Worldview Study Matrix 2

## Worldview Study Features

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	Theism			
	Islam	Judaism	Christianity	
What is the nature of Ultimate reality? (Ultimate Reality)	Islam means "to accept," or "to submit" or "to commit oneself." It is a Monotheistic religion that requires the concept of submitting oneself to Allah.  Muhammsd became convinced that was a true prophet and apostle.He took a small group of believers to Medina.	The righteous shall live by faith and trust in God.  They are known as "God's chosen people."	Jesus is the Son of God remains a core value. Jesus came to save mankind from their sin so that they might be adopted into the family of God.  The Bible is compiled of 66 books. It is the revelation and truthful record of God's word.	
What is the nature of material reality? (Material Reality)	"We will not worship any but the one God. We will not steal. Neither will we commit adultery. Nor kill our children. We will not slander in any wise. Nor will we disobey the Prophet in anything that is right."	Maimonedes shows key concepts like God exists, God has unity, God creator, etc.  The Sabbath starts Friday at Sundown.  Circumcision is on the 8th day for baby boys.  They celebrate various feasts:  Passover, Rosh Hashanah, the Feast Of Booths, The festival of lights (Hanukkah), Purim, and Shabut (feast of weeks).	The material reality of Christ was that: "Man should not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God."  There is a higher regard for the weight of eternal things for Christ.  Jesus makes statements like, "Give to Caesar what is Caesar's and give to God what belongs to God."  In like manner, Christ says, "You can not serve both God and mammon. You will love one and hate the other. Choose this day, whom you will serve."  Concepts of identifying eternal value are of utmost significance.	

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What is a human being? (Humanity)	Human beings are God's servants and ones that ought to obey the prophets in life.	God rewards those who keep the Torah and rejects those that do not.  The first five of the law/ten commandments (in the pentateuch) reveal our relation to God. The last 5 deal with man's relation to man.	Man is made in the image of God. The book of Revelation discloses that we are servants of Christ Jesus. We are created in God, in order that we might do good works (that we should walk in them.)
What happens to a person at death? (Death)	Predestination concept that everything that happens is foreordained by the degree of Allah.  There is also judgment of God where when death occurs, the judgment of God occurs leading to an eternal fate.	God will judge to eternal damnation or eternal life. God will sit on his throne as the King of Kings, to judge not only people but also the nations.	Jesus came to deliver all people from their sins due to the death on the cross. This demonstrated the sacrificial lamb (perfect lamb) that was spotless (that which is Christ) in order to redeem and restore righteousness back to God.
Why is it possible to know anything at all? (Knowledge)	Muhhammad was against immorality, drinking, gambling, and unwanted infant daughters.  There are three modes of revelation:  There are prophets that lead the people to understanding.  The Koran was a book of written knowledge.  The angels give instructive revelation.	God has a moral government of the world. He wrote his commandment and he created knowledge and wisdom to govern the universe.  The book of Proverbs discloses wise sayings that provide understanding to how we ought to live or some helpful truths to give guidance.	God created man in His own image. With that he made man capable of thinking. He gave man a will and a soul. The soul is the mind, will and emotions. With this, God gave direction through His Word in order to teach and train and equip in righteousness the saints of God.  The book of Proverbs is a book that speaks about wisdom and knowledge and the fear of the Lord.
How do we know what is right and wrong? (Morality)	All believe in one transcendent God, who is the creator, sustainer and ruler over the universe. All believe in angels, Satan, moral accountability, responsibility, divine judgment, and eternal reward or punishment.  Alms giving is important. Praying every Friday is important.  Fasting during the second week at Ramadan.	Moses was given the ten commandments that governs right from wrong.  The Torah is the first five books that contain the decalogue or ten commandments.  The Talbot contains laws and shows concepts of moral ethics of right and wrong.	In the bible, it discloses that God has written the law of God upon man's heart. There is a law of the spirit of life which includes love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness and self-control. There is also a law of sin and death, meaning works of darkness.
What is the meaning of human history? (History)	Abraham with Hagar had Ishmael. This is where the lineage of Islam began.	2100 B.C. The Patriarch Abraham is a founder and forefather of the faith. The name Judaism	Jesus of Nazareth was the founder of Christianity.

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	The religion of pre-Arabia was developed out of the Semitic desert faith where the majority worshiped multiple local gods and goddesses.	comes from the second son of Jacob named Judah.  1876 BC Joseph and all his brothers moved to Egypt.  In the Hellenistic time period is when the term Judaism was first used.  24 sects came forth such as sadducees and pharisees. They were waiting for a long awaited Messiah.	He discipled 12 disciples that spread the good news of Jesus' resurrection. Many came to faith as the word of God was spread throughout the nations.  AD 313 Constantine declared Christianity a legal religion.
Strengths & Weaknesses	Strengths: There is only one omnipotent God. God is one so it is a monotheistic religion. It does note that Jesus is the prophet as the word of God (but only a prophet - they do not believe that /he is the son of God).  Weaknesses: Clash of civilizations as well as clashes in government and authorities. Different sects, for example, The Sheriah, are especially extremists. The Sunni Sect is the main body of muslims.	Strengths:  Religious duty of man to man Worship Joy of obeying God's law Hopefulness of a better future  1940 was the year that Israel was formed.  Weaknesses: General exclusiveness. Ceremonialism  70 AD there was a destruction of the temple. Animal sacrifices were abandoned. The Jewish people were scattered all over.  In 1930- 1940's Hitler tried to exterminate all the jews.	Strengths:  There is a concept of unity in the brethren of Christ  Prayer, worship and reading the Word together are regarded as of high significance.  Weaknesses: General exclusiveness Current misrepresentations in holidays (ie Santa at Christmas or bunny rabbits at Easter).

## WORLDVIEW STUDY FEATURES Carolyn Wu

Do all roads lead to Rome? In other words, is it possible to synthesize the major worldviews into one world faith?

I do not believe that we can combine all theistic religions into one due to the fact that there are variations of belief on some main essential points of the faith. For example, believing that Jesus is the Son of God and that He walked a perfect life (in order to redeem mankind) is essential to Christian belief. The other religions (with the exception of messianic Jews) do not hold this belief.

*Is cultural pluralism in the U.S. a workable framework for dealing with diversity?* 

I think that cultural pluralism blends the views of religions and can cause confusion to students. If they learn so much about this framework, then they may forget their own families roots in order to adopt or acclimate to another in their class. I remember as a student, my friend celebrate both Christmas and Hannakuh. I thought to myself, how wonderful! She gets double the gifts. She explained to me that they are two different religions. But one parent was jewish and the other was christian, so that had to make it work as a family. She learned both.

As a teacher, how can you deal with worldview pluralism in an educational environment?

It's important for students to feel safe and encouraged to express their views. I think its better to open discussions regarding cultures and ways of life and to spend less time focusing on religion. Religion is a subject that can cause offense or defensiveness. I think it's more practical to discuss etnic foods and attributes regarding a culture that are more engaging (i.e. let them taste the food or listen to the cultural music etc.).

If you are a Christian, should your attitude be inclusive or exclusive relative to the other world religions?

I believe my attitude should stand by my beliefs. My belief is that we are to be kind in our speech and extend grace to the hearers. We should honor and include all students but we should monitor what is said, to make sure that the discussion is encouraging, supportive and uplifting.