

## Plateau Family Groupings (Fall 2012; updated 23 May)

Your family name encapsulates an essential part of your identity during this course; much of the meaning of your ecological, social and spiritual life is derived from it. Learn its correct pronunciation and its meaning, both literally and the geographical place it refers to. In addition, learn the oral traditions, ecological significance and historical events associated with this place. And finally, **learn the board kinship roles** and responsibilities of an [essential family](#), and apply them as you interact with other family members.

The family groups will be the basis for organizing several of the learning activities for this course. The “elders” will have special responsibilities and lead by example. All members will look after the wellbeing of all other members, as defined by the roles of a typical Plateau family. The family (or subgroups within it) will play an organizing role in the various course Learning Activities: the “in the round recitations,” the storytelling, the participatory projects, providing a context for study and research groups, as well as performance roles.

**FIRST Assignment:** Schedule a time very soon, via e-mail, when all of your family members can meet with the class instructor. It would be a meeting taking about 45 minutes. Consider a time immediately prior to or immediately after a regular class session. Other times are okay as well. Your “Elder - headmen or headwomen” will coordinate this meeting. The intention of this meeting is to better get to know each other and see how each can best contribute to the success of the family as a whole and in each of the [Learning Activities](#).

At this meeting share what you think are critical elements of your own personal and academic stories (that which you feel comfortable in sharing), and suggest how best you might contribute to the success of the family, what background interests and skills you bring to the family. Identify your possible contributions relative to the various Learning Activities.

Also consider selecting a second “elder” from among your siblings, preferably of the opposite gender, to assist the designated elder. He or she will serve as a sub-elder (sub-headman or headwoman) with the elder and for the family.

### Nimípuu - “the people” - Nez Perce

**lé'pwey** “butterfly creek” - Lapwai area

Elders: Morgan Zedalis and ? Siblings: Whitney Chapman, Noah Christenson, Zachary Cuddy, Kristen Drake and Latona Ena

**waláwa** (“?”) - Wallowa River area

Elders: Hannah Russell and ? Siblings: Rhonda Gruszka, Amy Johnson, Brian Kotewa, Chase Larson and Emma McAleer

### Schĩtsu'umsh - “the one's found here” - Coeur d'Alene

**q'emjln** “throat” - Post Falls area

Elders: James Pearson and ?, Siblings: Kathryn Miller, Emily Palmer, Steven Cody, Mariah Simpson, Mary Stinson

**chatq'ele'** “lake” - Chatcolet Lake area

Elders: Kevin Murphy and ? Siblings: John Stuurmans, Dakota Wallen, Shadoe Wilson, Chase Young and Amber Ziegler