

COMPARATIVE STUDY OF WORLD RELIGIONS

CURRICULUM

CARLISLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

DATE OF BOARD APPROVAL: November 17, 2022

COURSE OVERVIEW

Title:	Comparative Study of World Religions
Grade Level:	Grades 11-12
Level:	Elective
Length:	Full Year
Duration:	85 Minute Block
Frequency:	90 Days
Pre-Requisites:	None
Credit:	1 Credit
Description:	Through the study of the history, central beliefs, texts, and practices of world religions, students will grow in their own religious literacy and understanding of religion's role in the human experience. Students will also use the case study method to analyze religions in context through the lens of current issues, events, and themes. The study of religion helps students learn how to think critically, listen empathetically, speak thoughtfully, and write clearly – all skills that will be of significant use no matter what they go on to do in life. It will also help them to better live, work, and interact in our increasingly diverse society and global world.

COURSE TIMELINE

UNIT	TITLE	KEY CONCEPTS	DURATION
1	Understanding the World's Religious Heritage; Religion's Origins	 Fundamental features of religion Functions of religion Forms of religious expression Interrelationships of the forms of religious expression society 	7 Days
2	Ancient Religion and Emergent Monotheistic Religions	 Periods of religious history including hunter-gatherer, agriculture, ancient empires Belief systems of ancient river civilizations: Tigris, Euphrates, Nile, Yangtze, and Indus Ancient Europe: Greece, Rome, Celts, Vikings Indigenous religions of Africa, Australia, and the Americas The history and important practices of Zoroastrianism 	10 Days
3	Judaism	 The history of ancient (including Old Testament), Medieval, and modern Judaism, including Judaism in America The important practices of Judaism The unique aspects of the Jewish religion, including beliefs, festivals, and life The religious expression of the major forms or denominations of Judaism 	10 Days
4	Christianity	 The life and teachings of Jesus in historical context The historical development of the Christian religion from Christianity in the Roman world, through Roman Catholicism and the Eastern Orthodox traditions, the Reformation, and Christianity in the world today The religious expression of the major forms or denominations of Christianity 	9 Days

5	Islam	 The theoretical and practical expressions of Islam including the meaning of Islam, the story of Muhammad, the Five Pillars of Islam, and the role of women in Islam The history of Islam including the spread of Islam, sectionalism, 	9 Days
6	Hinduism	 Islamic mysticism, and Islam today The major features of Hinduism as a religion and as a driving element 	10 Days
U		 of Indian culture The major Hindu deities The central message of texts of Hinduism: Vedas, Upanishads, Mahabharata, Bhagavad Gita, Ramayana The relevance of iconography, festivals, and practices in Hinduism 	
7	Buddhism	 The life and essential teachings of the Buddha The Four Noble Truths, Eight-Fold Path, and Nirvana The major schools of Buddhism including Theravada, Mahayana, Vajrayana, Pure land Buddhism, and Zen The spread of Buddhism to various parts of Asia Buddhism in the world today (especially the challenges facing Tibet) 	7 Days
8	Sikhism and Jainism	 The unique features of Sikhism, the practical elements of Sikhism, and basic Sikh beliefs The unique features of Jainism, the practical elements of Jainism, and basic Jain beliefs 	7 Days
9	Indigenous Religion of the East	 Confucius, and the fundamentals of Confucianism Dao De Jing, the fundamentals of Daoism The historical development of Shinto and Shinto practice 	7 Days

10	African Derived Religions	 The continuing traditions of West African religion in the Americas The historical impact of the African Diaspora in the creation and propagation of African American religions Religions in West Africa, relationship between slavery and religion, Vodun and spirituality, Voodoo and Christianity The history of Rastafari, the symbolic content of Rastafarian traditions, and the relation to natural practices 	7 Days
11	New Religious Movements and Cults	 The belief systems originating in the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries The historical development of Secular Philosophies 	7 Days

DISCIPLINARY SKILLS and PRACTICES

DISCIPLINARY SKILLS/PRACTICE	DESCRIPTION
Chronological Reasoning	Analyze and evaluate the interaction of multiple causes and effects in the evolution and development of various religions' traditions.
Contextualization	Understand how context/background information influences religious belief and practice. Recognize that religious texts are products of particular points in time.
Compare and Contrast	Identify the key tenets of various religious traditions and categorize those ideas that are held in common by all or most, and those ideas that make each tradition unique.
Integration of Knowledge and Ideas	Integrate and evaluate multiple sources of information presented in diverse formats and media (e.g., visually, quantitatively, as well as in words) in order to address a question or solve a problem. Integrate information from diverse sources, both primary and secondary, into a coherent understanding of an idea or event, noting discrepancies among sources.
Key Ideas and Details	Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of various religious texts, connecting insights gained from specific details to an understanding of the text as a whole. Determine the central ideas or information of a religious text; provide an accurate summary that makes clear the relationships among the key details and ideas.
Close Reading	Evaluate authors' word choices; understand that language is used deliberately.

