajistan.es/clima-en-kazajistan/
https://es.climate-data.org/country/83/

El clima en Chile
https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clima_de_Chile
https://www.bcn.cl/sit/nuestropais/clima.htm

4. La población
La población en Kazajistán
http://poblacion.population.city/kazajistan/
https://www.nuevatribuna.es/articulo/mundo/kazajstan-diversidad-y-belleza/20130812114738095523.html
La población en España
5. The economy
La economía en Uzbekistán
https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Econom%C3%ADa_de_Uzbekist%C3%A1n
https://datosmacro.expansion.com/paises/uzbekistan
La economía en Argentina
http://www.bancomundial.org/es/country/argentina/overview
https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Econom%C3%ADa_de_Argentina

6. Tourism
El turismo en Uzbekistán
http://panavision-tours.es/viajes/uzbekistan-turismo/
http://www.panavision-tours.com/viajes/uzbekistan-turismo/
El turismo en Colombia
https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Turismo_en_Colombia
http://www.colombia.travel/es

7. Language differences
Las lenguas en Uzbekistan
https://viajarfull.com/que-idioma-se-habla-en-uzbekistan/
Las lenguas en Bolivia
https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lenguas_de_Bolivia
https://www.ru.nl/lenguassp/lenguas/lenguas/

8. Geography
Geografía en Uzbekistán
https://it.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geografia_dell%27Uzbekistan
https://elordenmundial.com/uzbekistan-esclavo-de-su-geografia/
Geografía en Estados Unidos
https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geografia%25C3%25ADa_de_Estados_Unidos

Instructions for the presentations

1. Prepare a title for your presentation.
2. Have an introduction, questions for the audience and conclusions.
3. Use a power point (with transitions and animations).
4. The length of your presentation is 7 minutes (practice before).

Rubric to evaluate the presentations (see next page)
### Oral Presentation Rubric

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Excellent - A</th>
<th>Good - B</th>
<th>Fair - C</th>
<th>Insufficient – D/F</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Preparation</strong></td>
<td>Shows preparedness and practice; creates a coherent and complete presentation. Material is original and well organized [15-13]</td>
<td>Few preparation problems, but overall performance is good; material is organized. [12-10]</td>
<td>Occasional preparation problems, but do not interfere with overall performance. [9-8]</td>
<td>Evident lack of preparation and/or organization interferes with task. [&lt;7]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Content</strong></td>
<td>Shows some creative production. Presents complete information with details. [25-23]</td>
<td>Presents an organized presentation but some of the information is incomplete / vague [22-19]</td>
<td>Presents a presentation lacking material. Information is incomplete / vague [18-10]</td>
<td>Incomplete/ illogical presentation. Basic to non-information provided. [&lt;9]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grammar</strong></td>
<td>Accurately uses known grammar structures; uses diverse structures to ask and answer questions related to topic. [25-22]</td>
<td>Uses known grammar with few errors; repeats same grammar pattern to ask and answer questions related to topic. [22-19]</td>
<td>Uses known grammar with errors; repeats very simple grammar pattern to ask and answer questions related to topic. [18-10]</td>
<td>Poor use of basic grammar, frequent errors; repeats same grammar pattern to ask and answer questions related to topic. [&lt;9]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fluency</strong></td>
<td>No pronunciation errors. Converes with appropriate expressions; fluent, natural flow of speech; few pauses. [10-9]</td>
<td>There are few (4) errors in pronunciation. Converes without expression, some pauses and hesitations. [8-7]</td>
<td>There are some (6) errors in pronunciation. Converes without expression, there are pauses and hesitations. [6-5]</td>
<td>More than 5 errors in pronunciation affect understanding. Long pauses, hesitations and backtracking. [&lt;5]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Comments:**