

WEEK 11 TOK AGENDA - ONLINE LEARNING WEEK 1:

*Please copy this page into your TOK notebook as you would normally do at the beginning of each week.

*This week's work will be part of the March Notebook check.

*An *optional free ZOOM* video-phone conference will be made available in the coming days. Stay tuned for more information and directions posted to the class website....

- 1. Personal Religion Questionnaire (from last week):** See the attached PPT slides and use the directions accordingly to critically and creatively journal your responses to 15 questions of your choice.
TOK AIM #4 Critically reflect on your own beliefs and assumptions, leading to a more thoughtful, responsible, and purposeful life.
- 2. Problems with Evidence in Religion and Defining Rationality:** See the attached PPT slides and copy the lecture notes and critically and creatively answer the questions in your TOK notebook.
TOK AIM #3 Develop an interest in the diversity and richness of cultural perspectives and an awareness of personal ideological assumptions.
- 3. Religion Timeline:** See the attached PPT and copy the World Religions Historical Timeline slide in your own handwriting in your TOK notebook. Please use highlighters, markers or colored pencils to aide in this work. Do this neatly.
TOK AIM #2 Develop an awareness of how individuals and communities construct knowledge and how this is critically examined.



1. **Personal Religion Questionnaire** (from last week): See the attached slides and critically and creatively journal your responses to 15 questions of your choice - it does not matter from which category. Please be as specific or general as you would like.

Questions About How You Came to Believe or Follow Your Religion

Were you brought up in your religion and why did you stay in it, or were you introduced at a later date and why did you choose it?

Were you born into your religion or did you convert? If you converted, why?

Were you brought up in this religion, or is it something you chose on your own?

Was your religion passed on to you by family tradition or is this something you chose for yourself?

Were you raised in this particular faith? If so, do you feel you would have chosen it if you weren't and why?

What led you to the beliefs you are now practicing?

*At what age did you really get into your religion?

*When did you figure out what your religion really was about?

*What drew you to this religion? What kept you faithful?

*How did you become a " " ? What was your reason? Is your family of the same religion?

*How did you come to believe and be a part of your religion? What made you stay with it?

Questions About How Others View Your Religions

What do you think are some of the major misconceptions of your religion?

What misconception do you feel people have about your religion?

*Have you ever been discriminated against because of your religion? How did you respond to this?

How is your religion portrayed in today's society? How does this affect you?

* How do you feel your religion is portrayed in Hollywood?



Questions About What Your Religion Means to You

In what way or ways has your religion affected other aspects of your life?

<http://home.dclllinois.edu/com417/126/InterviewQuestions.htm>

114

9/11/2018

Interview Questions

What does being religious mean to you?

What factor of your beliefs is currently the strongest influence in your life?

What is the earliest memory of your religion that has any significance to you?

Is religion an important part of your life today? Why or why not?

What do you feel is important about your religion for your life today?

What do you like best/least about your religion?

Are there any aspects of your faith that you dislike? If so, what are they and why do you dislike them?

What aspects of your everyday life are affected by religion?

What kind of person would you be without religion in your life? How would you be different?

How does your religion affect who you date, or plan to marry?

What made you stay with your religion?

Have you had any personal experiences that have reaffirmed your faith?

How involved are you in your religion?

Does your religion play an important role in your life? If so, how?

Do you feel freer because of your religion?



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Is there a difference between your mundane life and your religious life?

*Tell about a particularly spiritual/religious moment you've had when you felt very close to your God. Where were you, what were you doing, etc.?

*Have your religious beliefs changed in your lifetime? If so, how?

*Do you feel you've grown in your spirituality or changed in another way over the years?

*If you were not married, would you marry outside of your religion? Why or why not?

Do you feel it is important to attend worship service or do you feel you can fully participate in your religion without attending worship service?

Do you strictly follow the teaching/commandments/laws of your religion?

*Do you plan to raise your children in this religion or to let them decide what they want to believe on their own?

*Do you ever question your faith?

Questions About Other Religions

*What other religion would you consider to be closest to yours in beliefs?

How does your religion differ from others?

How does your religion deal with those who are against your practices and beliefs?

*Would you ever consider exploring other religions?

<http://home.cicillinois.edu/com417/126/InterviewQuestions.htm>

2/4

9/11/2018

Interview Questions

How does your religion view other religions?

What are your view on other faiths? Other sects





WEEK 11

How does your religion view other religions?