Unit Title	Understanding the World's Religious Heritage; Religion's Origins			
Unit Description	Religion has co-evolved with humanity. Religion plays many roles in people's lives, from explaining the unknown, to binding together communities, to providing meaning to life. Studying the different belief systems, from history and around the world, equips us to better understand the diverse individuals with whom we will interact.			
Unit Assessment	Unit assessment			
Essential Question	Learning Goals Content and Vocabulary Standards			
What is Religion? 2 Days	☐ Develop a definition of religion and describe its essential features. ☐ Identify the different elements that comprise religion.	Vocabulary: agnosticism, animism, atheism, aualism, monism, monotheism, mysticism, mantheism, polytheism, theism, myth	8.1.W.C Construct research on a historical topic using a thesis statement and demonstrate use of appropriate primary and secondary sources. 8.4.12.C Evaluate how continuity and change have impacted the world today.	
What purpose does religion serve? 2 Days	 ☐ Explain the role religion plays in people's lives. ☐ Examine the effect religion has on society. 	Vocabulary: fear, wonder, identity, intuition, questioning, truth, ethics, morals, rituals, relationships	8.1.W.C Construct research on a historical topic using a thesis statement and demonstrate use of appropriate primary and secondary sources. 8.4.12.C Evaluate how continuity and change have impacted the world today.	

Why do we study	Recognize the importance of	Vocabulary:	8.4.W.A
religions?	understanding the "other" in	perspective, prejudice, discrimination,	Evaluate the role groups and
	communication and social	belonging, cooperation, understanding	individuals played in the social,
1 Day	cohabitation/cooperation.		political, cultural, and economic
			development throughout world history.
Where does religion	☐ Identify and explain the origin of	Vocabulary:	8.4.12.C
come from?	religious belief systems.	Paleolithic, Neolithic, hunter-forager,	Evaluate how continuity and change
		adaptation, civilization	have impacted the world today.
2 Day			

Unit Title	Ancient Religions and Emergent Monotheistic Religions			
Unit Description	Since the dawn of civilization, humans have developed intricate belief systems to explain what they did not understand. From those early days, those in power used these belief systems to legitimize and extend their control over the people.			
Unit Assessment	Unit assessment	Unit assessment		
Essential Question	Learning Goals	Content and Vocabulary	Standards	
What were the religious beliefs of the Mesopotamian, Egyptians, Indus, and Yangtze River Valleys? 2 Days	☐ Identify and explain the belief systems of early civilizations. ☐ Compare and contrast the belief systems of early civilizations. ☐ Identify how religion may be used to codify ruling power.	Vocabulary: polytheism, city-stat, ziggurat, temple, high-priest, divination, creation, afterlife, judgment Documents: -Code of Hammurabi	8.1.W.C Construct research on a historical topic using a thesis statement and demonstrate use of appropriate primary and secondary sources.	
What were the religious beliefs of the ancient Greeks and Romans? 2 Days	☐ Identify and explain the belief systems of early civilizations. ☐ Compare and contrast the belief systems of early civilizations. ☐ Identify how religion may be used to codify ruling power.	Vocabulary: sacrifice, festival, oracle, Olympian gods, heroes, cult worship	8.1.W.C Construct research on a historical topic using a thesis statement and demonstrate use of appropriate primary and secondary sources.	
What were the religious beliefs of the Celts and Vikings? 2 Days	☐ Identify and explain the belief systems of early civilizations. ☐ Compare and contrast the belief systems of early civilizations. ☐ Identify how religion may be used to codify ruling power.	Vocabulary: migration, shrine/sanctuary, druid, otherworld, nine realms, Æsir and Vanir, seasons, Ragnarök, Valhalla, burial mounds	8.1.W.C Construct research on a historical topic using a thesis statement and demonstrate use of appropriate primary and secondary sources.	

