

# LESSON PLAN TEMPLATE

## INTRODUCTION FROM THE AUTHORS

As part of an E.E. Ford Foundation Grant, Camille Sutton and Robin Lynn Clinard have created lesson plans that French language teachers can use to help their students learn to navigate cultural diversity both in their French learning and in their own communities. Feel free to adapt these ideas to other languages and cultures.

## STEPS FOR CREATING YOUR OWN LESSON PLAN FOR ANY TARGET LANGUAGE/CULTURE

Pick a cultural topic that is relevant to the language/culture that you teach. Find one to two articles and one to two videos that address your topic in the target culture.

Create 2-3 questions, relating to your topic, about the students' own culture. (What is this topic like here where we live?)

Have your students discuss your 2-3 questions either as a whole class or in small groups.

Give out the article(s) for the students to read. They may read alone or in small groups. Ask students to jot down notes about what they find the most important or interesting. When everyone has had a chance to read, create a list on the board of what the students find the most important or interesting about what they read.

Show the video(s) to the class. Using information from both the article(s) and video(s) ask students, in small groups, to create chart to compare and contrast their own culture with the target culture. They should list at least two similarities and two differences. Once groups are done, have each group share out to the class.

As a final activity on this topic, have students write a reflection about what they have read and watched. At the end of the reflection, they should include 2 questions that they wish they could ask a student from the target culture about the topic. As a follow up, once you (the teacher) have had a chance to read the reflections, pick some of their questions to discuss in class or to have them research for homework.

Additional tips:

- Depending on the language level you teach and your teaching method, the above lesson could be done in English or in the target language. Adjust according to your needs.
- As a project, you could have students (either as individuals, with a partner, or in small groups) do some research and come up with topics they would like to present. Then students could be responsible for finding articles and videos and creating a lesson plan about a given topic for the class, using this template as a guide.