Comparative Religion Independent Research Project

For your last project for this class, you will choose a religion to research and report on. It must be a religion other than Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity or Islam, and you must have it approved by me before starting the research.

The presentation should include information on several of these topics:
- God(s) worshipped
- Branches of religion
- Rites of passage
- Important symbols
- Holidays
- Places of worship
- Religious services/practices
- Leader/Founder of religion
- Clergy members
- Sacred writings
- History of the religion
- Areas of the world where this religion is strong

The presentation should be visual, professional, colorful, creative, and easy to understand. It should have no major misconceptions about the religion and you must be able to answer questions posed by the class.

Finally, you must include the basic beliefs of the religion and several comparisons or contrasts between your religion and at least one of the religions we studied in class.

You will present your research to the class in an 8-10-minute presentation. I will cut you off when you get to 10 minutes! Your presentation will include one handout (1-2 pages), which I will photocopy for you in advance for the class, and a bibliography page that will be handed in to me. (The bibliography should include at least five sources. You may use internet sources, but at least one of your sources must be non-internet.) You may demonstrate some things you learned, do a PowerPoint presentation, show video, show slides, play music, or anything else you can think of. If you decide to do a PowerPoint Presentation, it must be given to me on disc or emailed to me, so it can be loaded on to the classroom computer.

NOTE:
You MUST sign up with me when you decide what religion you want to do by Friday, December 9.

Here are some (but certainly not all!) religions you can choose. You can find more information about them at www.adherents.com.

- Taoism
- Confucianism
- Yoruba
- Sikhism
- Babi & Baha'i faiths
- Jainism
- Shinto
- Cao Dai
- Tenrikyo
- Paganism / Neo-Paganism
- Rastafarianism
- Zoroastrianism
- Roma (Gypsies)
- Native American religions
- Chinese religions
- African religions

Either individually or as a group

An “A” project looks like this:
- At least 6 of the required topics are included.
- Presentation is about 8 minutes long.
- Class handout is clear, easy to understand, relevant and is in to Ms. Wagner on time. (1-2 pages)
- Bibliography is in on time, with complete information about each source (check your book Writer’s Inc. if you need help with the format). There are at least five sources, and at least one is not an internet source.
- Presentation is visual, professional, colorful, creative and easy to understand.
- Presentation includes 2-3 comparisons or contrasts to a religion studied in class.
- Presentation does not include any major misconceptions.
- Student is able to field questions posed by the class.
## Religion Project Schedule

Here is the schedule for the presentations. All parts of all projects are due *before* you leave for winter break, regardless of when that day is.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period 2</th>
<th>Period 3</th>
<th>Period 5</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>January 3</strong></td>
<td>Jessie Carlson, Allison Cox, Drew Custead, Greg D'Arco</td>
<td>Jennifer Amo, Jessica Baker, Clayton Campbell</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>January 4</strong></td>
<td>Kevin Davis, Nick Esteves, Jessie Garretson, Cara Hedgepeth</td>
<td>Alex Craver, Max Ederer, Carlos Fuentes, Marquette Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>January 9</strong></td>
<td>Jessica Samowitz, Brady Santos, George Vakalopoulos, Peter Wehrli</td>
<td>Nicole Parker, Ray Popka, Juan Rodriguez, Heather Shapiro</td>
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<td><strong>January 10</strong></td>
<td>Dominique Wells, Allie Williams, Dallas Williams, Andrea Wyant</td>
<td>Audrey Stine, Gregory Sund, Marcus Turner, Megan Walker</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>January 11</strong></td>
<td>Amanda Wyn, Gillian Yeadon</td>
<td>Molly Wannen, Gavi Wershbale</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>January 12 (Review Day)</strong></td>
<td>Overflow day</td>
<td>Overflow day</td>
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***Note: If you are absent on your presentation day, you will be expected to present on the day you return.***