What were the	Identify and explain the belief	Vocabulary:	8.1.W.C
religious beliefs of	systems of early civilizations.	High God, Akan, Amhara, Arab, Berber,	Construct research on a historical topic
other indigenous	Compare and contrast the belief	Fulani, Hausa, Igbo, Ijaw, Kongo,	using a thesis statement and
peoples?	systems of early civilizations.	Oromo, Somali, Shona, Yoruba, Zulu	demonstrate use of appropriate primary
	☐ Identify how religion may be		and secondary sources.
2 Days	used to codify ruling power.	Documents:	
		-Anansi the Spider	
What were the	Compare/contrast monotheism w/	Vocabulary:	8.1.W.C
religious beliefs of	early polytheistic and animistic	Zarathustra/Zoroaster, monotheism,	Construct research on a historical topic
Zoroastrianism?	traditions.	Ahura Mazda, Faravahar	using a thesis statement and
	☐ Identify the core beliefs and		demonstrate use of appropriate primary
1 Day	traditions of Zoroastrianism.	Documents:	and secondary sources.
		-Avesta	
		-Gathas	8.4.12.C
			Evaluate how continuity and change
			have impacted the world today.
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Unit Title	Judaism			
Unit Description	Judaism, the religious culture of the Jews, is one of the world's oldest continuing religious traditions.			
Unit Assessment	Unit assessment	Unit assessment		
Essential Question	Learning Goals	Content and Vocabulary	Standards	
When, where, and how	Trace the development of	Vocabulary:	8.1.W.C	
did Judaism originate?	Judaism from early polytheism,	Israel, Yahwism, Zoroastrianism,	Construct research on a historical topic	
	through Yahwism, to Judaism in	exodus, Abraham	using a thesis statement and	
2 Days	its present form.		demonstrate use of appropriate primary	
	Explain the Diaspora and its		and secondary sources.	
	effect on the development of			
	Judaism.		8.4.12.C	
			Evaluate how continuity and change	
			have impacted the world today.	
What are the defining	Retell the story of Abraham	Vocabulary:	8.1.W.C	
beliefs of Judaism?	and understand the significance of	covenant, diaspora, kosher, mitzvah,	Construct research on a historical topic	
What is the ultimate	his covenant with God.	pareve, shalom, trayf, Zionism	using a thesis statement and	
source of value and	Compare and contrast the ideas	F, 2, 120/1, 2	demonstrate use of appropriate primary	
significance?	of belief and practice.	Documents:	and secondary sources.	
	•	-Ten Commandments		
2 Days				

What are Judaism's important holy texts? 2 Days	☐ Identify the major texts of Judaism, and explain the significant divisions within them. ☐ Describe decisions related to cannon/apocrypha.	Vocabulary: Dead Sea Scrolls, Haggadah, Halachah, Ketuvim, Midrash, Mishnah, Nevi'im, Talmud, Tanakh, Torah, Oral Torah Documents: -Torah -The 613 Mitzvot	8.1.W.C Construct research on a historical topic using a thesis statement and demonstrate use of appropriate primary and secondary sources.
Who are some influential figures of Judaism? 1 Day	☐ Identify the Patriarchs of Judaism. ☐ Describe the role played by the various religious leaders in Judaism.	Vocabulary: Abraham, David, HaShem, Moses, Solomon, YHWH, chaza, rabbi, minyan, mohel	8.1.W.B Evaluate the interpretation of historical events and sources, considering the use of fact versus opinion, multiple perspectives, and cause and effect relationships.
What are Judaism's major rituals, holy days, garments, ceremonies, and symbols? 2 Days	☐ Describe what it means to be Jewish. ☐ Explain why and how Jewish people sanctify time.	Vocabulary: bar/bat mitzvah, brit/bris, Hanukkah, Passover/Pesach, Purim, Rosh Hashanah, seder, shabbat/sabbath, shiva, Yom Kippur, synagogue/temple, menorah, mezuzah, Magen David, shofar, tallit, tefillin, yarmulke/kipah	8.4.W.A Evaluate the role groups and individuals played in the social, political, cultural, and economic development throughout world history.

Unit Title	Christianity			
Unit Description	Christianity, the most widely distributed of the world religions, is substantially represented in all the populated continents of the globe. Its total membership may exceed 1.7 billion people.			
Unit Assessment	Unit assessment			
Essential Question	Learning Goals Content and Vocabulary Standards			
When, where, and how did Christianity originate? 1 Day	Trace the development of Christianity from Judaism, through schism and reformation, to its present form.	Vocabulary: Judaism, crucifixion, resurrection, ascension, crusades, Reformation, Roman Catholicism, Orthodoxy, Protestantism	8.1.W.C Construct research on a historical topic using a thesis statement and demonstrate use of appropriate primary and secondary sources. 8.4.12.C Evaluate how continuity and change have impacted the world today.	
What are the defining beliefs of Christianity? 2 Days	Explain the story of Christ. Compare and contrast the ideas of belief and practice (as related to Judaism).	Vocabulary: gentile, heaven and hell, heresy, messiah, parables, resurrection, sacrament, sin, trinity Documents: -The Nicene Creed -The Lord's Prayer	8.1.W.C Construct research on a historical topic using a thesis statement and demonstrate use of appropriate primary and secondary sources.	

