

Cross-Cultural Voices: Essays on Acclimating to the U.S.

Many Voices One College Faculty Fellowship Presentation

May 1, 2019

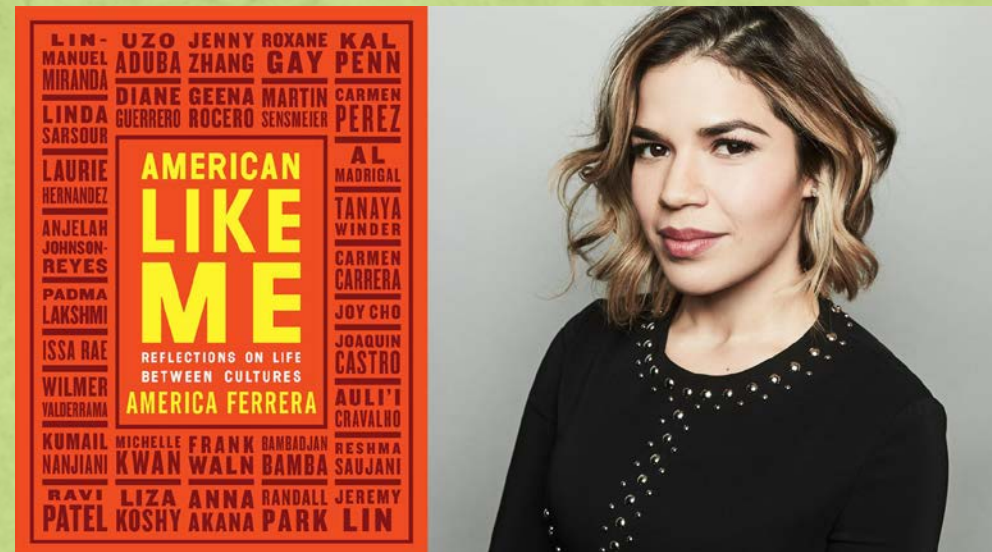
Heather Satrom, English Language for Academic Purposes, TP/ SS

A New Learning Community

- Fall 2019
- Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:30 to 12:35 pm and 1:00 to 3:05 pm
- Paired Courses
- ELAW 980 - Heather Satrom
- ELAR 980 - David Lott

The Big Idea

By reading, reflecting on, and responding to first-person nonfiction texts by writers of diverse backgrounds who have adapted to life in the U.S., students will recognize common experiences and discover their own voices in their writing.



Themes

- The American Dream, Self-Reliance, Persistence
- The Importance and Meaning of Names
- Faith and Food
- America in the Movies vs America in Reality
- Risk-taking
- Loneliness and Community
- Stereotypes and Misconceptions
- Money, Marriage, and Family

The Learners

- Non-native speakers of English
- Preparing to take credit-level courses
- Advanced-intermediate level
- Diversity in language, educational backgrounds, socio-economic status, professional experience, age, time spent in the U.S., etc.

Integrated Student Learning Outcomes of LC

- Read, examine, and discuss first-person nonfiction texts of writers from diverse backgrounds related to the experience of adapting to life in the U.S.
- Learning vocabulary, collocations, idioms, and other language patterns characteristic of this type of narrative
- Write original compositions in response to the course reading content in which they reflect on and respond to comparable experiences in their own lives
- Begin to consider their own experiences and their own authorial voices within the larger context of the history of newcomers to the U.S.

Global Humanities & Global Learning Competencies

- From AAC&U Global Learning VALUE Rubric, Level 2 Milestone
- **Perspective Taking:** Identifies and explains multiple perspectives when exploring subjects with human systems
- **Cultural Diversity:** Explains and connects two or more cultures historically or in contemporary contexts with some acknowledgement of power structures, demonstrating respectful interaction with varied cultures and worldviews

