British Columbia Ministry of Education. (n.d.). Area of Learning: Social Studies Comparative World Religions (Grade 12) [Curriculum Guide].
https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/sites/curriculum.gov.bc.ca/files/curriculum/social-studies/en_social-studies_12_comparative-world-religions_elab.pdf

BRITISH COLUMBIA
Ministry of Education

Area of Learning: SOCIAL STUDIES — Comparative World Religions — Grade 12

BIG IDEAS

Religious belief, across time and place, is a common aspect of many human societies.	Religion can powerfully shape social, political, legal, and environmental values.	Comparing beliefs provides insights into and understanding of diverse global cultures and peoples.	An individual's search for existential insight and transcendence can be shaped by a variety of different religious, spiritual, or philosophical traditions.

Learning Standards

Curricular Competencies	Content
Students are expected to be able to do the following:	***Students are expected to know the following:***
• Use Social Studies inquiry processes and skills to ask questions; gather, interpret, and analyze ideas; and communicate findings and decisions • Explain the significance of texts, philosophies, events, or developments at particular times and places within various belief systems (significance) • Compare and evaluate artifacts as evidence of the cultural influence of religion (evidence) • Compare the growth and decline of religions over time, and determine the extent of continuity and changes in core beliefs and practices (continuity and change) • Assess origins and influences of religious movements and groups (cause and consequence) • Explain different religious perspectives on past or present people, places, issues, or events (perspective) • Assess the accuracy of representations of religion in media and popular culture (critical media literacy)	• characteristics of religion, mythology, and spirituality • core beliefs, practices, and ethics of world religions, including spirituality in First Peoples cultures • approaches to doctrines or belief systems • institutional and social structures • sacred texts, traditions, and narratives • art, architecture, narratives, and other forms of expression • relationship between religion and government at different times and places

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Curricular Competencies – Elaborations

- **Compare and evaluate artifacts as evidence of the cultural influence of religion (evidence):**

  Key question:

  - **How is building design evidence of a religion's cultural influence?**
- **Compare the growth and decline of religions over time, and determine the extent of continuity and changes in core beliefs and practices (continuity and change):**

  Key question:

  - **To what extent do modern religious practices adhere to ancient practices?**
- **Assess origins and influences of religious movements and groups (cause and consequence):**

  Key questions:

  - What was the role of the Roman Empire in the early growth of Christianity in the 1st century?
  - In what ways did Christianity influence the Roman Empire?
- **Explain different religious perspectives on past or present people, places, issues, or events (perspective):**

  Key questions:

  - What arguments do mainstream Canadian religious communities make about doctor-assisted suicide?
  - Is the "golden rule" common to all major religious belief systems? Explain your answer.

SOCIAL STUDIES – Comparative World Religions
Grade 12

Content – Elaborations

- **characteristics of religion, mythology, and spirituality:**

  Key questions:

  - What is religion?
  - What is the relationship between spirituality and worldviews for First Peoples in Canada?
- **core beliefs, practices, and ethics of world religions, including spirituality in First Peoples cultures:**

  Sample topics:

  - doctrines and teachings
  - worship, meditation, and prayer
  - pillars of Islam
  - observances and holidays

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Content – Elaborations

- **approaches to doctrines or belief systems:**

  Sample topics:
  - **role of baptism**
  - **conversion to belief**
  - **evangelism**
  - **non-belief**
- **institutional and social structures:**

  Sample topics:
  - **power relationships in religious leadership**
  - monastic communities
  - theocracy
  - caliphates
  - **church** councils and assemblies
  - **churches**, mosques, and temples
- **sacred texts, traditions, and narratives:**

  Sample topics:
  - indigenous oral traditions
  - **Biblical texts**
  - Pentateuch
  - Quran, sharia
  - myths
- **art, architecture, narratives, and other forms of expression:**

  Sample topics:
  - Cordoba, Spain
  - Hagia Sophia
  - Renaissance

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