What are Christianity's important holy texts? 2 Days	☐ Identify the major texts of Christianity, and explain the significant divisions within them. ☐ Describe decisions related to cannon/apocrypha.	Vocabulary: Bible, Old Testament, New Testament, Gospel(s), Apocrypha, Septuagint, Book of Common Prayer Documents: -Gospels of Mathew, Mark, Luke, and John	8.1.W.C Construct research on a historical topic using a thesis statement and demonstrate use of appropriate primary and secondary sources.
Who are some influential figures of Christianity? 2 Days	☐ Identify important Biblical figures. ☐ Identify individuals crucial to the evolution of Christianity. ☐ Describe the role played by the religious leaders in Christianity.	Vocabulary: Jesus Christ, The Virgin Mary, Judas, The Apostles, Paul, Constantine, Martin Luther, John Calvin, church, crucifix, Pope, priest/pastor Documents: -Letters of Paul -95 Theses	8.1.W.B Evaluate the interpretation of historical events and sources, considering the use of fact versus opinion, multiple perspectives, and cause and effect relationships.
What are Christianity's major rituals, holy days, garments, ceremonies, and symbols? 1 Day	☐ Describes what it means to "practice" Christianity. ☐ Explain how Christians sanctify time.	Vocabulary: Lent, Palm Sunday, Good Friday, Easter, Pentecost, All Saint's Day, Advent, Christmas, Holy Orders, Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation Documents: -Julian and Gregorian Calendars	8.4.W.A Evaluate the role groups and individuals played in the social, political, cultural, and economic development throughout world history.

UNIT 5

Unit Title	Islam		
Unit Description	Islam, one of the three Abrahamic religions, along with Judaism and Christianity, professes the belief in a single God. In the Arabic language, the word Islam means "surrender" or "submission"—submission to the will of God.		
Unit Assessment	Unit assessment		
Essential Question	Learning Goals	Content and Vocabulary	Standards
When, where, and how did Islam originate? 1 Day	 ☐ Explain significant elements associated with the life and teachings of Muhammad. ☐ Describe the historical development of the Islamic faith following the life of Muhammad. 	Vocabulary: Abraham, Judaism, Christianity, Muhammad, Mecca, Palestine	8.1.W.C Construct research on a historical topic using a thesis statement and demonstrate use of appropriate primary and secondary sources. 8.4.12.C Evaluate how continuity and change have impacted the world today.
What are the defining beliefs of Islam? What is the ultimate source of value? 2 Days	☐ List and analyze the Five Pillars. ☐ Explain the Quranic story of Muhammad. ☐ Compare and contrast the ideas of belief and practice (as related to Judaism and Christianity).	Vocabulary: Arabic, Five Pillars, Shahada, Salah, Zakah, Sawm, Hajj, Jihad, Greater Jihad, Lesser Jihad, Sunni, Shia, Sufism, Sharia, Umma	8.1.W.C Construct research on a historical topic using a thesis statement and demonstrate use of appropriate primary and secondary sources.
What are Islam's important holy texts? 2 Days	☐ Identify the major texts of Islam. ☐ Discuss the significance of the Qur'an within the Islamic faith.	Vocabulary: Qur'an, Sura, Hadith, Isnad, Sunna Documents: -Qur'an	8.1.W.C Construct research on a historical topic using a thesis statement and demonstrate use of appropriate primary and secondary sources.

Who are some	☐ Identify important Quranic	Vocabulary:	8.1.W.B
influential figures of	figures.	Allah, Muhammad, Ali ibn Abi Talib,	Evaluate the interpretation of historical
Islam?	☐ Identify individuals crucial to the	Quraysh, Caliph, Imam, Shaykh, Mahdi,	events and sources, considering the use
	development of Islam.	Muezzin	of fact versus opinion, multiple
2 Days	Describe the role played by the		perspectives, and cause and effect
	various religious leaders in Islam.		relationships.
What are Islam's	Recognize similarities and	Vocabulary:	8.4.W.A
major rituals, holy	differences between Islam and other	Al-Hijra, Eid Ul-Adha, Day of Arafah,	Evaluate the role groups and
days, garments,	Western religious traditions.	Ramadan, Eid Ul-Fitr, Laylat Al-Qadr,	individuals played in the social,
ceremonies, and	Describe what it means to	Dhu Al-Hijjah, Juma, Mosque, Minaret,	political, cultural, and economic
symbols?	"practice" Islam.	Kaaba, Medina, Mecca, Hegira, Hijab,	development throughout world history.
	Explain why and how Muslims	Qibla, Mihrab, Dome of the Rock	
1 Day	sanctify time.		
		Documents:	
		-Hijrī calendar	