What are your view on other faiths? Other sects of your religion?

*Why do you practice your religion as opposed to another?

*Do you believe your religion is the only way? If yes, are other lost? Will they have no salvation? If no, is that representative of the strength of your faith?

*What are the major differences between your religion and others?

*What are some of the similarities between your faith and others of the world?

*How do your beliefs differentiate you from those outside of your religion?

Questions About the Role of Women in Your Religion

What is the role of women in your religion?

Within the bounds of your religion what, if anything, does it state for the female followers?

More Specific Questions About Your Religion

*What one word describes your religion best? Why?

Who or what plays the most important role in your religion?

How strict and how important is the moral code within your religion?

Where do you see your religious group in 1000 years?

What is the most important principle of your religion?

How does your religion handle the Problem of Evil?

What is required of you as a devotee?

Does your religion believe in somewhat of an afterlife? What is your image of it?

*What would you want someone outside your faith



WEEK 11

*What would you want someone outside your faith to know about your religion?

What happens in one of your services? How long are they? Does the whole family sit together or are they separated by male and female, etc.? Is there a prayer leader or someone like that in charge?

*What is the most important belief in your religion?

What is the most important day that you celebrate your faith? Why?

What are your views on death?

What strictures if any are on your diet?

*What are your religion's views on marriage, divorce, drugs and alcohol, violence, premarital sex and other moral values?

Are you allowed to marry outside your religion?

Is divorce allowed in your religion?

*How is your religion unique?

<http://home.dcllincoln.edu/com417/126/InterviewQuestions.htm>

3/4

9/11/2018

Interview Questions

*What does your religion offer to the world?

*Have your religions beliefs changed much during your lifetime, and if so, how?

Do you practice your religion on a daily/weekly basis? In what ways?

What important writings do you have (if any) in your religion and who wrote them?

*What is the most noble calling of your religion?

What is your religion's concept of sin or evil?

*What does your religion say is man's purpose on earth? What is the meaning behind our life?

What branch of your religion do you practice? Can you see how it is different from other branches?



WEEK 11

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*What does your religion say is man's purpose on earth? What is the meaning behind our life?

What branch of your religion do you practice? Can you tell me how it is different from other branches?

Can you tell me about some of the rituals/traditions of your religion and explain why they are important?

In your religion are humans seen as inherently good, inherently evil, or something else entirely?

In your opinion what should an individual expect after death?

According to your religion, what if any items should be present in a worshiping space and why should they be there?

Miscellaneous Questions

What would you tell me about your faith that would lead me to follow?

Would you encourage others to join in your beliefs/religion?

*What would you want someone outside your faith to know about your religion?

Why should anyone adopt your religion?

How do you think your religion has changed over the years?

*If you had the power, would you force the whole world to adopt your religion?

Is there any particular aspect of your faith that you would change/improve upon? If so, what?

*Has your faith been challenged by the modern world?

2. Problems with Evidence in Religion and Defining Rationality: See the following PPT slides and copy the lecture notes and critically and creatively answer any proposed questions in your TOK notebook.

To what extent is *faith* rational?
Or is it only irrational?
Or is it something else?

Remember we are discussing faith as a way of knowing. While there is room for faith as an actionable operation of belief it is also always a way of knowing. For these reasons we may use it synonymously with trust.

1. Compatibilism: Faith is rational.

>>Divine Sense Theory - Faith is an independent faculty which gives us knowledge in much the same as way as perception gives us knowledge.

>>Rational Faith Theory - What is grasped by Faith can be supported by evidence and argument based on ordinary experiences.

2. Fideism: Faith is irrational.

Faith is opposed to, and inferior to, reason and we must rely on reason if/when seeking religious truths.

3. Separate domains: Faith is arational.

There is no one method appropriate to all areas of knowledge. Faith and reason are both appropriate to different domains of inquiry and pursuits of Truth.

