

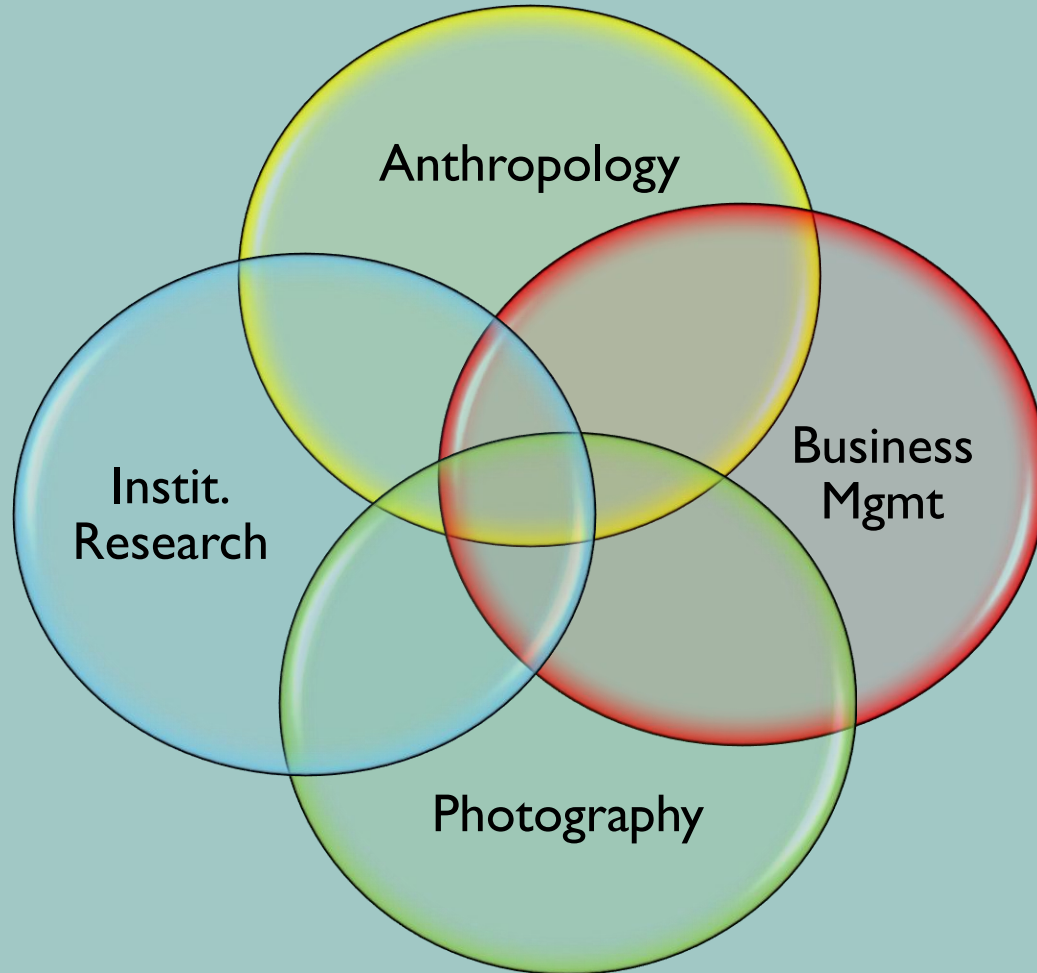
EXPLORING RURAL CULTURE IN EASTERN WASHINGTON



GOALS

- Define the characteristics of contemporary rural culture in Eastern Washington
- Determine what factors (community, education, and economic) sustain rural communities
- Expose K-12 students to scientific research methods that include quantitative and qualitative data (common core state standards require introduction of research skills starting in grade 6)

BLENDING DISCIPLINES



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RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- What is rural culture in Eastern Washington?
- What factors (community, education, and economic) sustain rural communities in Eastern Washington?
 - Community
 - Education (K-12 and higher education)
 - Economic and business development

PROJECT DESIGN

- Multi-year study
 - Three Regions: North, Central, South
 - Focus on three constituent groups within each region:
 - Community / Education / Business
 - Research Forum in each region to communicate findings

PROJECT DESIGN

OVERVIEW ACTION PLAN

1. Form strategic partnerships with middle school and high school classroom teachers
2. SFCC instructors partner with rural school faculty to design the project parameters and protocols for their community
3. CCS institutional researchers submit grant proposal for funding request
4. SFCC instructors work with partner teachers to deliver instruction on how to conduct the research project
5. Students in the rural community collect the research data. Participating classes will tabulate and analyze their own school's data; CCS Institutional Researchers will facilitate aggregate analysis
6. Findings are shared in a Rural Culture Research Forum community event

CLASSROOM ENGAGEMENT

- Scientific method process & application
- Basic research methods and statistical concepts
- Ethnographic study interview and survey techniques
- Development of photography & digital media skills
- Exposure to Anthropology, Photography, and Economic/Business disciplines
- Participate in collecting and analyzing data
- Potential of 5 college credits for Digital Photography coursework awarded to participating students!
- Participation in community college hybrid learning environment

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

Please sign up if you are interested in participating in this research, or in further information.

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