Unit Title	Hinduism		
Unit Description	Hinduism is a religion with various Gods and Goddesses. According to Hinduism, three Gods rule the world: Brahma, the creator; Vishnu, the preserver; and Shiva, the destroyer. Lord Vishnu did his job of preserving the world by incarnating himself in different forms at times of crisis.		
Unit Assessment	Unit assessment		
Essential Question	Learning Goals	Content and Vocabulary	Standards
When, where, and how did Hinduism originate? 2 Days	☐ Identify the competing theories of the development of Hinduism. ☐ Evaluate the impact of western imperialism on India in general, and Hinduism specifically.	Vocabulary: India, Aryans, Sanatana Dharma, Monotheism	8.1.W.C Construct research on a historical topic using a thesis statement and demonstrate use of appropriate primary and secondary sources. 8.4.12.C Evaluate how continuity and change have impacted the world today.
What are the defining beliefs of Hinduism? What is the ultimate source significance? 2 Days	 ☐ Explain how Hinduism can be described as both polytheistic and monotheistic. ☐ Explain the relationship between the concepts of samsara, karma, dharma, and moksha. ☐ Identify how religion may be used as a way to codify ruling power. 	Vocabulary: Polytheism, Henotheism, Pantheon, Brahman, om/aum, Atman, Karma, Artha, kama, moksha, dharma, maya, chakra, samsara, ahimsa, darshan, havan, yuga, caste system	8.1.W.C Construct research on a historical topic using a thesis statement and demonstrate use of appropriate primary and secondary sources.

What are	☐ Identify the major texts of	Vocabulary:	8.1.W.C
Hinduism's	Hinduism.	The Four Vedas, The Upanishads,	Construct research on a historical topic
important holy		Bhagavad Gita, The Ramayana, The	using a thesis statement and
texts?		Mahabharat, The Puranas	demonstrate use of appropriate primary
			and secondary sources.
1 Day		Documents:	
		-Vedas	
		-Bhagavad Gita	
		-The Ramayana	
		-The Mahabharat	
Who are some	☐ Identify important Vedic figures.	Vocabulary:	8.1.W.B
influential figures of	Describe the role played by the	Brahma, Vishnu, Shiva, Saraswati,	Evaluate the interpretation of historical
Hinduism?	religious leaders in Hinduism.	Lakshmi, Shakti, Parvati, Kali, Ganesh,	events and sources, considering the use
Timuuisiii.	Tengrous readers in Timedisin.	Krishna, Agni, avatar, murti, trimurti,	of fact versus opinion, multiple
2 Days		Brahmin, yogi, guru	perspectives, and cause and effect
		2.4, 7.8., 84.4	relationships.
			F
What are	Recognize similarities and	Vocabulary:	8.4.W.A
Hinduism's major	differences between Hinduism and	Holi, Diwali, puja, yoga, meditation,	Evaluate the role groups and
rituals, holy days,	monotheistic traditions.	mandir, mantra, pilgrimage, The River	individuals played in the social,
garments,	Describe what it means to	Ganges, tilak, bindi, om/aum	political, cultural, and economic
ceremonies, and	"practice" Hinduism.		development throughout world history.
symbols?	Explain how Hindus relate to, and	Documents:	
	sanctify, time.	-Panchanga	
2 Days			

Unit Title	Buddhism			
Unit Description	Buddhism evolved in India. There were periods in India's past when Buddhism was dominant in India. Today less than 1% of India's population is Buddhist. Buddhism has more followers in countries east of India. Buddhism was established in about 500 BC. Buddhism began with a prince called Siddhartha Gautama.			
Unit Assessment	Unit assessment			
Essential Question	Learning Goals Content and Vocabulary Standards			
When, where, and how did Buddhism originate? 1 Day	Explain significant elements associated with the life and teachings of Siddhartha. Describe the historical development of Buddhism following the life of Siddhartha.	Vocabulary: India, Aryans, Hinduism, Buddha/Siddhartha, Nontheism, Atheism, ascetic, Ashoka	8.1.W.C Construct research on a historical topic using a thesis statement and demonstrate use of appropriate primary and secondary sources. 8.4.12.C Evaluate how continuity and change have impacted the world today.	
What are the defining beliefs of Buddhism? What is the ultimate source of value and significance? 1 Day	List and analyze The Four Sights/Signs. List, analyze, and explain The Four Noble Truths. List, analyze, and explain Noble Eightfold Path. List, analyze, and explain the Five Precepts.	Vocabulary: Mahayana, Theravada, Vajrayana, Zen, The Four Sights/Signs, The Four Noble Truths, Noble Eightfold Path, The Five Moral Precepts, The Three poisons, Duhkha, Samudaya, Nirodha, Marga, Karuna, Maitri, Mudita, Anatman, Annitya, ascetic, Bodhi, Dharma, Dvesha, Karma, Madhyamaka, Nirvana, Samsara, Samadhi, Smrti	8.1.W.C Construct research on a historical topic using a thesis statement and demonstrate use of appropriate primary and secondary sources.	

