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Mr. Speice

Independent Study and Mentorship - 3A

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Original Work Proposal

Societies since the beginning of time have held animals in various social positions. Whether a group of people have long standing traditions, beliefs, or origin stories that revolve around an animal, worship an animal for its healing abilities, hunt a certain animal for survival, or celebrate an animal with festivals or events, many cultures and societies frequently incorporate animals into their lives. As my Original Work project in anthropology this year in ISM, I would like to research how animals are viewed, treated, and celebrated by humans in different societies. I plan to include examples of the social standings of animals from Africa, Asia, Europe, Australia, North America, and South America on an interactive map.

After completing research on how different groups of people on these continents view animals, I plan to create 6 maps, one for each continent, using Canva. These maps will include symbols of the animals placed in the region in which the animal is important to humans. The name of the group of people or name of the area where the animal is significant will be found next to the symbol of the animal. The maps will also include a short description of the continent, with information such as the population, number of countries, and languages spoken. After each map is designed, I will export the maps into Thinglink, where I will be able to place dots on the map that, when clicked on, show the viewer a description of how the animal is regarded by the

people of the area. This will make the map interactive, and therefore more exciting and intriguing to those who view it.

This Original Work project will require research through reliable sources about cultures that are unfamiliar to me, technology skills to develop maps on Canva and add Thinglinks to the maps, and curiosity about how different groups of people feel about certain animals.

This project will expand my knowledge of sociocultural anthropology, as it will allow me to learn about the significance of different animals to societies and cultures across the world. The maps will allow viewers to learn about an example of a type of research that might be conducted in sociocultural anthropology. Viewers of the maps will also learn about the positions of animals in cultures that may be represented in areas near them, expanding their cultural awareness.