Congratulations! You were selected to be a foreign exchange student for spring semester 2016! As part of the preparations, you need to do some research. This research will be graded and will be used as part of a bigger project that will be explained next week. You are responsible for pulling all information using credible sources. You are also responsible for keeping track of materials you print AND THIS MATERIAL WILL BE USED FOR A WORK CITED PAGE .

***You will have two different half classes to pull this research. Any additional need is on your own time.***

1. **WHERE AM I GOING?**

You need to know what the place is about… what are you going to need while you are there? *I would know I needed to bring lots of warm clothes if I was going to a place that would be in winter AND it was cold there. I would also know I did not need to bring a hairdryer if I was going to a place without electricity. OR—maybe I needed to bring a scarf for my head if I were going to a country where women had to cover their head for religious reasons.*



**CultureGrams/ WORLD EDITION** is where I would start. This site has an overview of information about your country. You are MORE than welcome to pull additional information as well if you are not getting what you need. This is where you will learn about food, sports, politics, religion, education, size and demographics, etc.

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Expectation: Print AND Annotate all materials—WRITE NOTES TO SELF**

1. **WHAT IS HAPPENING WHERE I WILL BE LIVING?**

If I were moving to Omaha, Nebraska, from France (for example) I would know that people were talking about Pete Ricketts closing Nebraska to refugees, and also about the holiday lights downtown. *As a result of this knowledge, I would infer the state was conservative and a place that was not very welcoming, and that people were family oriented (or spent $$ on odd things).*

**Global Issues in Context** is how you know what people are talking about. You will find articles, magazines, newspapers, videos to help know what is happening in the various locales. You are MORE than welcome to add to this knowledge by searching for additional information if something is interesting to you.

Additional places for news:

[www.thelocal.es](http://www.thelocal.es)

[www.cnn.com](http://www.cnn.com)

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Expectation: Print, annotate, AND summarize** (“The article (*called what, by who, does what*?)”)

1. **HOW AM I GOING TO OFFEND PEOPLE UNINTENTIONALLY?**

What are the “unknowns”—the norms I might not know I am doing to offend people*? If I want to shake hands using my right hand, will I be disgusting people? As a female in a country, do I get to speak before being addressed, or am I deferring to men? Are the women of this country allowed to receive an education, or am I in a dangerous place if I am a woman? As a teenager, am I an individual who is recognized at all (what is voting age? might be a clue)*

**\_\_\_\_\_ Expectation: Print, annotate at least FIVE cultural “norms”** you will be using in a final project. You need **TWO DIFFERENT SOURCES** to determine credibility.

1. **HOST FAMILY HAS STORIES—WHAT ARE THEY?**

Myth, Legend, Folktale, Fable, Parable…what exists in your country? These are stories your new friends and classmates will have heard for their upbringing (here in the US, you would be able to freak out your exchange student with the tale of “Bloody Mary” or “ShadowMan”). These stories are part of the background of your new culture. Know that you know the story highlights.

Here are two places to start:

[www.listverse.com](http://www.listverse.com)

[www.terrapsych.com](http://www.terrapsych.com)

\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Expectation: At least ONE story that has a moral AND ONE that is a legend.**

Good luck with your research.

Adios, Aloha, Au Revoir, Ciao