

Assignment #2: Exploration of Cultural Diversity Paper

Assignment #2 Guidelines:

Students will choose a novel listed below which explores some facet of cultural diversity. Students who wish to choose a novel not on this list must get prior permission from the instructor.

Read the novel and write a 4-6 page paper, which includes:

- 1) A brief description of a major character in terms of age, personality, race, class, ethnicity, ability, sexual orientation, religious preferences and gender (only discuss what you know about the character)
- 2) A description of the cultural identity of the character in terms of values, norms and beliefs
- 3) A description of the similarities and differences between you and the chosen character in terms of human development, privileges, values, customs, educational and vocational opportunity
- 4) A discussion of the challenges that you would face in confronting your own biases, assumptions, values if this character were a client assigned to you. How would you confront those differences?
- 5) A discussion of social work's value, mission and ethics and how they would influence and shape your work with this character.

Novels:

- ~~No Disrespect by Sister Souljah~~
- ~~The Gold at Winton Farm by Sister Souljah~~
- ~~Life for Mrs. Ain't Dead No Crystal Stair by Susan Shookman~~
- ~~Go Fish by Rachel Cusk~~
- ~~Simon St. Laurent by Simon St. Laurent~~
- ~~The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime by Mark Haddon~~
- * Mothers by Britt Barnett
- ~~Sam Amici by Lisa Genova~~
- ~~Unbroken and Unbowed by Shirley Chin~~

* Mothers by Brit Bennett

Rubric: Introduction to Social Work/ Cultural Diversity Paper

	Novice (1)	Approaching Competence (2)	Competence (3)	Mastery (4)
Quality of Writing- 10%	Grammatical, punctuation, and spelling errors are common; Language obscures meaning. APA format incorrect or missing.	Paper contains many grammatical, punctuation and spelling errors; Language sometimes lacks clarity; Inappropriate word choices. APA format attempted with several errors.	Rules of grammar, usage, and punctuation are followed with only some errors; Language is generally clear and appropriate. APA format correct with only minimal errors.	Rules of grammar, usage, spelling, and punctuation are followed with nearly no errors; Language is clear and precise; sentences consistently strong. APA format is 100% correct.
Content-30%	Did not follow guidelines for assignment.	Followed guidelines partially- picked a character, described character but provided little to no insight into cultural identity of character, described similarities and differences between you and the character; but did not discuss the challenges they would face in confronting their own biases; discussed social work values, mission and ethics but did not describe how they would influence or shape their work with the character	Followed guidelines but did not discuss social work values, mission and ethics and how it would influence and/or shape their work with the character.	1) Followed guidelines completely- describes major character in terms A brief description of a major character in terms of age, personality, race, class, ethnicity, ability, sexual orientation, religious preferences and gender (only discuss what you know about the character) 2) A description of the cultural identity of the character in terms of values, norms and beliefs 3) A description of the similarities and differences between you and the chose character in terms of human development, privileges, values, customs, educational and vocational opportunity 4) A discussion of the challenges that you would face in confronting your own biases, assumptions, values if this character

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					were a client assigned to you. How would you confront those differences? 5) A discussion of social work's value, mission and ethics and how they would influence and shape your work with this character.
Self- Reflection 30%	Little to no evidence of effort to self- examine cultural identity or monitor practice	Beginning effort to self- examine cultural identity, but lacks depth or is not consistent throughout paper.	Self- evaluation of cultural identity reflects an effort to look honestly at one's own practice	Criteria in "Competence met" but includes more than one area of self- discovery which are new elements of students' self- awareness.	
Cultural Competence- 30%	Little to no evidence of effort to explore cultural diversity of character	Beginning effort to explore cultural diversity of character and differences and sameness	Explores cultural identity of character, explores differences and sameness but does not discuss challenges they would face in confronting their own biases and assumptions and how they would differences	Explores cultural identity of character in depth, explores differences and sameness, discusses the challenges they would face in confronting their own biases, assumptions and values; discusses social work values, mission and ethics and how this would shape their work with the character	