

Kalenne: Definitions of Culture

The total of the inherited ideas, beliefs, values, and knowledge, which constitute the shared bases of social action

The total range of activities and ideas of a group of people with shared traditions, which are transmitted and reinforced by members of the group

The attitudes, feelings, values, and behavior that characterize and inform society as a whole or any social group within it

The behaviors and beliefs characteristic of a particular social, ethnic, or age group

The sum total of ways of living built up by a group of human beings and transmitted from one generation to another.

Does anyone have other things to add?

Is culture transmitted?

Cultures can combine, dual cultures

Are cultures voluntary or enforced?

Why is it important for our leaders to be inclusive?

Opportunity for us to learn about other cultures, as well as assist them in integrating
Form relationships with the FY students – feel included, continue connecting with their
Leader (transition)

Positive image of UBC

MUG Groups will not be decided culturally – MUG's must be able to balance values that their students may hold (diversity to balance)

University – about learning (everyone, you're included!). how do the relationships that you are a part of impact your learning? Cultural understanding

Peeps from a big family, commuters, different regions of origin, etc

Place and Promise

UBC is a safe place for significant conversations across profound cultural difference.

Diversity and Inclusivity

What are some potential difficulties that you, your OL's (orientation leaders) may encounter

Assumptions about how much time a person spends on campus (lots of free time on campus [res student w/o part time job?] vs less time on campus [commuter w/ part time job])

Space – how do diverse people feel when it comes to personal space?

Icebreakers

Word choice and usage – use of slang that may not be acceptable

Being inclusive in our language, also Clear (less colloquial language may be necessary [ie group of international students [GALA]])

Safety on campus – lots of people assume that Vancouver is a really safe environment – certain things that they need to be aware of (boundaries)

English – non-first language

Social norms in conversation – interrupting someone's speech may seem irregular in some cultures while normal in others

MUG – seems like authority figure at first stage (first face at UBC for many) – authority figures =not figures that can be connected with in some cultures

Difference in laws – not aware of differing laws between countries, particularly the ones that they will encounter here in BC/Van/Canada

Cultural Lenses – interpreting actions of others in terms of your own culture – can lead to incorrect assumptions on the person's state

UBC's Culture

Lecture halls, group learning, safety (already mentioned). **What else?**

Greek system – assumptions on people in the Greek system

Acronyms – what is the SUB anyway? FY's don't necessarily know what these acronym's mean

Age – most FY students are 17-18yrs old

Place of Residence – Rez or Commuter? Most on campus = commuters

People from outside Vancouver – may have questions that many Vancouverites assume are common knowledge