

In-Class Presentation

Date varies

Final Grade – 10%

Background: As you are developing your expertise in a New Religious Movement, you will be expected to share some of that expertise with the class.

Assignment: Using your fact sheet as a background, you will give a 15-minute in-class presentation on the reading you selected at the beginning of the semester. This presentation will *not* be a summary of the reading; your fellow students will have read the material beforehand and don't need to be told what they just read. Instead, I expect you to identify some key parts of the reading to help your fellow students through an analytical lens. Make sure to answer the following questions fully.

1. Who is the author of the article/book? Where does s/he work (if you can find it)? What can you tell us about him/her that helps illuminate the study?
2. What is the methodology used in the article/book? How does the methodology limit the way the work is written?
3. What is the thesis/argument of the article?
4. How does this article enhance what you wrote in the Fact Sheet?
 - a. What additional things does the article reveal that you think is important?
 - b. Why do you think this topic about your NRM was worth writing about? If you don't think it was worth writing about, why not?
5. How does this article relate to the overall theme of the section?
6. What did you personally think of the article? Did it help your understanding of the subject? Do you agree with the thesis? Why or why not?

Following the presentation, you will lead a class discussion with at least *two* discussion questions you have prepared beforehand.

Note: If there are two of you signed up to present on the same day, you will present together. You will be expected to come up with a total of *four* discussion questions, however, and each of you will be responsible for two questions.

A few hints: You are welcome to use a PowerPoint to help with your presentation. However, *do not read directly from your PowerPoint!* We've all watched presentations where a person just reads directly from the slide; it's boring and you don't learn anything because you spend all your time reading the slide and zoning out. Instead, use the PP to *enhance* your presentation; have a few key words and illustrative pictures in the presentation with notes in your hand to explain what's going on in the slide. The slide should jog your memory, not be it.

You're not alone in this. I am happy to meet with you to talk about your presentation, go over key points of the text if you don't get it, come up with ideas for discussion questions, and tell you if your PowerPoint is effective.

You don't have to use a PowerPoint if you don't want to do so. Videos and music are also great ways to help your presentation. Or, if you love public speaking, go without props!

Grading Rubric

This assignment is worth 10 points. If you have adequately addressed the item, you will receive a one point. If you have partially addressed the item, you will receive .5 points. If you did not address the topic at all, you will receive a 0 and no points.

For items related to questions mentioned in the “Assignment” portion of this sheet, *full points will be awarded for addressing each of the questions listed above* relating to the item. *Half points will be awarded for addressing some of the questions* listed above relating to the item. E.g. On the “Discussion of author” portion, you will receive 1 point if you answer all of the following: Who is the author of the article/book? Where does s/he work (if you can find it)? What can you tell us about him/her that helps illuminate the study? One-half point would be awarded for answering only one or two of the questions.

- _____ 1. Discussion of author
- _____ 2. Methodology
- _____ 3. Thesis
- _____ 4. Article’s relationship to your Fact Sheet and your NRM
- _____ 5. Article’s relationship to theme of section
- _____ 6. Personal opinion of article
- _____ 7. Discussion question 1
- _____ 8. Discussion question 2
- _____ 9. Presentation is at least 15 minutes long and no longer than 20 minutes.
- _____ 10. Overall presentation quality

Comments:

Total Points: /10