

Religious Studies 201

Identified

**Civic Discourse
Communication
Digital Literacy**

Assignment (Covers All):

Length: Six FULL Pages (1500-1600 words)

Format: double-spaced, one-inch margins, 12-point Times New Roman font

MLA Guidelines: All papers for this course should be in MLA format. If you follow the guidelines you learned in English 101 and/or 102, you should be fine. If you need to brush up on MLA format, consult Blackboard for a list of MLA formatting requirements. Pay special attention to the section on parenthetical citations. You will need to use this kind of citation when you refer to texts in your paper.

In this paper, the student will have the opportunity to interact with some of the key sacred writings of the major religions that we will study in class. To begin with, the student will pick two of the major religions that we have covered in this class, including:

(1) Hinduism (2) Buddhism (3) Judaism (4) Christianity (5) Islam

You will then construct a dialogue between two imaginary individuals representing different religions. These characters will be conversing with one another over their various beliefs and practices, mentioning similarities and differences along the way. In the paper, you need to incorporate material from (1) class lectures, (2) assigned readings, and (3) the sacred texts themselves relevant to the particular religions you have selected. At the very minimum, every dialogue should include a discussion of each religion's view of God/Ultimate Reality, Human Nature, and the Meaning of Life.

Keep in mind that all papers must include an introduction with a clear thesis, several body paragraphs, and a conclusion. Be sure to properly cite any and all sources using parenthetical citations and a works cited page (consult MLA document for explanation and examples).

Furthermore, I would encourage you to be creative with this assignment. I'm not only looking a substantive conversation between characters but also an interesting one!!! However, I do want the characters to stay on topic the whole time and not waste large parts of the dialogue using dressed up, flowery, or poetic language.