

Socials 11  
Comparative World Religions Assignment

We have discussed and looked at 6 world religions. You will have a choice of a presentation assignment or a written assignment that will require you to research more in depth in comparing some of these religions.

**Presentation option:** Students who choose this option will be required to research two buildings of architectural and religious significance and compare them. Minimum of 5 minutes to 10 minutes maximum for the presentation. Each student must submit their presentation to the teacher on the due date regardless of if they are presenting or not on December 5.

How does the building design show evidence of a religion's cultural influence?  
Choose two religions and architecturally significant buildings. Explain how each religion influences the architecture of the building. Compare the two.

Topics to discuss are:

- The basic 5Ws:  
Who designed and built it?  
What is it made of?  
What is its importance? purpose?  
When was it built?  
Where is it located?  
Why was it built?
- History of the building
- Architecture and structural highlights, style, symbolism, significance and purpose of the building.
- Compare the similarities and differences between the two chosen buildings.

You will have made your choices by November 28<sup>th</sup> with an outline of what you will be presenting on December 5<sup>th</sup>. You must include a properly formatted citation list. Each picture you show in your presentation must be cited directly on the slide. Each piece of information you take from a source must be cited directly on the slide (use a bibliography generator...MLA format please).

The following are some possible buildings (you may choose any other building as long as it has religious and architectural significance):

Buddhism	Shwedagon Pagoda, Myanmar Potala Palace, Tibet Paro Taktsang, Bhutan
Christianity	Mont-Saint-Michel, France Chartres, France Notre Dame, France Amiens, France Salisbury Cathedral, England St. Peter's Basilica, Vatican City Temple of the Sagrada Familia, Spain
Byzantine	Hagia Sophia, Turkey St. Basil's Cathedral, Russia
Hinduism	Kashi Vishwanath, India Angkor Wat, Cambodia
Islam	Mosjid al-Haram, Mecca, Saudi Arabia Taj Mahal, India
Judaism	Dohany St. Synagogue, in Budapest Temple Emanuel, New York Hurva Synagogue (Ruin Synagogue), Israel
Sikhism	Sri Harmandir Sahib, India Gurudwara Bangla Sahib, India

**Written Option:** Students who choose this option will be required to write a 1000 word report/essay on one of the following topics. You will research and have a properly formatted citation list. **You must cite any resource, ideas and concepts that you use in your written work.** If you do not, it will result in a zero credit for the assignment (use a bibliography generator...MLA format please).

Report/essay must be typed, double spaced in standard size 10 or 12 font. You are required to have a title page with title and pertinent information, the written report/essay itself, as well as a citation list (properly formatted)

At minimum, students will be able to write a standard 5 paragraph expository essay on one of the following topics:

1. Should religion have a place in our society and governments today?
2. To what extent do modern religious practices adhere to ancient practices?
3. What was the role of the Roman Empire in the early growth of Christianity in the 1st century?
4. What arguments do mainstream Canadian religious communities make about doctor-assisted suicide? What is your opinion?

Each student must hand in a detailed outline for November 28 with the essay due on December 5<sup>th</sup>.

### **OVERLALL:**

Students are required to submit for marking a preliminary draft of their assignment on November 28<sup>th</sup> for grading.

The final product is due on December 5<sup>th</sup>.

Grading will be as follows:

5 marks for preliminary draft + 25 marks for final product = 30 marks total

Presentation option:

depth and breadth of information  
pronunciation, voice quality, eye contact and presence  
fluency and structure of oral presentation

Written option:

depth and breadth of information  
written proficiency and expression.