

# Advanced Placement World History

## Comparative Religions and History of our World Summer Project

**Due by the First Day of School, Aug 14<sup>th</sup> 2019**

The first part of the summer assignment asks student to produce a summary of evidence concerning the five major religions (*Buddhism, Hinduism, Judaism, Christianity, Islam*) and *Confucianism* (which is often considered a philosophy rather than a religion.) The third part of the project has to do with the concept of big history. This information will enable you to review this information quickly and efficiently in preparation for the AP Exam. All students are required to complete all sections of the assignment. Every part of the project will be due on the FIRST DAY of school.

### Part 1: Comparing Religions

- Prepare a “scrapbook” presentation in Google Slides or Power point over the major World Religions and Philosophies: *Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, and Confucianism*. You can find resources online via Youtube, Freemanpedia.com, other searchable resources, and of course my website (search google for Mrmathospace, it’s the first link)
- You will create TWO slides for each Religion/Philosophy. These are the following requirements for those slides:
  - Name of religion/philosophy
  - Where is the origination site?
  - Is it monotheistic or polytheistic?
  - Who is the founder of the religion?
  - When was it founded?
  - What is the name of their holy book?
  - What are the basic beliefs of the religion?
  - How did it spread?
  - How many worldwide followers are there today?
  - What are the sects of the religion present today?

Each slide must have AT LEAST one relevant picture for the religion/philosophy

- IMPORTANT CULTURAL NOTE:
  - When completing the slide about Islam, please do not put any pictures of Muhammad in your slide as it is against religious practices to display pictures of their prophet

\*\*The last slide of your presentation should be a works cited page. Please use either APA or MLA formatting. \*\*

### Part 2: Comparing Religions

Using the information from Part I, **choose two religions** and identify their similarities and differences and create a Venn diagram

- Your diagram must have AT LEAST **5 similarities and 5 differences** between the two religions
- You can create your Venn Diagram on Google Slides, Google Drawing, MS Paint or any online creator

## Part 3: History of the World in 18 minutes

### Directions

- Watch this Youtube video entitled [David Christian: The History of Our World in 18 Minutes](#)
- Complete the questions below
  
- **BRING A PRINTED/HAND-WRITTEN HARD-COPY TO OUR FIRST CLASS OR ATTACH IT TO THE EMAIL ALONG WITH PART 1 and 2.**

### Basic Understanding Questions

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NOTE: It might help to pause the video when you're typing/writing your responses to the questions.

#### Minutes 1-4

1. According to David Christian what trend has guided the development of the universe?
  
2. Describe what David Christian means by "Goldilocks Conditions." What happens to Goldilocks Conditions over time?

#### Minutes 4 - 12:30

3. List the events that, according to David Christian, have been the "threshold moments" in the history of the universe. Underneath each event explain why that moment was a turning point in the history of the universe.

#### Minutes 13 - End

4. According to Christian, how was the appearance of our species different from prior threshold moments in the universe's history? In other words, what makes humans unique?
  
5. What events in Human history have created what Christian calls, "energy bonanzas"?
  
6. At the end, Christian refers to "this threshold moment in the history of our beautiful planet." What **do you think** he is referring to?

### Application Questions

7. Identify and explain 1-2 "threshold moments" from your own life. What aspects of your life changed as you passed through that threshold moment? What key components of your life continued?
  
8. What were the "goldilocks conditions" that enabled the threshold moments you describe in one to take place?
  
9. How **do you think** this video can be applied to help us understand World History?

### A Note on Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the "wrongful appropriation" and "stealing and publication" of another author's "language, thoughts, ideas, or expressions" and the representation of them as one's own original work. Plagiarism is considered academic dishonesty. I understand that you will be getting your information from research, but at NO TIME should you copy and paste someone's words into your presentation. Everything must be your own phrasing. You will have a Works Cited slide on your last slide of the presentation, but that DOES NOT mean that you can just copy and paste work from an online source. Changing ONE word does not fix plagiarism. So please make sure you are writing how you actually write!! I would much rather read what you have to say than what someone online has typed.

\*\*It is very easy for me to tell when someone has copied and pasted work from an online source (I know how to use the internet...I'm not old yet). If I notice that this has happened, you will receive a ZERO on the project. Considering its your first grade for the class I'd be careful. \*\*

### **Turning it in:**

**All projects will be turned in by emailing it to Mr. Mathos at [paul.mathos@browardschools.com](mailto:paul.mathos@browardschools.com). Attach both files to the email and be sure any sharing links work. Be sure your name is on all files you attach as well.**

**In your email please include in the subject line: Your name and Summer Assignment  
Ex. John Doe Summer Assignment**

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