

REL 11 Research Paper Fall 2022

Your assignment is to research and report on the origin, history, and significance of a particular ritual in a religious tradition (not your own) conducted in Los Angeles and compare it with another religious ritual tradition (not your own).

If physical/social distancing permits,* this requires: a *documented* site visit (which may be a photograph [a selfie is fine] taken during your visit appended to your paper *or* incorporated within the text) and participatory observation of a service, be it prayer, meditation, worship, or communal celebration.

This paper assignment only requires participatory observation during *one* site visit, but I will consider giving extra credit to projects that incorporate *two* site visits and/or those which conduct documented and transcribed interviews with a representative member of the religious community in question.

Papers should be no less than 10 pages (not including a title page or bibliography) and include at least five scholarly sources (two of which can be from course readings). A peer-reviewed scholarly source is either published in a journal or book. Paper formatting: Double-spaced, Times New Roman, in 12 point font, using *Chicago Style* guidelines, footnotes, and a bibliography.

Possible sites to visit or attend online remote services can be found below. Alternative sites may also be identified and contacted.

Christianity

Saint John's Cathedral (Episcopal)
514 W. Adams Blvd
Los Angeles, CA 90007
www.stjohnsla.org
churchoffice@stjohnsla.org
(213) 747-6285

* Given the limitations imposed by Covid-19, it will not always be possible to attend a religious service in-person. *If* this is the case, then cyber-ethnographic methods can be used to conduct the fieldwork, which will require: attending (and documenting participation in) an *online* service.

Judaism

Wilshire Boulevard Temple (Reform)
www.wbtla.org
3663 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90010
213-388-2401

Islam

The Islamic Center of Southern California
434 Vermont Ave
Los Angeles, CA 90020
www.islamiccenter.com
info@islamiccenter.com
213-382-9200

Sikhism

Guru Ram Das Ashram
www.gururamdasashram.org
1620 Preuss Rd.
Los Angeles, CA 90035
310-858-7691 or 310-201-0954
coordinator@gururamdasashram.org

Hinduism

Hindu Malibu Temple
www.malibuhindutemple.org
1600 Las Virgenes Canyon Road
Calabasas, CA 91302
(818) 880-5552

Buddhism

(Fo Guang Shan) Hsi Lai Temple (Chinese)
www.hsilai.org
3456 Glenmark Drive

Hacienda Heights, CA 91745
626-961-9697
info@ibps.org

Jainism

The Jain Center of Southern California
www.jaincenter.org
8072 Commonwealth Ave
Buena Park, CA 90621-2520
714-670-9173

Baha'i

The Los Angeles Baha'i Center
5755 Rodeo Road
Los Angeles, CA 90016
www.labahais.org
323-933-8291 (x102) (Nadia)

Native American

Wishtoyo Chumash Foundation
www.wishtoyo.org
33904 Pacific Coast Highway
Malibu, CA 90265
805-323-7023

Gabrielino Tongva Springs Foundation
www.gabrielinosprings.com
1439 Barrington Ave
Los Angeles, CA 90025
310-806-2418
program@gabrielinosprings.com

New Religious Movements

Self-Realization Fellowship Lake Shrine Temple
www.lakeshrine.org

Lake Shrine 17190 Sunset Blvd.
Pacific Palisades, CA 90272
310-454-4114

International Society for Krishna Consciousness of Los Angeles
www.iskconla.com
3764 Watseka Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90034
310-836-2676

Church of Scientology Los Angeles
4810 W. Sunset Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90027
323-953-3200
www.scientology-losangeles.org

Agape International Spiritual Center
www.agapelive.com
8440 Wilshire Blvd.
Beverly Hills, CA 90211
(310) 348-1250