What are Buddhism's important holy texts? 1 Day	☐ Identify the major texts in Buddhism. ☐ Explain why different Buddhist schools use different texts.	Vocabulary: Tripitaka (Three Baskets), Sutras, Koan, Prajnaparamita Documents: -Vinaya-Pitaka -Sutra-Pitaka -Abhidharma-Pitaka	8.1.W.C Construct research on a historical topic using a thesis statement and demonstrate use of appropriate primary and secondary sources.
Who are some influential figures of Buddhism? 2 Days	☐ Identify individuals crucial to the development and evolution of Buddhism. ☐ Describe the role played by the various religious leaders in Buddhism.	Vocabulary: Buddha/Siddhartha Gautama, Arhat, Ashoka, Bodhisattva, Lama, Dalai Lama, Sangha, Monk/Nun	8.1.W.B Evaluate the interpretation of historical events and sources, considering the use of fact versus opinion, multiple perspectives, and cause and effect relationships.
What are Buddhism's major rituals, holy days, garments, ceremonies, and symbols? 1 Day	☐ Describe what it means to "practice" Buddhism. ☐ Explain how Buddhist relate to, and sanctify, time.	Vocabulary: Asalha Puja Day, Parinirvana Day, Wesak, Mandala, Mantra, Mudra, Puja, Tonglen, Zazen Documents: -Zen Flesh -Zen Bones	8.4.W.A Evaluate the role groups and individuals played in the social, political, cultural, and economic development throughout world history.

Unit Title	Sikhism and Jainism		
Unit Description	Both Sikhism and Jainism have their origins in the Hindu tradition. However, like Buddhism, they both reflect a rejection of some of Hinduism's beliefs and traditions, chief among these being a rejection of the validity of the Vedas. Jainism is an ancient religion from India that teaches that the way to liberation and bliss is to live a life of harmlessness and renunciation, while Sikhism is a monotheistic religion stressing religion should be practiced by living in the world and coping with life's everyday problems.		
Unit Assessment	Unit assessment		
Essential Question	Learning Goals	Content and Vocabulary	Standards
When, where, and how did Sikhism originate? Who are some influential figures of Sikhism? 1 Day	☐ Describe the historical development of Sikhism following the lives of the Gurus. ☐ Describe the teachings of Guru Nanak, and his notable successors.	Vocabulary: Waheguru, Guru Nanak, Guru, Panj Piyaras, Granthi	8.1.W.C Construct research on a historical topic using a thesis statement and demonstrate use of appropriate primary and secondary sources. 8.4.12.C Evaluate how continuity and change have impacted the world today.
What are the defining beliefs of Sikhism? What are Sikhism's important holy texts? 1 Day	☐ Identify the major text in Sikhism. ☐ List, analyze, and explain The Three Pillars. ☐ Explain the significance of The Four Doors. ☐ Compare the Five Vices to prohibitions in other faiths.	Vocabulary: The Three Pillars (duties), The Four Doors, The Five Vices, Guru Granth Sahib Documents: -Guru Granth Sahib	8.1.W.C Construct research on a historical topic using a thesis statement and demonstrate use of appropriate primary and secondary sources.

