The primary purpose of this assignment is to have you explore your background and its roots. In order to fully appreciate culture and other’s values, it is essential that you explore and understand your own. To facilitate your process of understanding culture, you are required to speak to a family member (or a few) to learn about the roots of your family, their values, and practices. The total points for this assignment is 25 points and the length of the assignment is 5-6 pages double spaced.

Students must submit an essay form paper. Margins are to be set at 1 inch and the text is double-spaced with 12 point font. It is recommended that students include the highlighted sections below (e.g., General Background) in their papers to facilitate reading. Often, students have difficulty with transition and these sections can assist with writing.

**General Background (2 points)**
- Tell me about yourself – region of birth, region raised, age, sexuality, education background, marital status, children, generation
- What is your ethnic background/race and ethnicity?
- Where do you specifically come from?

**Questions about Immigration/Visit to the States (6 points)**
- Describe your family’s historical immigration/migration patterns to or within the US
- Ask them about their migration experiences (struggles, dreams) in coming to the US
- What was your parents’ (or their parents’) occupation upon arrival?
- What is their career occupation today?
- What have been your parents’ experiences with mainstream culture?
- Do they still maintain ties with their homeland/home?

*If you are an Immigrant or International Student, please answer the following questions:*
- When did you come to America?
- What promoted to you to come to the states?
  - Did your parents support this decision? Explain
- How long have you been in the states?
- What has been your migration experience?
- Do you maintain family contact? If so, how?
- What has been your experience in being away from family?
- Have your parents ever been in the states?
  - Do they want to come and live here?
  - What keeps them in their native land?

- Do you have any family in the states?
  - Who are they? (maternal or paternal aunts, uncles?)
  - Do you see them?
  - What made them come to the US?
  - How long have they been here?

- Why did they come?
- What was their occupation upon arrival
- What is their career occupation now?

Due: Week 3, Wed. at the start of class
**FAMILY STRUCTURE (4 POINTS)**
- Describe your family nuclei
  - Do you have any siblings?
  - Do you come from a single parent household?
  - Were you adopted? Did you go through foster care?
  - Did you grow up in a traditional family household?
  - What is the primary language spoken in your home?
- Describe your hosting family (if you have one)
  - What is the family structure?
  - Do they have children?
  - How did you get connected to this family?
  - How easy is it for you to communicate with them?
  - What has been challenging in relation to culture? Why?

**FAMILY VALUES (8 POINTS)**
Identify the traditional values and customs practiced in your family
  - Values to consider: religion, spirituality, important dates celebrated
  - Has your family passed its ethnic practices and values?
If an immigrant, have your cultural practices changed since coming to the US? Explain
How has the diversity of culture in America influenced your beliefs and practices?
What role has assimilation had on the new generations of your family?

**EXTRA 5 POINTS: WRITING, COMPREHENSION, AND ORGANIZATION – OVERALL QUALITY WRITING**
Papers must be well organized in their structure. Make sure to have topic sentences and that your paper is easy to follow. If you have trouble writing, it is recommended you go to the writing center. Consistent issues include: passive voice, verb tense, sentence transition issues, excessive long paragraphs, sentence fragments, lack of parallelism, and wordiness.

Due: Week 3, Wed. at the start of class