

RLG101H FIELD RESEARCH PROPOSAL – INSTRUCTIONS

Submission and Deadlines

- The deadline to submit your proposal without a late penalty is 11:59 pm on **March 16**. Your assignment will be penalized 1 mark (out of 20) per day late.
- You must submit your proposal to both BLACKBOARD and TURNITIN.COM as a Microsoft Word (.doc or .docx) file. The version of your assignment on Turnitin.com will be the one graded. Paper copies will not be accepted. If you do not wish to submit your work to Turnitin.com, you must consult with the course instructor; for details see the course website: <https://rlg101h.wordpress.com/grading/writing-assignments>
- You must also submit a **photo** of your group taken at the religious site you visited. It may be taken inside or outside (in front of the site). This photo is to be submitted only to Blackboard. It is worth 2 marks (out of 20) towards your proposal grade. **No photos will be accepted late for any reason.**

Requirements

You must have a clear idea of what the requirements are for the final assignment before you can write this proposal. With that in mind, you will need to read the following documents (all are on Blackboard):

- RLG101H Field Research Analysis Instructions
- RLG101H Field Research Analysis Advice
- RLG101H Field Research Analysis Example Paragraphs
- RLG101H Field Research Analysis Theories

For the proposal, you must fill in all the information in the **Field Research Proposal Form**, and submit this file to both Blackboard and turnitin.com.

Your proposal will be graded for completion only. If you have made a reasonable attempt to fulfill each task you will receive full marks regardless of the quality of your submission. Your TA will provide you with feedback on the various elements of your proposal. The more effort and thought you put into this proposal, the more useful the feedback will be for you when you write your final Field Research Analysis.

Example and Advice

- To help guide you in completing the Field Research Proposal Form, **sample information** is provided below for the Title Page as well as Paragraphs 1 and 2. This information relates to the sample analysis provided in the Field Research Example Paragraphs document, which is based on the (very fictional!) Shrine of the Holy Iguana.
- The theory used below (and in the Example Paragraphs) is Durkheim's theory that rituals create relationships. **Do NOT use this theory!** The reason is that it is not actually useful for this assignment because it does not provide any meaningful insights into your observations (i.e., it's actually quite obvious that people performing a ritual together are being connected by that ritual).
- We encourage you to write in an **informal style** for this assignment. The most important point is to express your observations and ideas clearly, so that your TA can offer you helpful feedback.
- We also encourage you to indicate in the Field Research Proposal Form any **questions** you might have about your observations or analyses. If you're not sure about an idea, say so directly. That is to say, tell us where you're struggling, where you need some assistance, so that we are in a better position to help you.

Title Page

Number of people in your group (total)	2
Name of group member writing on Culture	Ken Derry
Name of group member writing on Power	Beyoncé Knowles
Name of group member writing on Gender	None
Religious site visited (name and address)	Shrine of the Holy Iguana 123 Main Street, Toronto
Date and time ritual attended	March 2, 2018 at 10:30am

Paragraphs 1 and 2

	Paragraph 1: Description
Theme/ Pattern 1	Blankets! (I noticed that blankets appeared in various places in the temple, and were used in different ways. It was really interesting!)
Observations 1	<p>Outside the entrance to the shrine we saw a large stone statue of an iguana covered with a red blanket (maybe an afghan?).</p> <p>Along one hallway, there were some bulletin boards with many advertisements for blanket manufacturers, outlets, and websites.</p> <p>Inside the main room at the centre of the shrine we saw four more statues and six paintings of iguanas, all spread around the outside of the room. The statues were about as tall as an average adult person. Each iguana statue was covered in a red blanket, as was each of the iguanas in the paintings.</p> <p>The main ritual we observed was led by a woman in the middle of the largest room in the shrine, who had a red blanket over her shoulders.</p> <p>All the people participating in the ritual had a soft, blue blanket beside them.</p> <p>At one point the woman in the middle of the room yelled out: “By the power of the Holy Iguana, let us be covered!” All the people in the room then wrapped themselves in their blankets. These blankets were large enough to cover each person entirely.</p>

	Paragraph 2: Analysis
Theory 1	I will use Emile Durkheim’s theory that rituals create connections between people. As Nye explains, “ritual actions do not only involve people in relationships with each other, the performance of rituals actually creates those relationships” (Nye 2008, 141–2).
Analysis 1	<p>Just outside the entrance to the shrine we saw a large stone statue of an iguana covered with a red blanket.</p> <p>Inside the shrine we saw four more statues and six paintings of iguanas – each iguana was covered in a red blanket.</p> <p>Along one hallway, there were some bulletin boards with many advertisements for blanket manufacturers, outlets, and websites.</p> <p>The main ritual we observed was led by a woman at the centre of the largest room in the shrine, who had a red blanket over her shoulders. All the people participating in the ritual had a soft, blue blanket beside them. At one point the woman in the centre yelled out: “By the power of the Holy Iguana, let us be covered!” All the people in the room then wrapped themselves in their blankets. These blankets were large enough to cover each person entirely.</p>