

Comparative Religion Project

- You will be divided into 9 groups
- Each group will be assigned a religion
- You will submit/share a report on your religion (written form of the presentation, each student submits their assigned categories)
- You will make a presentation about all of the facets of that religion
- You will create an Informational poster about the faith (16 X 20, same size as the infographic you recently completed)
- You will design and present your religion to the class (each person will have to present at least two slides)
- You will create 5 questions that can be answered by the information presented on your informational poster

Religions

- Hinduism
- Confucianism
- Sikhism
- Buddhism
- Sunni Islam
- Shia Islam
- Judaism
- Catholic Christianity
- Protestant Christianity



Infographic Poster

Students will submit their written answers to their assigned categories

Basic Information

What are adherents/followers called?
Current number of Adherents/followers (# in the world), Current Size Rank
Monotheistic/Polytheistic/Non-theistic
Major Geographic Concentration (location - make sure you have a map of this)

Religious Text/Authority

Sacred Text (single document/book or a series of books)
Other Written Authority (additional text that is considered important)

Religious Organization

Hierarchy within the faith? (Rank structure - top down)
House of Worship (name or type of)
Main Day(s) of Worship (single day multiple days?)
Church and State relationship (does religion influence/guide/control/stay apart from gov't?)

Religious History

Date founded, Place Founded, Founder(s)
How founded (Divine revelation, if so, how?)
Original Language(s), Early Expansion - if so from where to where
Major Splits (if so when and why did they occur)

Theology (Religious Beliefs)

Type of Theism (polytheistic, monotheistic, non-theistic)
Names of God(s)
Other Spiritual Beings
Revered Humans (historical individuals)
View of Sacred Text (literal vs. allegorical/figurative/symbolic)
Human Nature (born bad, born good, born neither and actions determine)
What is mankind's purpose? if any...

Afterlife

Means of Salvation? How does a person achieve salvation, or nirvana, or whatever is the equivalent
God's role in salvation
Good afterlife?
Bad afterlife?
Is there Damnation or some form of it , if so how does one get there?

Holy Days/Terms/Months/etc

Is there Holy Days? (or weeks or months) if so what are they
Why are these holy days (or weeks or months)
Are there special actions required from followers on these days/weeks/months?

Do's and Don'ts

Basic list of the things that are expected of followers and forbidden by followers. Try to find things that are unique to the faith you are assigned, rather than universal items

your presentation will be a summary of the main points from the categories above

Presentation

Opening Slide - Title Slide (name of Religion and a basic image)

Slide Category #1. History

Basic Information - Who founded, where was it founded, how was it founded, when was it founded, Monotheistic/Polytheistic?

Slide Category#2. Geog/Size/Founder

Where are followers located (geographically) and at what size (total number of followers). Is there a "Home Base" or "important location" Find a world distribution map and include it.

Slide Category #3. House of Worship/When/Times per week/Hierarchy/Holy Days and their significance

Is there a hierarchy of leadership? If so, what is it (name of position, responsibility. etc) if not how is the local leader selected? Where is the faith practiced? (in your house, in a building, at a special place) How often are followers expected to worship, etc

Slide Category #4. Books, Scriptures, Holy Text

Theology - Is there a sacred text(s)? How was it written, is it meant to be literal or allegorical?

Slide Category #5. Salvation/Damnation

Beliefs regarding purpose on earth, is there an afterlife? if so what is the agreed upon requirements (if any) to achieve the "next level" or "final level" Who gets to go? Everyone or only certain people and based on what? Is there punishment for not following the rules? If so what is it, what causes people to "earn it?"

Slide Category #6. Do's and Don'ts

What are the major do's and don'ts of the faith...a good "insert religion name" always does this _____ and never does this _____

Slide Category #7. Significant/Important/Popular People

Are there any "famous" followers (past or present) that practice the faith

Presentation Guidelines

#1-Pictures

Use of Pictures...make sure you use lots of them to show what you are referencing

#2 - Definitions

Whenever you use a word that is specific to your religion, make sure you explain what it is

#3 - Reading your slide

Make sure (when presenting) that you avoid simply reading off the slide

#4 - Messaging

Make your presentation with the idea that you are going to present it to a 10 yr old. This will help make sure your messaging is clear, simple, and to the point without getting too technical with big words and concepts

#4 - Text

Make your presentation uses large text and isn't written in sentence form (this will help make sure you don't "read your slide")

Delivery Guidelines

Step #1 - Introduce/show/display new information

Step #2 - Provide an image of it so your audience can "see it"

Step #3 - Explain it, add clarity, provide examples, or compare it to something common or known by the audience

Step #4 - Allow your audience time to record the information/ or ask questions for clarity

Step #5 - Wait until audience is finished recording the information, then repeat the process (steps 1-5) for the next new piece of information

Presentation

- Title slide
Include group members names
Religion name
- Format - make sure all slides have a similar theme (color, graphics, etc)
- Layout/Text Style/Size/etc - make sure all your slides use the same typeface, size, color, etc



Resources

[BBC Religions Page](#)

[Patheos World Religions \(Lots of Info here\)](#)

[BBC Religion](#)

[Religion Facts](#)

[Religion Sacred Texts](#)

[Global Religious landscape](#)

Search on your own!

