Culture Observation Assignment
Chapter 4: Folk and Popular Culture

Overall Assignment:
For this assignment, you'll observe the cultural landscape of one part of our community. You can choose a location that represents popular culture (e.g., a mall, grocery store, a coffee shop, a park, a street intersection, an athletic event) and/or folk culture (e.g., a folk art festival, a street market, a musical performance, a church). You'll need to use all five of your senses to study a particular place/event and report on your observations.

Objectives:
First, prepare a plan that explains the setting and goals of your observation. What are your objectives? Where will you be going? What are you planning to observe? How will you record your observations? BE SPECIFIC! Write this plan down to give your investigation more focus. Your OBJECTIVES must be turned in!

Observation Notes and Results:
Go to the location you've selected for your observation and spend some time there. Your report should include detailed observation "notes" of the site and situation characteristics of your location, so take careful notes.

Find a good place to make your observations and stay for at least one hour. Take notes on what you've decided to observe. Be sure your notes follow your initial objectives. Depending on what and how you choose to observe some element(s) of the culture, you might end up arranging your results in a table to analyze your data, AND/OR you might list your results in bullet format as you compile the data. Keep your observation notes/results because these will need to be turned in!

Discussion and Response:
Now write a 500 word response discussing what you observed. Make sure to relate your observations to our course content, specifically in Chapter 4, and earlier chapters by incorporating specific KEY terms and concepts from your textbook into your response (i.e. folk culture, pop culture, assimilation, taboos, cultural landscape, region, sustainability, contagious diffusion, etc.)

Your final assignment should include all 3 following sections:

1) Objectives  
2) Observation Notes/Results  
3) Discussion/Response

30 points SUMMATIVE total (10 points each)