

ESL Students Tell Us About Their Cultures

From the “We Want to Know About Your Culture!” Survey

What is this survey for?

This survey is to get individual and more personal responses and views from the ESL students at CCA.

These students have given their consent to have any information that they submit to be included on the cultural guide's website.

The goal of this survey is to promote their individual experiences of their own culture and their life in the US.

You will find facts such as their favorite singers or foods from this, so it is encouraged that you experience some of these yourself too!

An Overview of the Findings

General Information:

- In total, 25 students responded to this survey.
- These students came from 15 different countries and the group speaks 19 languages in total.
- The most common origin countries of these students were Afghanistan, Colombia, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Mali, and Sudan.
- The most common native languages were French, Spanish, Arabic, and Amharic.

An Overview of the Findings – Continued

Equity and Cultural Information:

- 84.6% of students said that they felt like they were equally treated in the CCA community.
- 68% of students said that they still followed their native countries' culture and traditions in the US, with 4% saying they practiced no more, and 28% saying that they practiced sometimes.
- 62.5% of students said that they do not have difficulty belonging in American culture as an immigrant/refugee. For those who had difficulty, the main reasons were that they found it hard to make new friends, felt isolated due to the language barrier, or that they just do not have enough experience with American culture.

A Student from Afghanistan

He is from Kabul, Afghanistan and his native languages are Dari and Pashto.

Here are some of his responses:

He recommends listening to the singer **Ahmad Zahir**.



A social media influencer that he likes is **Dawood Sarkhosh**.

A song that he likes is [Sarzamine Man by Dawood Sarkhosh](#).

A movie that he recommends is **Mard ha ra Qawl Ast**.

A food he wants you to try is **Kabuli Palaw**.



An important tradition that he celebrates is the festival **Rooz/Nowruz** that

celebrates the Persian New Year. The map shows countries that celebrate this event.



A Student from Guatemala

She is from Guatemala, and her native language is Spanish.

Here are some of her responses:

An interesting fact about Guatemala is that “**their army caught Joaquin el Chapo Guzman for the first time.**”

A singer that she likes is **Ricardo Arjona**.



A song that she wants you to hear is [Mi País by Ricardo Arjona](#).



A dish that she recommends is **Garnachas**.

A film that she likes is **El Volcan** by the director Mauricio de Aguinaco.

The Languages Spoken by the Students

- Spanish
- Arabic
- French
- Amharic
- Tigrinya – Ethiopia
- Wolof – Mauritania
- Pulaar – Mauritania
- Ukrainian
- Bambara – Mali
- Russian
- German
- Georgian
- Dari – Afghanistan
- Tok Pisin – Papua New Guinea
- Pashto – Afghanistan
- Haitian Creole – Haiti
- Mayan – Guatemala

Some Interesting Facts About their Countries

- **Libya:** “There is a wonderful sea, a desert, and many restaurants. The cuisine is particularly influenced by Italian cuisine, a variety of seafood, and Berber cuisines.”



- **Ukraine:** “My city of Cherkasy has been known since the 13th century and during its existence played a certain role in the history of the whole of Ukraine. It was the center of the formation of the village of Kozachchyna.”



- **Papua New Guinea:** “I love our traditional dance and the way we celebrate our events. Most of all, I love our traditional costume, because it is made out of the hide of animals.”



A Favorite Singer or Celebrity from their Countries

- Venezuela: **Guaco**, a band from Maracaibo
- Colombia: singer and rapper **Maluma**
- Ethiopia: singer **Teddy Afro**
- Mali: singer **Salif Keita**



A Social Media Influencer that They Like

- [Haiti: Bat Bravo Pou La Jenes Official](#) – A channel for young Haitians living abroad to show their experiences.
- Venezuela: [Saschafitness](#) – A nutrition and fitness coach with a blog on healthy lifestyles
- Colombia: [El Mindo](#) – An actor and popular social media personality
- Ukraine: [RAMINA](#) – A journalist who reports on current events in Ukraine and the war

A Food They Want You to Try

- Ukraine – [Bograch](#)



- Libya – [Rishdat Kaskas](#)



- Perú – [Arroz con Pollo](#)



- Afghanistan – [Mantu](#)



- Cuba – [Congri](#)



- Papua New Guinea – [Kokoda](#)



- Ethiopia – [Doro Wat](#)

