

Unit Title	<p>Unit 2: Understanding Cultures – Building Bridges Across Cultures In Communities</p> <p><i>(See Related Topic: Module 1/Unit 3-Everyone Has Culture; Module 2/Unit 2-Bridging Cultural- Language Barriers & Module 3/Unit 2-Employer-Employee Relations)</i></p>
Time Needed	90 Minutes
Why Is This Important To Know?	<p>As with most new immigrants, there is a period of adjustment which can be difficult and even devastating for some. Cultural shock and a lack of understanding as to how the new society functions and how they fit-in, are major obstacles that new residents confront. Language differences can be a significant barrier to developing understanding between existing residents and the immigrant community. If properly trained, the extension professional is in an excellent position to help bridge some of the gaps and serve as a catalyst in the community to help create an atmosphere of humanity, understanding, caring and harmony.</p>
Objectives/Purpose	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To teach the meaning of culture; 2. To explore the origins of major cultural groups in the community; 3. To determine how culture affect values, attitudes, work habits, and community and economic development. 4. To build cross-cultural understanding and acceptance of community diversity.

Utilization	<p>Educators will be provided with printed/graphic materials which highlight several well established cultural groups in the U.S. and in their community. Participants will be selected to discuss with other group members their knowledge of one of the cultural groups, including their values, work ethic, attitudes and assumptions. Group members will be asked to assess the validity of the information the participant has given. (20 Minutes)</p> <p>A discussion of the definition of culture and the role culture plays in community development and economic progress will be conducted. Training participants will be asked to share with the group what they consider as key aspects of their own culture and how certain characteristics cross cultural lines. A review of one immigrant group's establishment and evolution in a major U.S. city is considered for identifying methods and approaches that may be applied to local immigrant circumstances and conditions. (70 Minutes)</p>
Supporting Materials	Printed graphic materials-handouts; Power Point Presentation; Modules I, II, and III
Additional Resources	Flip chart, markers
References	<p>http://www.immigration.ca/discussion/default.asp</p> <p>http://www.racematters.org/floridathirdinimmigrants.htm</p>