**World Religions Independent Project**

**Non-Honors Level Students**

**Overview:** 30% of your grade for the 2nd Semester is an "independent project" where you just need to read about something you are interested in!

Since you are taking this class Non-Honors Level you should have NO HOMEWORK for this project. You should be able to complete ALL your work during class time for this project. In addition, you do NOT have to present your project to the class.

Non-honors level students are only expected to read and research about an independent topic AND write a "report" of what they learned.

So your first task is to find an "independent project" that you are interested in reading about. It can be anything related to this class and its themes: religion, philosophy, "the big questions", art, music, world cultures, etc.

**HERE ARE SOME EXAMPLES OF TOPICS FROM LAST YEAR:**

1. Mythology in Star Wars
2. Mythology in Lord of the Rings
3. Mythology in CS Lewis Narnia book series
4. Comparing sacred music in Christianity vs. Buddhism-
5. Chinese Medicine and Taoism- project included visits with Chinese medicine doctor
6. Learning Sanskrit
7. Learning Tibetan
8. Different types of Yoga- project included a personal yoga video and journal
9. Different types of meditation- project included a personal meditation journal
10. Different Taoist Temples in Taiwan- project included visits and interviews at temples
11. Comparing the teachings of Jesus and Buddha
12. Rastafarianism and the music of Bob Marley
13. An exploration of agnosticism vs. atheism
14. Shinto religion in Japan
15. Wiccan (Witch) Religion and Practice- project included some Wiccan ritual demonstrations
16. The use of ART in Tibetan Buddhism- project included an 'artistic' presentation of the Tibetan Book of the Dead
17. Egyptian mythology
18. The religion and practice of Voodoo in Haiti

**Grade Breakdown:**

**15% Research Notetracking Sheet:** Use the sheet on my website called "Week 1 Research Notetracking Sheet". Put this sheet in your google homework folder in your sub independent project folder and continue to add to it this semester. Follow the directions on the sheet, but essentially you are keeping a record of all your reading and research for this project. Every time you read for this project you must document it on your notetracking sheet for 15% of your grade.

**15% Final Report:** Honors-level students are required to do both a final project and final class presentation. However, non-honors level students do NOT have to do a final project and presentation. Instead, you only must complete a "final report" about what your learned about your independent topic. This will be like writing a 90-minute long final exam essay. It is NOT a research paper. You will just summarize what you learned about your topic in a "book-report" style.

**World Religions 2020-21**

**Semester 2 Tentative Schedule for Independent Projects**

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| **Dates** **(in A/B order)** | **Topics** |
| **Jan 18/19****Day 4** | Find a topic & sources |
| **Jan 20/21****Day 5** | Find a topic & sources  |
| **Jan 24/25****Day 6** | Find sources & read them |
| **Jan 26/27****Day 7** | Find sources & read them |
| **Jan 28/Feb 7****Day 8** | Find sources & read them |
| **Feb 8/9****Day 9** | Find sources & read them |
| **Feb 10/11****Day 10** | Find sources & read them |
| **Feb 14/15****Day 11** | Work on Summary Book Report  |
| **Feb 16/17****Day 12** | Work on Summary Book Report  |
| **Feb 18/21****Day 13** | Work on Summary Book Report  |
| **Feb 22/23****Day 14** | Work on Summary Book Report  |
| **Feb 24/25****Day 15** | Work on Summary Book Report  |
| **March 1 / 2****Day 16** | **SUMMARY BOOK REPORT DUE** |