**Comparative Cultures 11/12**

**World Religions Expert Learning**

**/30**

**Preamble**

As much as we tend to focus on difference, most world religions have more commonalities than differences in their systems, values, and structures. In fact, many differences in the world’s religions have more to do with culture than tenets in their religion. For example, most of the world’s religions have a holy book, values about how to treat oneself and others, a place of worship, holy people in history, current holy leaders, holy locations, rites of passage (birth, coming of age, marriage, death), idea of afterlife, a calendar rhythm of festivals and celebration, idea of sacrifice, and preferred/forbidden foods. These all help bond believers of one faith together in commonality of purpose and community.

**Assignment**

Now that you have a world religion to study, you will be learning about the aspects specific to that religion well enough to be able to teach it to others. You will use your textbook, Byrne’s lecture notes, the videos, and books from your library time as sources of information. If you are going to use the internet for information, you MUST vet the sites with Byrne, as there are too many inaccurate/biased religious sites that look authentic. Please be mindful to use books and vetted sources only.

You will have two classes to complete this assignment, so use your time wisely. Point form is acceptable, but you must have depth for understanding. Please be neat (Max!) as I cannot assess what I cannot understand.

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| Religion: |
| Start of Religion and Timeline: |
| Holy Historic Locations: |
| Places of Worship (Structures): |
| Historical Teachers/Prophets |
| Holy Books and Details: |
| Important Values in Religion: |
| Idea of Sacrifice: |
| Holy Day of Week and Why: |
| Important Calendar Events: |
| Treatment of Self and Others: |
| Idea of Afterlife: |
| God/gods: |
| Religious Power Structure: |
| 4 Rites of Passage: |
| Foods: |
| Symbols: |
| Current Population Estimates: |
| Popular Current Locations Globally: |