What are Sikhism's major rituals, holy days, garments, ceremonies, and symbols? 1 Day	Describe what it means to "practice" Sikhism. Explain how Sikhs relate to, and sanctify, time.	Vocabulary: Gurpurbs, Vaisakhi, Diwali, Amrit Ceremony, Kacchera, Kanga, Kara, Kesh, Kirpan, Amrit, Gurdwara, Khalsa, Khanda, Kirtan, Langar, Mukti	8.4.W.A Evaluate the role groups and individuals played in the social, political, cultural, and economic development throughout world history
When, where, and how did Jainism originate? Who are some influential figures of Jainism? 1 Day	☐ Describe the historical development of Jainism through the twenty-four Tirthankaras. ☐ Identify Mahavira, and compare/contrast his mythology to that of Siddhartha Gautama.	Vocabulary: Vardhamän Mahävira, Lord Rishabha, Yatis, Tirthankaras/Jina	8.1.W.C Construct research on a historical topic using a thesis statement and demonstrate use of appropriate primary and secondary sources. 8.4.12.C Evaluate how continuity and change have impacted the world today.
What are the defining beliefs of Jainism? What are Jainism's important holy texts? 1 Day	☐ Identify the major text in Jainism. ☐ List, analyze, and explain The Five Mahavrata. ☐ Compare the Jain understanding of Ahimsa and Karma to the other Dharmic traditions. ☐ List, analyze, and explain The Five Anuvratas.	Vocabulary: Karma, Dharma, The Three Jewels, Samyak Darshana, Samyak Jnana, Samyak Charitra, Five Mahavratas, Ahimsa, Five Anuvratas, Nirgrantha, Svetambara, Digambara, Jiva, Gati, Sallekhana, Kevala, Bhoga, Upabhoga Documents: -Agamas	8.1.W.C Construct research on a historical topic using a thesis statement and demonstrate use of appropriate primary and secondary sources.
What are Jainism's major rituals, holy days, garments, ceremonies, and symbols? 1 Day	Describe what it means to "practice" Jainism. Explain how Jains relate to, and sanctify, time.	Vocabulary: Mahavira Jayanti, Paryushana/Das Lakshana Dharma	8.4.W.A Evaluate the role groups and individuals played in the social, political, cultural, and economic development throughout world history.

Unit Title	Eastern Religions		
Unit Description	Much like Hinduism in South Asia, the indigenous religions of East Asia, Taoism and Confucianism (China), and Shinto (Japan), reflect the broader cultures in which they appear. The connection is so strong that it is nearly impossible to separate where religious practice ends and secular life begins.		
Unit Assessment	Unit assessment		
Essential Question	Learning Goals	Content and Vocabulary	Standards
What are the defining beliefs of Taoism? 2 Days	☐ Describe the history of Taoism. ☐ Examine the beliefs of Taoism. ☐ Assess the impact of Taoist practices on the Western secular experience.	Vocabulary: Lao Tzu, Chuang Tzu, Way of The Celestial Masters, Chi, Tao, Wu Wei, Yin-Yang, Tai Chi, Acupuncture, Feng Shui, Ying-Yang, The Eight Trigrams Documents: -Tao Te Ching	8.1.W.C Construct research on a historical topic using a thesis statement and demonstrate use of appropriate primary and secondary sources. 8.4.12.C Evaluate how continuity and change have impacted the world today.
What are the defining beliefs of Confucianism? 2 Days	☐ Describe the history of Confucianism. ☐ Examine the beliefs of Confucianism. ☐ Assess the impact of Confucian practices on history and culture of China.	Vocabulary: Confucius, Mencius The Five Classics, The Four Books, Li, Ren, Wu, Chang, Xin, Yi, Zhi, The Five Virtues, The Five Relationships Documents: -Analects of Confucius	8.1.W.C Construct research on a historical topic using a thesis statement and demonstrate use of appropriate primary and secondary sources. 8.4.12.C Evaluate how continuity and change have impacted the world today.

What are the	Identify and explain the four	Vocabulary:	8.1.W.C
defining beliefs of	types of Shinto.	Amaterasu, Kami, Norito, Folk Shinto,	Construct research on a historical topic
Shinto?	☐ Differentiate between Shinto	Sect Shinto, Shrine Shinto, State Shinto,	using a thesis statement and
	practices that reflect genuine	Torii, Yutate, The Four Affirmations	demonstrate use of appropriate primary
2 Days	religious expression and those used		and secondary sources.
	by the state to foster a sense of		
	nationalism.		8.4.12.C
			Evaluate how continuity and change
			have impacted the world today.

