

## Cultures by Regions

**Curriculum Leader:** Chellie Skoog

**Notes by:** Chellie Skoog

**Participants:** Ariana Stevens, Branden Ramoth, Danielle Deer, Tami Dotomain, Julie Kenick, Nick Pavloff, Dodi Randall, Ellen Simpson, and Beth Napoleon

**Photos by:** N/A

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([ankn.uaf.edu/Publications/clipart/](http://ankn.uaf.edu/Publications/clipart/))

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**Subject:**

- Cultures by Region

**Duration:**

- 2 hour class

**Description:**

This 2-hour class focuses on the five cultural regions as defined by the Alaska Native Heritage Center. This class will allow us to explore the differences and the similarities between the five cultural regions of Alaska and to gain a better understanding of the ways in which Native people made the most of the resources they had to work with within their geographic areas.

**Goals:**

1. To increase the participants knowledge of native cultures by region
2. To discuss the differences in culture based on geographic regions and resources
3. Participants will better understand the difference and similarities specific to the unique tribal environment that we share

**Objectives:**

Participants will be able to:

1. Identify the importance and usefulness of understanding the various cultures of Alaska
2. Share the regional information with others
3. Appreciate the many differences and similarities of Alaskan Native cultures

**Materials:**

- Powerpoint presentation summarizing ANHC's information and incorporating information from other resources.

**Procedure:**

Utilizing information collected by the Alaska Native Heritage Center and several resources listed below, the PPT presentation covers the geographical regions within the state of Alaska and the differences between those regions with regard to: housing and settlements, tools and technology utilized, cultural and social organization, clothing and regalia, subsistence patterns, traditions and ceremonies, transportation, language and trade. The PPT has several photos for reference. This document is a simple summary and is not all inclusive which is why it is important to work together and to utilize the knowledge base of the tribal members and class participants to round out the information available. This topic and the PPT resource are intended to be the starting points for deeper discussions within the group with regard to each topic and each region.

*IMPORTANT:*

The information shared in the PPT presentation is primarily a culmination of information supplied by ANHC. Like all research and presentations, the information is incomplete and left to some interpretation. Not all participants will agree with the ideas or information shared.

**Tips:**

Utilize the participants' knowledge and experiences to round out the information presented.

**Assessment and/or Next Steps:**

How do we live today? So different from our origins  
Learn more about the hunting practices of different AK Native areas  
Learn more about Inupiaq / Yupik dancing & language  
Learn more about Storytelling  
Learn even more about each of the cultures  
Learn how to share this information with others  
Let's build an Umiak!  
Let's gather Greens!

**Special Comments:**

Participants enjoyed the PPT of the different cultures  
Participants learned about their own heritage  
People are more willing to talk about and know about AK History & Native cultures  
Enjoyed learning about the shapes and construction of the Native dwellings  
Very thorough research and information

**Other Resources:**

Alaska's Digital Archives - <http://vilda.alaska.edu/cdm4/pathway.php>  
Alaska Native Heritage Center - <http://www.alaskanative.net/>  
Chandonnet, Anne - Alaska's Native Peoples

Langdon, Steve J. - The Native People of Alaska: Traditional Living in a Northern Land  
Microsoft Encarta Online Encyclopedia 2009 - <http://encarta.msn.com>  
Oil Lamp Video - <http://www.isuma.tv/lo/en/arnait/qulliq-oil-lamp>

**Photos of Class Participation:**

None Available

**Impact:**