Assignment 2. Report on Ethnicity and Culture of a Minority or Indigenous Group
(40 points; due November 15)

For this report you will investigate and summarize a minority or indigenous ethnic or cultural group (a list of recommended groups will be provided). The objective is to develop a sensitivity to the cultural practices and perspectives of an under-represented cultural group. Your report will focus on defining characteristics, practices, and values of a particular ethnic or cultural group.

An ethnic group is defined as people who share a common racial heritage, language, and religion or system of beliefs. Ethnic groups generally have a shared culture, which is the total knowledge, attitudes, and habitual behaviors shared and transmitted by members of a society. Many of these groups have been involved in some degree in the conflicts and wars that have unfolded in the past few decades, this is a subject that will likely warrant some discussion for many. Be careful to maintain the focus on culture, rather than creating a summary of conflict. Be sure to use your textbook as a starting point.

In researching your ethnic/cultural group, begin with developing an understanding of some of the essential cultural characteristics of the group. Such characteristics should include:

- geographic distribution (identify the realm and regions in which the people are found; include a map)
- migration history, formative historical events, and ethnic affiliation
- language, religion (and sect), and cultural practices (choose a representative example or two practices)
- development status, living conditions, economic activities, agriculture etc.
- Issues and challenges (may conflicts); interaction with other ethnic groups may be included here.

Avoid the temptation to create a laundry list, instead working to create a picture narrative of the people, their culture and perspectives.
Paper standards/guidelines
— Length of paper is to be between 1500 and 2000 words (see word count in status bar along bottom margin of screen in MS Word)
— Corrected for grammar and spelling
— Reference content from your textbook.
— Paper follows logical flow including introduction, body and conclusion
— Sources are cited in body of the text and in a List of References at the end of the document
— Include at least 1 map in your report
— Submit to Canvas
— Encyclopedia sources such as Wikipedia may NOT be used as a source

Please see the [GEOG 8 Research Guide](#) available on the Shasta College Library website.