As a student of international relations I am surrounded by realists who see the world as anarchic and competitive. That is not the world I see. To me, everyone on earth is striving after the same thing: health, happiness and prosperity. While we may conflict in solutions to achieve these goals I do not believe it should keep us from trying. The symbols behind this painting are how we can go about promoting those values of health, happiness and prosperity. The American flag at the top symbolizes my western education that enables me to think systematically about critical issues and find means of addressing global problems that have plagued us in the past. The flags surrounding the world symbolize a complexity of thought that comes from different backgrounds and cultures that influence the way we think about things (i.e., our worldview). The dove is the classic symbol of peace. I do not mean world peace, but simply the notion that a more cooperative attitude towards international relations will prove worthwhile once the effort has been made.