Unit Title	African and African-Derived Religions		
Unit Description	The people of present-day Africa (West Africa, specifically) continue to practice their religions in much the same way their ancestors have for thousands of years. On the other side of the Atlantic Ocean, the descendants of enslaved Africans continue traditions that are heavily influenced by the practices of their ancestors while, at the same time, adopting some of the traditions and iconography of their captors.		
Unit Assessment	Unit assessment		
Essential Question	Learning Goals	Content and Vocabulary	Standards
How is the modern-day practice of African Traditional Religion (ATR) consistent with ancient times? How does it vary? 3 Days	☐ Evaluate how a western lens has distorted our understanding of African Rational Religion (ARR). ☐ Construct arguments for and against grouping African belief systems under an umbrella designation like African Traditional Religion (ATR).	Vocabulary: High God, primordial divinities, deified ancestors, charms/amulets, homeopathic magic, contagious magic, taboo, witchcraft/sorcery, medicine man	8.1.W.B Evaluate the interpretation of historical events and sources, considering the use of fact versus opinion, multiple perspectives, and cause and effect relationships.
What are the defining beliefs of Voodoo, and how do these beliefs differ between practicing groups? 2 Days	Explain the major differences between Haitian vodou and Louisiana voodoo. Evaluate the extent to which Voodoo (in any form) is a syncretic religion.	Vocabulary: boko, Bondye, gris-gris, kalfou, lwa, mambo, oungan, zombi	8.1.W.C Construct research on a historical topic using a thesis statement and demonstrate use of appropriate primary and secondary sources. 8.4.12.C Evaluate how continuity and change have impacted the world today.

What are the	☐ Identify the major beliefs in	Vocabulary:	8.4.W.A
defining beliefs of	Rastafari.	Jah, rasta, irie, Haile Selassie, "I-and-I,"	Evaluate the role groups and
Rastafari?	Compare and contrast the beliefs	levity, bingis, I-tal, Zion, reggae	individuals played in the social,
	of Rastafari with its depiction in		political, cultural, and economic
1 Day	Western popular culture.	Documents:	development throughout world history.
		-Holy Piby,	
		-The Bible (KJV)	

Unit Title	New Religious Movements and Cults				
Unit Description	Religious beliefs and expressions have evolved over many centuries and millennia. While many newer traditions have their roots in the belief systems of antiquity, others have a modern origin with unique and varied approaches to answering life's important questions. Some of these traditions have been accepted as genuine religions by modern society while others still seek that recognition. Some of these groups were designed, or have evolved, to manipulate and take advantage of adherents.				
Unit Assessment	Unit assessment				
Essential Question	Learning Goals	Content and Vocabulary	Standards		
What is a new religious movement (NRM)? 3 Days	☐ Evaluate the criteria for defining a new religious movement (NRM). ☐ Identify and explain the core beliefs of notable NRMs.	Vocabulary: Latter Day Saint movement, Jehovah's Witnesses, Seventh-day Adventist, Jehovah's Witnesses, Bahá'í Faith, Christian Science, Nation of Islam, Paganism Documents: -Book of Mormon -Latter Day Saint Articles of Faith -Kitáb-i-Aqdas	8.4.W.A Evaluate the role groups and individuals played in the social, political, cultural, and economic development throughout world history. 8.4.12.C Evaluate how continuity and change have impacted the world today.		

What is a cult? 2 Days	☐ Identify the defining characteristics of a cult. ☐ Explain how a cult is different from a religion.	Vocabulary: People's Temple, Heaven's Gate, Aum Shinrikyo, Branch Davidians, Children of God, TH Manson Family, Scientology	8.1.W.B Evaluate the interpretation of historical events and sources, considering the use of fact versus opinion, multiple perspectives, and cause and effect relationships. 8.1.W.C Construct research on a historical topic using a thesis statement and demonstrate use of appropriate primary and secondary sources.
What belief systems exist outside of communities of faith? 1 Day	☐ Differentiate between religious and secular organizations. ☐ Explore how humans find meaning outside of religion.	Vocabulary: Unitarian Universalist, Secular Humanist	8.1.W.B Evaluate the interpretation of historical events and sources, considering the use of fact versus opinion, multiple perspectives, and cause and effect relationships.

ACCOMMODATIONS AND MODIFICATIONS

Adaptations or modifications to this planned course will allow exceptional students to earn credits toward graduation or develop skills necessary to make a transition from the school environment to community life and employment. The I.E.P. team has determined that modifications to this planned course will meet the student's I.E.P. needs.

Adaptations/Modifications may include but are not limited to:

INSTRUCTION CONTENT

- Modification of instructional content and/or instructional approaches
- Modification or deletion of some of the essential elements

SETTING

- Preferential seating

METHODS

- Additional clarification of content
- Occasional need for one-to-one instruction
- Minor adjustments or pacing according to the student's rate of proficiency
- Written work is difficult, use verbal/oral approaches
- Modifications of assignments/testing
- Reasonable extensions of time for task/project completion
- Assignment sheet/notebook
- Modified/adjusted proficiency rates
- Modified/adjusted grading criteria
- Retesting opportunities

MATERIALS

- Supplemental texts and materials
- Large print materials for visually impaired students
- Outlines and/or study sheets
- Carbonless notebook paper
- Manipulative learning materials
- Alternatives to writing (tape recorder/calculator)