

World History Syllabus

- 9/7 1st Day Intro (Class guidelines, class overview, introduce website)
World History Reading and Discussion
- 9/8 World Religion Video
World Religions Overview pp 214-215
Religion Paragraph
BLOG (Due 9/14)
- 9/9 "The Miniature Earth"
Religion Chart
Buddhism pp 216-217
Christianity pp 218-219
Buddhist Zen Readings (4 short stories)
- 9/10 9-11 Articles and Activities
- 9/13 Confucianism pp220-221
Hinduism pp 222-223
Religion Questions (Due 9/14)
- 9/14 Islam pp 224-225
Judaism pp 226-227
Collect Religion Questions
- 9/15 Sikhism pp 228-229
Indigenous Religions pp 230-231
- 9/16 World Religion Review
Study Guide (Due 9/17)
- 9/17 World Religions Test
Study Guide and World Religion Chart Due

Introduction to World Religions and Belief Systems

pp. 214-233

Areas Covered:

Buddhism

Christianity

Confucianism

Hinduism

Indigenous Religions

Islam

Sikhism

Essential Questions:

1. How are the major religions and belief systems similar? Different?
2. How closely tied are religion and culture?
3. How are the religions geographically situated?
4. How have religions adapted over time to meet societal change?
5. Why are religions important to world history?

HSCE:

4.1.2 Using historical and modern maps and other documents analyze the continuing spread of major world religions during this era and describe encounters between religious groups.

4.2.1 Identify and explain the origins and expansion of Islam and the creation of the Islamic Empire.

4.3.1 Describe the diverse characteristics of early African societies and the significant changes in African society.

5.1.2 Use historical and modern maps to analyze major territorial transformations and movements of world religions.

World Religions Study Guide

1. Which religion has the most followers worldwide? Which has the fewest?
2. According to Buddhism, how can the end of suffering in the world be achieved?
3. What is Nirvana? According to Buddhists, who is most likely to achieve Nirvana and why?
4. In what religion was Jesus raised?
5. Why do Christians regard Jesus as their savior?
6. What is Confucianism based on? Why might some not consider it a religion?
7. What does yin-yang symbolize?
8. What type of religion is Hinduism? Where did it develop?
9. Describe reincarnation. What role do Hindus believe karma plays in the process?
10. What are the two branches of Islam? What is the main difference between the two groups?
11. What role does Makkah (Mecca) play in the Islamic faith?
12. What is the Torah?
13. What is the purpose of Yom Kippur?
14. Where do most Sikhs live? Why?
15. What other religions have combined to the Adi Granth?
16. Many of the sacred stories in local religions explain the creation of people, animals, and plant life. Why would religions feature such stories?
17. Which of the indigenous religions has the largest membership?

Vocabulary:

Animism

Atheism

Monotheism

Polytheism

Secularism

Sect

STUDY THE CHART AND CLASS NOTES!!!!!!!!!!!!

World Religions Chart

Religion	Sacred Text	Sacred Symbol	Sacred Site	Worship and Celebration
Buddhism				
Christianity				
Confucianism				
Hinduism				
Islam				
Judaism				
Sikhism				
Indigenous Religions				

World Religions Questions

Mr. Lemley

Directions: Please answer the following questions on a separate piece of paper or below. Remember to answer using specific detail from the reading. Write in complete sentences and restate the questions back into your answer.

- 1. Compare the maps at the bottom of pages 214-215. Which religions have spread throughout the world? What factors may have contributed to this spread?**
- 2. What does the symbol of the yin-yang reveal about the Confucian view of life's hardships?**
- 3. What kind of life would one have to lead in order to be reborn into a higher form or caste?**
- 4. Explain what each of the Eightfold Path means in your own words.**
- 5. How is Confucianism similar to and different from Christianity and Buddhism?**

Limping puppy

A store owner was tacking a sign above his door that read "Puppies For Sale". Signs like that have a way of attracting small children, and sure enough, a little boy appeared under the store owner's sign.

"How much are you going to sell the puppies for?" he asked.

The store owner replied, " Anywhere from \$30 to \$50."

The little boy reached in his pocket and pulled out some change. "I have \$2.37," he said. "Can I please look at them?"

The store owner smiled and whistled and out of the kennel came Lady, who ran down the aisle of his store followed by five teeny, tiny balls of fur. One puppy was lagging considerably behind. Immediately the little boy singled out the lagging, limping puppy and said,

"What's wrong with that little dog?"

The store owner explained that the veterinarian had examined the little puppy and had discovered it didn't have a hip socket. It would always limp. It would always be lame. The little boy became excited.

"That is the little puppy that I want to buy."

The store owner said, "No, you don't want to buy that little dog. If you really want him, I'll give him to you."

The little boy got quite upset. He looked straight into the store owner's eyes, pointing his finger, and said, "I don't want you to give him to me. That little dog is worth every bit as much as all the other dogs and I'll pay full price. In fact, I'll give you \$2.37 now, and 50 cents a month until I have him paid for."

The store owner countered, "You really don't want to buy this little dog. He is never going to be able to run and jump and play with you like the other puppies."

To this, the little boy reached down and rolled up his pant leg to reveal a badly twisted, crippled left leg supported by a big metal brace. He looked up at the store owner and softly replied,

"Well, I don't run so well myself, and the little puppy will need someone who understands!"

The scorpion and the old man

One morning, after he had finished his meditation, the old man opened his eyes and saw a scorpion floating helplessly in the water. As the scorpion was washed closer to the tree, the old man quickly stretched himself out on one of the long roots that branched out into the river and reached out to rescue the drowning creature. As soon as he touched it, the scorpion stung him. Instinctively the man withdrew his hand. A minute later, after he had regained his balance, he stretched himself out again on the roots to save the scorpion. This time the scorpion stung him so badly with its poisonous tail that his hand became swollen and bloody and his face contorted with pain.

