

## Discussion:

Follow the assignment details posted in Module 3, including 2 short readings. You will choose at least 2 museum examples of serapes, design your own on graph paper as a flat rectangle, and write a short narrative (see below). Reply to 2 peer posts and comments in your thread. **DUE: 11/19/23**

### **Write a short narrative piece as follows (250-350 words):**

- How and where did the serape develop?
- Find an example of 2 Navajo Serapes in museum collections as inspiration and cite these in your references.
- What inspired you about motifs, shapes, and colors?
- What fibers were used to create the original serape?
- What materials would you use in your example, and how does your design differ?
- CITE your sources in the text using APA guidelines and add a Reference list.
- REFERENCES: At least 2 museum object examples and 1 scholarly source (article, museum, etc.)

The Sarape is a traditional Mexican garment originating in the country's northern regions (Goettel, 2023). It is a type of cloak or shawl that is commonly worn by men and can be wrapped around the body for protection against cold (Harris, 2011). Its development can be traced back to traditional Mexican weaving practices by the indigenous communities in the early years of the Spanish conquest (Harris, 2011). The garment's design is unique, with a rectangular shape and a hole in the center for the wearer's head. The serape's vibrant colors and intricate patterns are a testament to the creativity and artistry of the indigenous people who crafted them.

The two Navajo Sarape that caught my attention were the Classic Poncho/Sarape and the Late Classic Sarape. These sarape techniques incorporated elements of the traditional Saltillo blanket weaving style from Mexico into Navajo people's sarape designs during the 1700s (Sarapes, 2023). I love each serape's all-around shapes, especially the crosses and diamond shapes. Since Thanksgiving is around the corner, I felt inspired to express my gratitude by embellishing my serape with beautiful crosses.

The fiber used for these inspirational Navajo serapes was wool dyed synthetically and with indigo. In my design, I would also prefer using wool as the primary material as it is an excellent insulator and offers warmth during colder temperatures, and I would dye it to match my desired colors. However, my design would differ in terms of color, patterns, and style. I carefully chose colors that embodied the spirit of autumn, giving my creation a vibrant and warm look. I also focused on creating a more modern and trendy design by adding various geometric patterns to create a unique and personalized design while still keeping the traditional touch intact.



## References

*Sarapes*. Arizona State Museum. (2023). <https://statemuseum.arizona.edu/online-exhibit/19-century-navajo-weaving-asm/sarapes>

Staff, M. M. (2023, August 17). *Moab history: The Navajo Serape*. <https://moabmuseum.org/moab-history-the-navajo-serape/>

Unidentified. (n.d.). *Unidentified: Serape: Diné/Navajo*. The Metropolitan Museum of Art. <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/823660>

*Serape: British Museum*. The British Museum. (n.d.). [https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/E\\_Am1996-10-8](https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/E_Am1996-10-8)

Goettel, D. (2023, October 14). *What Is a Sarape?* Cultural World. <https://www.culturalworld.org/what-is-a-sarape.htm>