

Individual in Community Project

Rationale: To fulfill one of the goals of our Hub unit, *Individual in Community*, you will engage with another community that you're not familiar with and reflect on your experience in writing as well as share your experience with your peers. First, this activity will help you develop a sense of community. Second, you will learn about another community and teach other students about that community.

Instructions:

1. **Attend an event.** First, attend a **BU event or a local event** that you have never been to and that focuses on issues and communities you are **NOT** very familiar with. The goal of this activity is to **educate** yourself about another community—so, while you are encouraged to have fun too, make sure not to lose track of the task itself. Some examples of relevant events are cultural festivals, lectures, sporting events, religious services, etc. If you'd like to find out the schedule of various BU events, this Web Site should be helpful: <https://bu.campuslabs.com/engage/events>. Take notes during the event and take photographs/screenshots, if allowed (if not, you are encouraged to create a drawing or a sketch). You can also collect any relevant and informative artifacts, such as handouts, brochures, etc. Finally, note any questions about the event and the community it represents. *If you are interested in participating in an event that is not listed here, please talk to your instructor to get approval in advance.*
2. **Educate yourself.** You will then do some informal research to learn more about that community. The goal is to gain more context and to answer the questions you noted during the event. The type of research you conduct and the kinds of sources you use will largely depend on the questions you have; for example, you could read articles online, talk to a member of that community or a BU professor with expertise in that area, or watch a movie about that community, etc.
3. **Write a reflection.** Next, you will write a semi-formal reflection about your experience. Your written reflection should be written in a semi-formal manner. While the text can be more personal and creative than in a typical paper, keep in mind that you are writing to an academic audience. This means you should use an appropriate register, as well as proofread and polish your writing before submitting it. The reflection should be between **350-500 words long**. If you'd like to include any visual aids, please paste them directly into your file. In your reflection, make sure to:
 - **Introduce the event and the community.** List the event's name/type, the date and time of the event, and the purpose of the event. In addition, briefly explain why you chose this event.
 - **Describe the event in detail.** Use your notes to describe the event. In addition, explain what you learned about the community from this event and what questions arose in your mind during the event.
 - **Provide additional information.** Explain what research you conducted to learn more about the community and summarize the most important and interesting information, as well as try to answer the questions you had posed to yourself.
4. **Educate others.** Each student will have opportunities to share his/her experience with your peers. Please note that the goal is for us to learn something from YOU. You are encouraged to show us your photos and any other relevant artifacts or materials you gathered during the event or during your research. During our group discussions, you will first **introduce the event and the community**. It would be a good idea to tell your peers what the event is, when the event took place, and why you chose this event. Next, **describe the event in detail**. It would be helpful for you to explain what you learned about the community and what questions arose in your mind during the event. You are also welcome to **provide some additional information**. For example, you can explain what research you conducted to learn more about the community and summarize the most important and interesting information you gained from your research, as well as answer the questions you had posed to yourself. Depending on the number of participants, you may have about 3-5 minutes to share your thoughts. You're of course encouraged to ask your peers any questions you might have.