At that moment, a passerby saw the old man stretched out on the roots struggling with the scorpion and shouted: "Hey, stupid old man, what's wrong with you? Only a fool would risk his life for the sake of an ugly, evil creature. Don't you know you could kill yourself trying to save that ungrateful scorpion?" The old man turned his head. Looking into the stranger's eyes he said calmly, "My friend, just because it is the scorpion's nature to sting, that does not change my nature to save."

Zen story: The thief and the master

One evening, Zen master Shichiri Kojun was reciting sutras when a thief entered his house with a sharp sword, demanding "money or life". Without any fear, Shichiri said, "Don't disturb me! Help yourself with the money, it's in that drawer". And he resumed his recitation.

The thief was startled by this unexpected reaction, but he proceeded with his business anyway. While he was helping himself with the money, the master stopped and called, "Don't take all of it. Leave some for me to pay my taxes tomorrow". The thief left some money behind and prepared to leave. Just before he left, the master suddenly shouted at him, "You took my money and you didn't even thank me?! That's not polite!". This time, the thief was really shocked at such fearlessness. He thanked the master and ran away. The thief later told his friends that he had never been so frightened in his life.

A few days later, the thief was caught and confessed, among many others, his theft at Shichiri's house. When the master was called as a witness, he said, "No, this man did not steal anything from me. I gave him the money. He even thanked me for it."

The thief was so touched that he decided to repent. Upon his release from prison, he became a disciple of the master and many years later, he attained Enlightenment.

Zen Story: "Is that so?"

Hakuin was a famous Zen master in Japan. He lived in a remote village and was often praised by his neighbours as a man of pure living.

Once, a beautiful, unwedded girl in the village was found pregnant. Being a very conservative village, the family was furious. The girl refused to confess who the man was, but after much beating and harassment by her parents, she finally named the master Hakuin.

In great anger, the girl's family confronted the master, but all he would do was calmly say, "Is that so?".

After the baby was born, it was brought to Hakuin and he took very good care of the child. He begged for milk and other things the little one needed from his neighbours. By this time, Hakuin's reputation was completely destroyed, but that didn't trouble him. He was often scorned by the villagers, but that didn't bother him, either.

A year later, the girl-mother finally broke down and confessed the truth. The baby's father was not Hakuin, but a young man who worked nearby. The girl's parents went to Hakuin at once and begged profusely for his forgiveness, and to get the baby back.

Hakuin willingly gave back the baby and all he said was, "Don't worry about it. Go home".

Confucious

The Philosopher Confucius. 551-479 BC - many attributed and translated sayings and chinese proverbs.

Virtue is not left to stand alone. He who practices it will have neighbors.

Silence is a true friend who never betrays.

To go beyond is as wrong as to fall short.

If you look into your own heart, and you find nothing wrong there, what is there to worry about? What is there to fear?

He who speaks without modesty will find it difficult to make his words good.

I hear, I know. I see, I remember. I do, I understand.

Death and life have their determined appointments; riches and honors depend upon heaven.

Choose a job you love, and you will never have to work a day in your life.

It is easy to hate and it is difficult to love. This is how the whole scheme of things works. All good things are difficult to achieve; and bad things are very easy to get.

It does not matter how slowly you go, so long as you do not stop.

A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.

Better a diamond with a flaw than a pebble without.

Life is really simple, but we insist on making it complicated

In a country well governed, poverty is something to be ashamed of. In a country badly governed, wealth is something to be ashamed of.

Ability will never catch up with the demand for it.

Real knowledge is to know the extent of ones ignorance.

To practice five things under all circumstances constitutes perfect virtue; these five are gravity, generosity of soul, sincerity, earnestness, and kindness.

Our greatest glory is not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall.
The Peacock and the Tortoise

A Tale from Ancient India

Once upon a time a peacock and a tortoise became great friends. The peacock lived on a tree on the banks of the stream in which the tortoise had his home; and daily the peacock after he had a drink of water danced near the stream and displayed his gay plumage for the amusement of his friend.

One unfortunate day, a bird-catcher who was on the prowl caught the peacock and was about taking him away to the market. The unhappy bird begged of his captor to allow him to bid his friend the tortoise good-bye, as it would be the last time he would see him.

The bird-catcher allowed him his prayer and took him to the tortoise, who was greatly moved to see his friend a captive. The tortoise asked the bird-catcher to let the peacock go; but he laughed at the request, saying that was his means of livelihood.

The tortoise then said, "If I make you a handsome present, will you let my friend go?" "Certainly," answered the bird-catcher, that is all I want." Whereupon the tortoise dived into the water and in a few seconds came up with a handsome pearl, which, to the great astonishment of the bird-catcher, he handed to him. This was beyond his expectations, and he let the peacock go immediately.

A short time after, the avaricious man came back and told the tortoise that he thought he had not paid enough for the release of his friend, and threatened that, unless a match to that pearl was obtained for him, he would again catch the peacock. The tortoise, who had already advised his friend to betake himself to a distant jungle on being set free, was greatly enraged at the greed of this man.

"Well," said the tortoise, "if you insist on having another pearl like it, give it to me and I will fish you out an exact match for it." The stupidity of the bird-catcher prevented his reasoning that "one in the hand was equal to two in the bed of the stream," and he speedily gave the pearl to the wily tortoise, who swam out with it saying, "I am no fool to take one and give two!" and forthwith disappeared, leaving the bird-catcher to be sorry ever after for his covetousness.

