

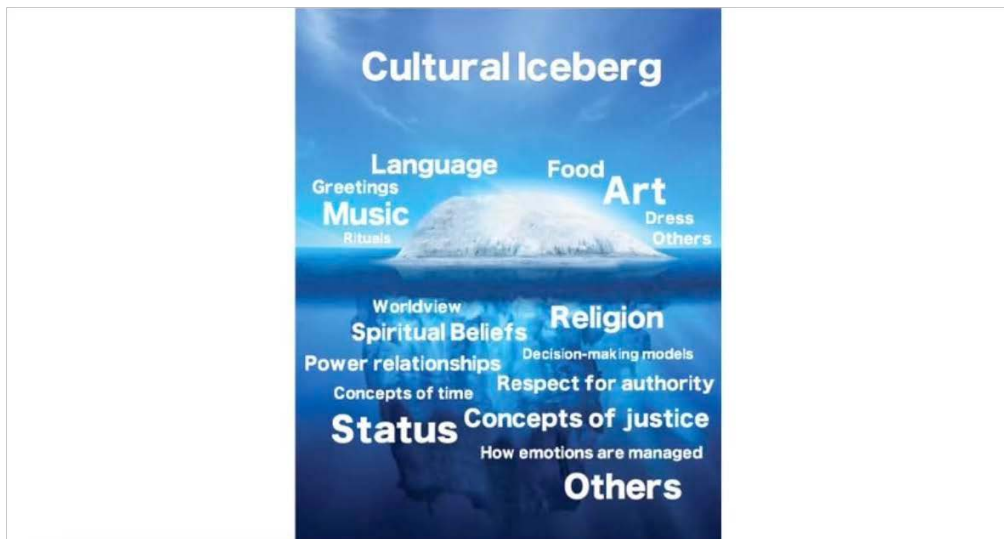
A NOTE ABOUT CULTURE

DEAR LIBRARIANS,

A brief note about culture. This material is taken from Project Ready <https://ready.web.unc.edu/section-1-foundations/module-7/>

“When asked to define themselves ethnically and culturally, some educators have a very difficult time... The difficulty often stems from previous schooling and socialization since the Anglo-European perspective in schools defines the average ‘American’ as one who is White” (1993, p. 102). Dominant culture can be difficult for white people to discern, but “when one examines the ‘common culture,’ the core is primarily Anglo-European values, beliefs, and achievements” (Hidalgo 1993, p. 103). “White culture” is, in fact, a culture.

Each of the aspects of culture identified here is not a fixed trait of a person, but rather something that arises from how that person participates in the activities, or practices, of the communities they are a part of (Gutierrez and Rogoff, 2003). Each person has a dynamic repertoire of these practices, which “is developed, refined, and transformed through an individuals’ prolonged participation in cultural communities” (Parsons, Travis, and Simpson, 2005, p. 186). These practices may be explicit, like playing games, or implicit, like sharing values. The iceberg model of culture, explained in the video below, explores this distinction between explicit and implicit cultural practices.



<https://youtu.be/woP0v-2nJCU>