

# MICHIGAN TEST FOR TEACHER CERTIFICATION (MTTC)

## TEST OBJECTIVES FIELD 014: CULTURAL STUDIES

<b>Subarea</b>	<b>Approximate Percentage of Questions on Test</b>
The Concept and Study of Culture	16%
The Operation of Cultural Systems	20%
Patterns of Culture in the United States	40%
Varieties of Cultural Experience in the United States	24%

### THE CONCEPT AND STUDY OF CULTURE

#### **Understand concepts of culture and cultural systems.**

Includes recognition of cultural terms and concepts; and application of terms and concepts to analyze general cultural patterns and specific cultural phenomena.

#### **Understand processes of cultural transmission and diffusion.**

Includes the processes of socialization and cultural diffusion; the formation of individual values, beliefs, and attitudes; and the relationship between culture and personality.

#### **Understand processes of stability and change in human cultures.**

Includes processes of social innovation and dislocation; evolutionary versus revolutionary social and cultural change; and sources of social harmony and conflict.

#### **Understand how to locate and organize cultural information.**

Includes familiarity with research techniques in history and the social sciences; knowledge of basic reference sources of cultural information; and the categorization and sequencing of data.

#### **Understand how to analyze, synthesize, and evaluate cultural information.**

Includes evaluating sources of cultural information; interpreting data from written and graphic sources; and drawing conclusions based on an analysis of cultural information.

**TEST OBJECTIVES**  
**FIELD 014: CULTURAL STUDIES**

**THE OPERATION OF CULTURAL SYSTEMS**

**Understand forms of social and political organization in human cultures.**

Includes characteristics of various social and political systems; the nature of social and political ideology; and the effects of different types of social and political organization on relationships within and among societies.

**Understand forms of economic organization in human cultures.**

Includes characteristics of traditional and contemporary economic systems; and the effects of different types of economic organization on relationships within and among societies.

**Understand the role of language in human cultures.**

Includes the role of language in conveying cultural messages; regional, ethnic, gender, and class diversity in language usage; and the social dimensions of literacy.

**Understand issues related to kinship, marriage, and family in human cultures.**

Includes characteristics of kinship, marriage, and family systems; the cultural significance of various kinship groups and marriage forms; and the relationship between family and society.

**Understand the significance of religion, ritual, and myth in human cultures.**

Includes forms of religious expression; the cultural role of religious institutions; the social significance of ritual behavior; and the function of myth in human societies.

**Understand the significance of art, literature, and music in human cultures.**

Includes the role of art, literature, and music in conveying cultural messages and expressing cultural values; the sociocultural significance of diversity in creative expression; and the interrelationship between art and society.

**Understand issues related to class, status, and gender roles in human cultures.**

Includes types and functions of class, status, and gender divisions in human societies; the effects and significance of social stratification based on race and ethnicity; and factors contributing to class, status, and gender inequality.

**PATTERNS OF CULTURE IN THE UNITED STATES**

**Understand forms of social and political organization in the United States.**

Includes characteristics and functions of government; the development of social institutions; the evolution of social and political ideologies; and the relationship between democratic principles and social values in U.S. society.

**TEST OBJECTIVES**  
**FIELD 014: CULTURAL STUDIES**

**Understand forms of economic organization in the United States.**

Includes principles and characteristics of the U.S. economic system; and the relationship between economic goals and social values in U.S. society.

**Understand the role of language in U.S. society.**

Includes the role of language in conveying cultural messages; regional, ethnic, gender, and class diversity in language usage; the social dimensions of literacy; and the cultural significance of standard and nonstandard forms of language.

**Understand issues related to kinship, marriage, and family in U.S. society.**

Includes characteristics of kinship, marriage, and family systems in U.S. society; and the relationship between family and society in the United States.

**Understand the significance of religion, ritual, and myth in U.S. society.**

Includes varieties of religious expression; the cultural role of religious institutions in the United States; the social significance of ritual behavior; and the role of myth in defining relations within and among cultural groups in U.S. society.

**Understand the significance of art, literature, and music in U.S. society.**

Includes the role of art, literature, and music in conveying cultural messages and expressing cultural values; the social significance of diversity in creative expression; and the interrelationship between art and society in the United States.

**Understand issues related to class, status, and gender roles in U.S. society.**

Includes characteristics and functions of class, status, and gender divisions in the United States; the effects and significance of social stratification based on race and ethnicity; and factors contributing to class, status, and gender inequality in U.S. society.

**Understand patterns of socialization in U.S. society.**

Includes agents and processes of socialization in the United States; the role of the U.S. educational system; the influence of group membership, cultural values, and group dynamics on individual socialization; and the relationship between socialization and gender roles in U.S. society.

**TEST OBJECTIVES**  
**FIELD 014: CULTURAL STUDIES**

**Understand patterns of social interaction and communication in U.S. society.**

Includes factors that influence cooperation, competition, and conflict within and among cultural groups in the United States; the impact of cultural diversity on verbal and nonverbal communication; and the role of the mass media in conveying cultural messages.

**Understand the role of social mobility in U.S. society.**

Includes characteristics and results of social mobility in the United States; and factors that facilitate and inhibit social mobility within and among cultural and ethnic groups in U.S. society.

**Understand patterns of ethnicity in U.S. society.**

Includes the social, political, and economic causes of immigration; the nature of ethnicity in the United States; the distribution and stratification of ethnic groups; the formation of ethnic communities; and the significance of cultural diversity and ethnic pluralism in the development of U.S. society.

**Understand patterns of racial and ethnic relations in U.S. society.**

Includes patterns of assimilation, acculturation, segregation, and subjugation; sources of prejudice and discrimination; and the conflict between ethnic separatism and cultural pluralism in the United States.

**VARIETIES OF CULTURAL EXPERIENCE IN THE UNITED STATES**

**Understand the Native American experience in the United States.**

Includes the history of Native Americans; the development of Native American cultures; and issues of contemporary Native American life.

**Understand the European American experience in the United States.**

Includes the history of European Americans; the development of European American cultures; and issues of contemporary European American life.

**Understand the African American experience in the United States.**

Includes the history of African Americans; the development of African American cultures; and issues of contemporary African American life.

**Understand the Hispanic American experience in the United States.**

Includes the history of Hispanic Americans; the development of Hispanic American cultures; and issues of contemporary Hispanic American life.

**TEST OBJECTIVES**  
**FIELD 014: CULTURAL STUDIES**

**Understand the Asian American experience in the United States.**

Includes the history of Asian Americans; the development of Asian American cultures; and issues of contemporary Asian American life.

**Understand the Arab American experience in the United States.**

Includes the history of Arab Americans; the development of Arab American cultures; and issues of contemporary Arab American life.

**Understand the experience of women in the United States.**

Includes the history of women in the United States and issues related to the evolving roles of women in U.S. society.