

RESTAURANT EXERCISE
Anthropology 230
Spring 2006

DUE: Monday, March 6, 2006

The purpose of this exercise is to give students experience with another culture through its food. This exercise has four parts.

- 1) Choose an ethnic restaurant that serves a type of food that you have not eaten previously. The restaurant should NOT be part of a chain and should NOT be take-out. Good choices within walking distance of campus include Ali Baba Middle Eastern Cuisine (175 East Main St), Star of India Restaurant (100 Elkton Rd), Cappadocia (Turkish -1108 S. College Ave -inside 1st State Diner), Saigon Restaurant (Newark Shopping Center), La Tolteca Restaurant (Newark Shopping Center), and Mayflower Japanese Restaurant (Newark Shopping Center). If you have transportation, there are many other possibilities within close driving distance (e.g., Korean, Jamaican, Japanese, Irish, etc.) and further away in Wilmington and Philadelphia. Look in the Yellow Pages or on the Web for ideas and be adventurous. If you are uncertain about whether or not your choice is an acceptable one, check with the instructor.

- 2) Once you have selected your restaurant, do internet or library research on the cuisine of that culture. Find out about the important ingredients and spices, major dishes and how they are prepared, served, and eaten, and information on manners and hospitality.

- 3) Eat a meal at your selected restaurant. Be adventurous with your food order and observant to your reactions to the food and surroundings.

- 4) Write a report that includes:
 - a. an introduction, indicating your purpose, the restaurant you chose, why you chose it, when and where you ate there, whom you ate with, and any other pertinent information (minimum 1 paragraph)
 - b. a summary of what you learned from your internet/library research about the culture's cuisine (minimum 2 paragraphs)
 - c. a description of the restaurant's atmosphere (decor, staff, etc) and your reactions to it (minimum 1 paragraph)
 - d. a description of the food that you and your companions ordered and your reaction to it (minimum 2 paragraphs)
 - e. a conclusion, indicating what you learned from this experience (e.g., about yourself, another culture, fieldwork, ethnocentrism, etc) (minimum 1 paragraph)
 - f. a bibliography of at least 3 references used for internet/library research

This assignment is worth 50 points. "A" grades will be given only to those papers that address each of the required sections thoroughly and well, that evidence adventurousness in restaurant and food selection by the author, and that are well written. To get an idea of what I consider to be an "A" paper, see samples on my web page.

Student papers should be no longer than 5 type-written pages (double spaced with normal type size and normal margins). The bibliography should be put after the end of the text, NOT on a separate page. The pages should be stapled together. Three points will be deducted from papers that are not stapled. No covers or extra pages should be attached to the write-up. Penalty points will be deducted for late papers (see syllabus). One grade notch will be deducted for each section left out. One- half grade notch will be deducted for unpolished writing.