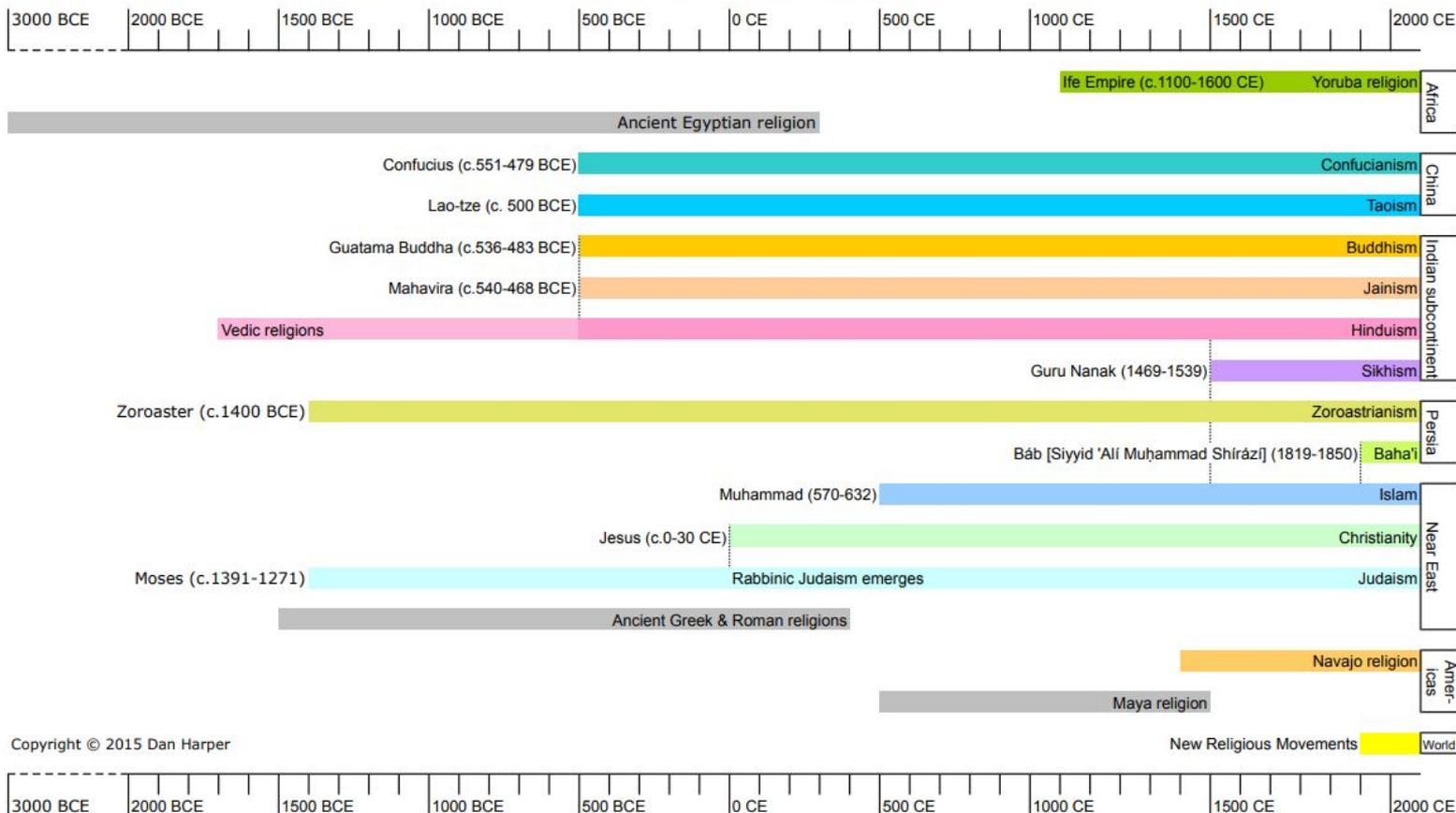
- **Define the term “arational”.**
- **Which of three proposed philosophical understandings of faith do you find yourself most in agreement? To what extent do you agree?**
- **Which of three proposed philosophical understandings of faith do you think IB best justifies in its decision to include Religion as an Area of Knowledge?**
- **Why might it be best to consider rationality as a spectrum (instead of a concrete black/white concept)? Are there paradoxes to this type of conceptual understanding?**

3. Religion Timeline:
See the attached PPT and copy the World Religions Historical Timeline in your own handwriting in your TOK notebook. Please use highlighters, markers or colored pencils to aide in this work. Do this neatly.

**The World Religions
Timeline
is on the next slide.**

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Time Line of Some World Religions





WEEK 11

**END OF PPT.
THIS CONCLUDES THE CONTENT FOR WEEK 12
(WEEK 1 OF ONLINE LEARNING).**

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Please stay tuned for additional information regarding an optional free ZOOM conference that may be conducted before next week's lesson. Instructions for how to join the audiovisual conference call will be posted on my website.

zoom

