

## **Examples of Assignments with IDI-specific language**

### **IDI Reflection**

After our class IDI debrief at orientation, Briefly describe your IDI experience indicating where you think you are on the IDI continuum (realizing that most of us are in the ‘denial to minimization’ stages) and how you plan to approach your personal intercultural development during the course by avoiding judgmental thinking, looking for similarities and when differences are encountered, asking why these things might be done differently in this culture and how you might adapt to working effectively within this different context.

### **Guided Reflections**

Write 1-2 page reflections (following the Guided Reflection Outline below). Be sure to reflect on this experience in the context of the IDI and from what perspective you likely will experience difference: Look for similarities with your culture and if you noticed there are differences, describe in a non-judgmental way and from the point of view of why you think things are done differently here.

Guided Reflection Outline:

- What you experienced (what did you do; provide some details);
- What you thought about the experience;
- How you felt about the experience (did this feel like a cultural experience; why or why not?)
- What meaning you made from the experience?
- Write this with the context of our class IDI Feedback not judging “good or bad” but reflect on the cultural aspect of the experience in terms of commonalities with and differences from your culture focusing on why things might be done differently and how you might respond differently or adapt to those differences.

### **Final Reflection Paper**

Based on your experience and the IDI as it relates to the developmental model for intercultural sensitivity, develop an Reflection paper, video presentation, or other creative form of expression describing your learning experience with regard to culture and the topic of this course.

- How have your views changed or been reinforced about similarities and differences between your host culture and your own?
- What are Key Similarities you noticed?
- What are Key Differences you noticed and why do you think these things are done differently without judging whether the difference is good or bad?
- What happened during the course that reinforced or changed previously held beliefs about sustainability and culture?
- Think about all you have experienced and learned... then look back on your IDI feedback...look at your daily journal and reflect on your total experience and your personal journey in the course and try to describe the impact on your world perspective. It might be helpful to think of each assignment, the IDI, each reflection and journal entry as individual stepping stones along the way. Walk through these in your mind until you come to the end. Then describe the journey and include things like what were your fears, excitements, expectations? Were they realized or unrealized? What are the remaining unanswered questions?
- How well do you feel you were able to utilize the concepts from the IDI to help you process the experience and develop your ability to find similarities, understand differences and adapt to a differences in another culture?
- Now that you have had some time to reflect on this experience, when you close your eyes and think about this experience, what mental images comes to mind, what are their meanings to you and how has the experience affected you?

**Try to model the thinking process for/with your students**

For example, if you found something that you liked or did not like model the thought process with the class. –X happened and I did not like it. (Don't stop there)...-Why did I not like it? ...What did I not like about it?....What reasons can I come up with that would explain why this happened this way in this culture?....Can I take the point of view of someone in this culture where this is the norm?...what can I do to adapt to this that would help me not perceive this as something I “do not like” but as a window into the thinking of this culture.

**Debrief experiences with your students often**

**Find the ‘content’ and ‘culture’ ‘teachable moments” in those debrief discussion.**

**Help students to make this thought process a habit.**

***Source: Dr. Michael White, Associate Dean in College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences***