

## Religion Project

Religion can be an integral part of human culture. As Geographers we need to look closer at: patterns and processes of diffusion, spatial distribution, and the impact of certain religions on the physical landscape.

For this project you **will** be assigned groups and a religion (one group will have multiple religions). The religions we will be focusing on are:

- Christianity
- Judaism
- Buddhism
- Islam
- Hinduism
- Confucianism
- Taoism
- Shinto

*The last 3 will be combined to form one presentation.*

Although the history of each religion is important, this is Human Geography, not History. Your projects will need to discuss the following points of interest:

- Identify whether the religion is monotheistic or polytheistic and why it is so.
- Identify whether the religion is universalizing or ethnic and why it is so.
- A brief history of the religion.
- Explain the religion and important concepts associated with it.
- Impact of the religion on the culture. What rules, cultural norms, or other influence does the religion have? (*Spend a lot of time on this one!*)
- Impact of the religion on the physical environment. What visible impact is there? Are there any detrimental or beneficial aspects of the religion concerning the environment? Discuss how we may identify this religion in the cultural landscape.
- If your religion follows a pattern or process of diffusion, what is it? Explain how the religion grows, moves, or why it doesn't grow or move.
- Does your religion have different branches/denominations? How have these divisions affected the diffusion of the religion?
- Additional information including, but not limited to, number of people globally that practice the religion, how the religion is controlled today (who is in charge, how are decisions made), and other important information regarding your religion will be appreciated.

The options for this project are limitless. As long as your presentation has a visual and oral aspect to it, in which all group members participate, it will be acceptable.

You will be graded on:

- Group participation (including a lack of interaction with other groups) and using time wisely
- Effort and creativity of the project
- Accuracy and the completion of the points of interest listed above
- Meeting time requirements (the presentation must last a minimum of 15 minutes)
- In addition, you must provide 5 typed questions and answers based on your religion to Mr. Richters before the first day of presentation.