

Exegetical Project definition for SO130, Cultures of Ancient Civilizations

This is a research project that has multiple parts. They are: 1) Topic Selection, 2) Research, 3) Documentation, 4) Pastoral Review, and 5) Peer Review. Each of these parts has specific requirements that need to be observed and followed to assure that your efforts are maximally productive. If you have any questions about this project, Before, or during its creation please contact me for clarification. Thank You, Carl j Simonsen

1) Topic Selection

You need to select a topic of importance to you for research within the context of our study into the cultures of ancient civilizations. This included sample list is not exhaustive so you may propose a topic of interest to you that is not included on this list – but it must be approved prior to your research study. **All topic selections must be approved prior to the end of class on October 23rd, 2018 using the attached topic selection form.**

Sample Topic List:

- a. Canaanite Religion's Impact on Judaism
- b. Creation Stories in the ANE. Compare and contrast them with the Biblical Creation Story.
- c. Evolution of Judaic Worship and the role of the Synagogue from 586BCE to 100CE.
- d. Judaic Worship in a modern day Synagogue
- e. Evolution of Marriage Customs in Israel (Pre Exilic, Exilic, and Post Exilic)
- f. The role of women and men in Judaism vs their role in the early Christian Church
- g. Greco-Roman Religion and it's coexistence with the Early Christian Church.
- h. Topic of your choice (approval needed)

2) Research

This paper is a research paper. Research requires that you gather observations, evaluate them, and use them to make new knowledge. Key items to be considered include:

- a. Assure yourself that the research you are doing is consistent with the topic of your paper. State your thesis, and then develop it.
- b. As you make observations record where you find them so that you may later appropriately cite them.
- c. As you generate your conclusion(s) remember that you have either expanded and confirmed your opening thesis and you should state that OR you will have contradicted your opening thesis and will need to address that.

3) Documentation (written paper)

The primary form of this and any other research is typically the written word. Thus, its form is nearly as important as its function because the form allows the function to be understood. **This paper is to be submitted to the instructor by December 20, 2018.**

- a. The paper is to be 8-10 pages in length, excluding charts, graphs, maps, bibliography etc.
- b. The paper is to include as a minimum an introduction, body, and conclusion with additional topics, and subtopics for organizational purposes.
- c. As a formal research paper, it should NOT make use of the first person.
- d. The paper must have adequate documentation (Footnotes, Endnotes, Citations etc) and they should be used in both their proper form and function. (do not use a footnote for a citation)
- e. The paper should be free of major grammatical mistakes and coherent in its presentation.
- f. The paper is to be in standard *MLA format as specified in the first class*, and it is to be submitted in a printed form.

4) Pastoral Review

Following completion of the paper, each student is to present it to their pastor, focusing on learnings, and your conclusions. **Following this presentation the Pastor will need to fill out and sign the attached Pastor's Verification form, submitting it with your paper on December 20th, 2018**

5) Peer Review (in class oral report)

Each student will be given the opportunity to present their Research Paper Orally to the class. **This is optional, and will need to be selected by November 8th, 2018 and ready for presentation on December 20th, 2018.** Key things to remember during the oral review of your paper are:

- a. This is not to be a paper reading – please be prepared to present your thesis, critical information supporting your thesis, and then your conclusion(s).
- b. This presentation should be no longer than 15 -20 minutes and may be as short as 10 minutes if it fulfills the need of the topic
- c. This presentation does not require PowerPoint or any other presentation enhancers but you are free to generate them and there will be a means to display them (uSoft Power Point or PDF only.)

6) Grading

Consistent with the class syllabus, the paper grading will be:

The Exegetical Paper	
Form-MLA compliance	up to 25 points
Structure	up to 25 points
Content and Conclusion supporting Thesis	up to 150 points
Pastoral Review	up to 50 Points
Oral Presentation (Final Grade Bonus)	up to 100 Points
Total Points available “	up to 350 Points

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Student Paper Topic Selection and Submission Form

Fall
2018

Part ONE: Submit to Instructor by October 23rd, 2018

Student Name: _____ Date: _____

Requested topic _____

Support Information (if needed)

Part TWO (Resubmit by November 8th, 2018) [circle one]

I **AM** / **AM NOT** going to participate in the project ORAL report on December 20, 2018

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Pastoral Review Verification form

Fall
2018

Part One: (Filled out by Pastor)

This is to verify that _____ reviewed their thesis, and findings
(Students Name)

with me for their Cultures of Ancient Civilizations research paper on _____.
Date

Pastoral comments for student

Pastor's Signature _____

Position in Church _____ Date: _____

Part Two: Student to submit to Instructor Dec 20th, 2018 with their written manuscript.