



Worldview (in a nutshell)



Culture is Grounded in Oral Tradition

- Knowledge of the past is expressed orally (auditory)
- The Cultural Narrative (what is important to the people) stays relatively the same and subsequently determines the knowledge (what we know and use)

Culture Maintained by Kinship & Collaborative Community

- Interest is in community needs; “Everyone has what they all need.”
- Giving away or sharing wealth
- Everyone is responsible to the group; self-realization possible but not to the detriment of the group

Life Is Circular & Cyclical – based on the Medicine Wheel

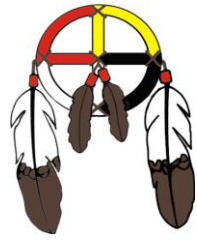
- That which came before has validity and necessity
- Everything is interdependent, equal relationships with all entities
- Life & Time is Circular & Cyclical: Repetition & renewal; things mostly stay the same

Identity Grounded on a Dependence on the Land & Earth

- One cares for it; reciprocating; maternalistic with an “intimate connection” to it
- Exist upon it and share it; a Sacred place not to be owned
- Actions toward Her all have consequences
- It is everyone’s responsibility to care for “Mother Earth”

Holistic Life: Everything is Related, Interconnected, and Interdependent

- One adapts to the planet; maintains a symbiotic synchronicity with all elements
- All things are related; interconnected; there is interdependence with the elements; humans are an equal partner with all entities
- It is a cooperative endeavor to exist
- Emphasis on planet viability (survival)



Reality Is Intellectual, Physical, Emotional & Spiritual

- Intellectual, physical, emotional, Spiritual; the unseen is important; accepting the “unseen”; belief in the intangible
- Rational and “irrational” thought (*Dreams, Visions, Intuition*) overlap and influence existence; and determine decision making
- Each person is responsible for establishing contact with the Spirit World; always seeking Spiritual connections
- Human form is mutable (changeable)

Strive to Live a Balanced & Harmonious Life

- Living a “good” collective life of Harmony & Balance with all entities; health, happiness wisdom & productivity; always is related to place; “Walking the Right Road” with all existence
- Spirituality is a way of life; an integral, inseparable part of culture
- Accepting of many “sets of truth”; others’ perspective is equally as valid as one’s own
- Self-fulfillment in the context of the community
- Death is welcomed; a state of completeness & fulfillment

Relevant Knowledge & Wisdom Are Revered

- Value knowledge that is relevant, relational, practical; application must be culturally conscious ; mostly concrete and experiential
- All entities possess “knowledge”
- A deep empirical understanding or verification is not necessary for functionality (“
- Used to respect and maintain the inherent order
- Knowledge is conversational; multiple way input; cooperative & non-competitive; relevant knowledge an end in itself
- Knowledge used to empower others; has a practical use in promoting the “good” life