Cross-Cultural Voices



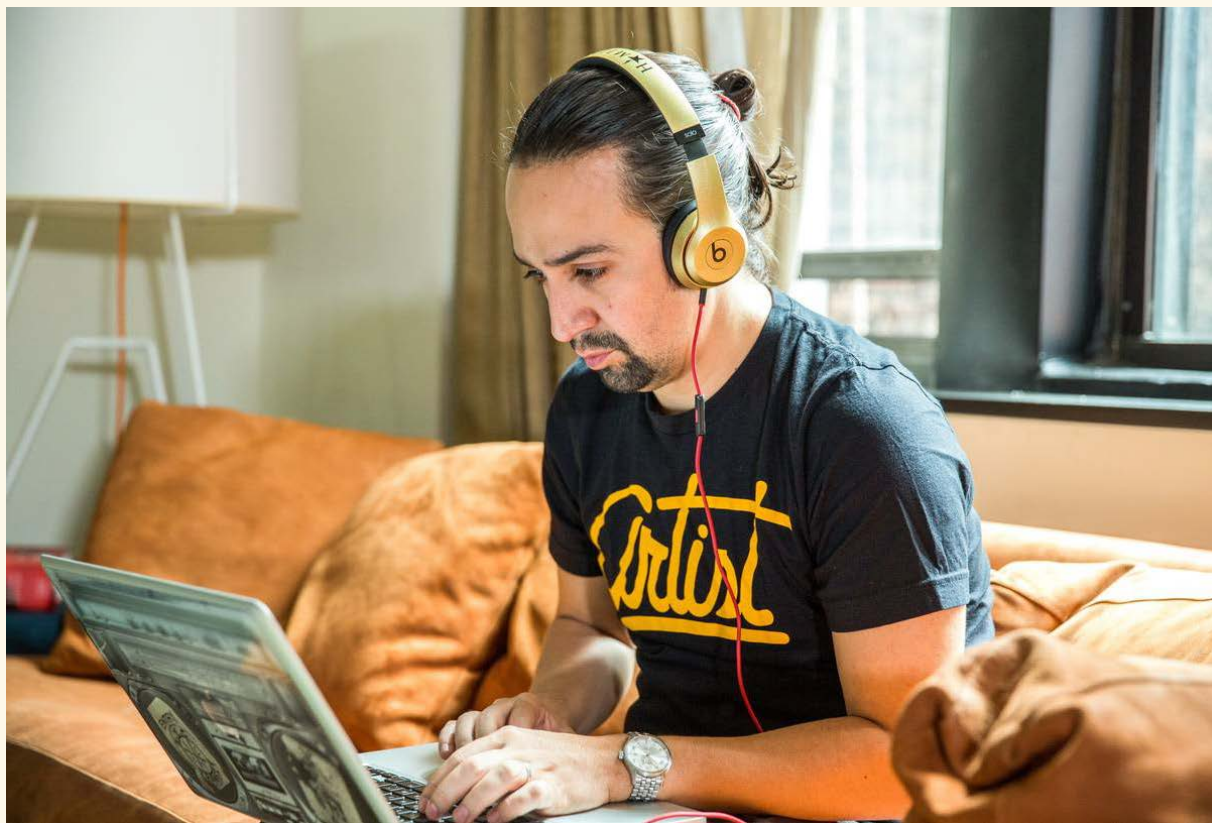
Kumail Nanjiani

Cross-Cultural Voices



Linda Sarsour

Cross-Cultural Voices



Lin-Manuel Miranda

Cross-Cultural Voices



Padma Lakshmi

Cross-Cultural Voices



Uzo Aduba

Cross-Cultural Voices



Bambadjan Bamba

Exploring Global Attitudes Toward Money, Marriage, and Family



Two-week module
featuring Ravi Patel and
his family

Resources for the Module

- A chapter from *American Like Me* by Ravi Patel about his experience on a family vacation
- *Meet the Patels*, a documentary film about the Patel family
- <https://www.meetthepatelsfilm.com/>



Example Vocabulary & Idioms



Example Discussion Questions

- What is the difference in meaning between “frugal” and “cheap”?
- What differences do you notice between the generations in this family? How are Ravi and his sister’s views different from their parents?
- Do you have different attitudes toward dating and marriage from your parents? How do your views differ?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of an arranged marriage? Of a “love marriage”?
- Ravi said he was surprised by the “privacy and space” and “freedom and individuality” that his American friends have in their families. What examples did he give of this? Do you think Americans value privacy and space? Do you?

Summative Assessment: Cause-Effect Essays

- Consider the effects that Ravi's father had on his son. How has he influenced Ravi?
- Which member of your family has had a positive influence on your life and values?
- Although Ravi didn't want to go on the cruise, he eventually enjoyed his experience. How did the Patel family vacation affect him?
- Why should a person get married? Or why not? What are some compelling reasons to marry?
- How does the documentary-making process affect Ravi's relationship with his family?