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Welsh Hills School
Lesson Plan: Religions in South Korea throughout history
Fall 2017

Grade Level: 12

Time: 10 days

Objective

Students will find out about the different religions that coexist in South Korea and explore in depth the way these have shaped the beliefs of Korean people. They will recognize the numerous ways the Korean people express their religious identities. Students will interpret their findings and elaborate on how religious lives can contrast and/or overlap in the way individual understand their own religious views. They will possess a stronger understanding on how religions transform societies and cultures while adapting them to their own ways of life.

Standards

Library guidelines

Locate resources using a title, subject, or author, keyword and advanced searches in the library catalog (e.g., Boolean operators and/or limiters such as copyright or material type). Ohio

Investigate information through independent discovery, peer collaboration, and inquiry learning; read a variety of literary material for academic need, personal interest and lifelong learning; and practice responsible usage and ethical behavior when using library media center materials. Ohio

Refine the information question to focus the research process, modifying the question as necessary to broaden or narrow the inquiry. Ohio

History

Analyze cause, effect, sequence and correlation in historical events, including multiple causation and long- and short-term causal relations. Ohio

Societies and religions

Compare religious practices to understand commonality and diversity of religions.

Analyze examples of interactions between religious groups and explain the factors that contribute to religious identity and overlaps or contradictions with other religious beliefs.

Explain how interactions between different religions impacts the diffusion of religious beliefs.

Assignments

Through group presentations to the class, students will explore in detail the principles of religions such as Protestantism, Buddhism, Roman Catholicism, Jeungsangyo, Cheondogyo,

Daejongyo, Islam and Shamanism. They will describe their tenets and elucidate the influence in society while discovering the intricacies that bring the interactions of different religious influences in each person. Each group will be using a common timeline that will be kept in front of the classroom as they explain the arrivals of the religions and the process through which each religion expanded and transformed the lives of Korean people.

Assessment

In an essay, students will be able to reveal their understanding of the Korean spirit and how it has been shaped throughout history due to the religions that have been introduced in the Korean society. By being able to elucidate on Korean religions, students will be able to reflect on their own understanding of religion and appreciate the value of understanding other religious views.

The questions they will be able to answer are:

What are the different religions that have influenced South Korea throughout history; and

How have these religions shaped the understanding of themselves in the world and how much do these influence their behavior and religious interactions?

Sources and materials

Timeline of Korean history with major historical events (Different dynasties, Japanese invasion, Chinese influence and Korean War).

<http://www.korea.net/AboutKorea/Korean-Life/Religion>

Donald L. Baker. *Korean Spirituality*. University of Hawaii Press, 2008

James H. Grayson. *Korea - A Religious History*. Routledge, 2002

Lee Chi-ran. Chief Director, Haedong Younghan Academy. [*The Emergence of National Religions in Korea*](#)