

Holy C.O.W. (Cultures of the World): An Overview of the Quarter

RUBRICS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS FOUND AT:
<http://innovationcharter.pbwiki.com/>

Humanities Project for Quarter Four: Holy C.O.W. (Holy Cultures of the World)

In this project, students will explore how they can become true GLOBAL CITIZENS. Through this lens, we will study world geography, religion, and culture. This year, the geographical regions that students will focus on are Asia, Europe, and Oceania. Throughout the quarter, students will research one country and one of the five major world religions: Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam or Judaism. Becoming experts on a single country, they will eventually prepare a self-directed study about an aspect of life in that place. Products will be created based on the guiding themes of geography: LOCATION, PLACE, HUMAN ENVIRONMENT INTERACTION, MOVEMENT and REGION.

Focus of Study

- ▶ Study of Europe, Asia, and Oceania
- ▶ Culture & Religion
- ▶ Five Themes of Geography:
Location, Place, Regions, [Movement](#), & Human-Environment [Interaction](#)

Major Assessments

- ▶ Map Tests
- ▶ Rubric #1: "Meet My Country" - Map and Overview
- ▶ Rubric #2: World Religion Wiki (Class Website)
- ▶ Rubric #3: House Project
- ▶ Rubric #4: Global Citizen Presentation (choice research topic)

Other Highlights of the Quarter:

- Field Trips to Houses of Worship (early May)
- Wednesday Speaker Series
- End-of-quarter Global Citizen Contest
- Class Wiki: <http://innovationcharter.pbwiki.com/> (includes links to help with research and study, important documents, and more)

Holy COW Calendar – Quarter Four

(All dates are tentative; see website for updated info)

Week	Start Date	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday (55 min)	Thursday	Friday
1	4/7	Global Citizen Intro	Global Citizen Intro: Culture	Intro Oceania / SEAsia	Countries	Countries
2	4/14	Countries	Countries	Guest Speaker	Countries	Rubric #1 (Meet my Country) Due
April Vacation						
3	4/28	Religion Intro: What do you believe?	Oceania / SEAsia Test & Intro Asia	Guest Speaker:	3rd QN Prep Day – No Class	Religion
4	5/5	Religion	Religion	Guest Speaker:	Religion	Religion
5	5/12 (MCAS)	Field Trip to Houses of Worship	Asia Test and Intro Europe	Guest Speaker:	Religion Work	Religion
6	5/19 (MCAS)	Religion	Rubric #2 (Religion Wiki) Due	Guest Speaker:	House Project	House Project
7	5/26	No School – Memorial Day	Western Europe Quiz House Project	Guest Speaker:	House Project	No School
8	6/2	House Project	Eastern Europe Quiz	Guest Speaker:	Rubric #3 (Houses) Due Celebrating Work	Final Project
9	6/9	Final Project	Europe Physical Features Quiz Final Project	Guest Speaker:	Final Project	Final Project
10	6/16	Rubric #4 (Choice & Final Due) Presentations	Global Citizen Contest	Last Day of School		

Name: _____

Student / Family Info Sheet About Upcoming Tests and Quizzes

Students in Humanities Project will be studying world geography this quarter. We would like to let you know about dates of upcoming quizzes and tests so that you can help your son/daughter study. Please return this sheet signed, and then students will keep it in their project section of their binders. The expectation is that students will spend **20 minutes a night studying**. Parents need to make a decision about whether you want to require **planners to be signed by a parent or guardian** to show that they have indeed done their studying for the night. See below for more information.

Important Dates

Oceania / Southeast Asia Test	Tuesday, April 29
Asia Test	Tuesday, May 13
Europe Test #1: Western Europe	Tuesday, May 27
Europe Test #2: Eastern Europe	Tuesday, June 3
Europe Test #3: Physical Features of Europe	Tuesday, June 10

Study Methods

Students are also expected to use multiple study methods at home. Please **check** below which study methods your son/daughter has **used in the past**. Next, discuss and put a **star** next to at least **two new methods** that you plan to try at home.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> making up a song to remember | <input type="checkbox"/> making a sample quiz and trying it |
| <input type="checkbox"/> making flashcards | <input type="checkbox"/> being quizzed by another person |
| <input type="checkbox"/> repeating names of countries | <input type="checkbox"/> tracing the map |
| <input type="checkbox"/> making up mnemonics | <input type="checkbox"/> making a sample map and filling it in |
| <input type="checkbox"/> online games | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please explain): _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please explain): _____ | |

Parent/Guardian Signature for Studying

In order to ensure that students are studying nightly, we have required students in the past to get a parent/guardian signature in their planners each night. The signature shows the homebase teacher that the student did his/her homework (studying) the night before. If he or she does not have a signature, it would be treated like any other failure to do homework, and that student would attend homework center. This year, we'd like parents to choose how self-directed they feel their student is, and whether or not he or she will need the nightly signature. Please check one of the following choices:

My son/daughter should be required to show a parent/guardian signature when he or she studies for geography quizzes (recommended for most 5th graders). I understand that he or she could be put down for the homework center list if he or she does not have my signature. I plan to ensure that studying is happening nightly, and sign the planner accordingly.

My son/daughter should NOT be required to show a parent/guardian signature when he or she studies for geography quizzes (recommended for most 6th graders). I understand that he or she will be responsible for studying independently, and I will ensure that this is happening nightly, even though a signature in the planner won't be required.

Student Signature: _____

Parent/guardian Signature: _____