

WEEK 11 Wicca "World Religions III" The name Wicca is the old English word for wizard. Wicca is an attempt to revive the pre-Christian nature and fertility religions of western Europe. It is a neo-pagan religion that believes in supernatural magick, worships a male and female deity, and practices rituals that revolve around the cycles of nature. Wiccans often claim a historical connection with the ancient religions of the pre-Christian pagans, the movement actually started in the mid-twentieth century. Since Wicca is both antidogmatic and antiauthoritarian, it has no central leadership or organization.

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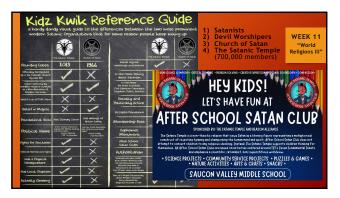
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WEEK 11 Wicca "World Religions III" A conservative estimate for the number of Wiccans would be about 250,000. However, some Wiccan groups claim that there are as many as 5,000,000 people practicing their religion in North America. Many of the beliefs of Wicca are also found in the New Age Movement. Wicca accepts an occultic understanding of reality. Wiccans worship a mother goddess and a male horned deity (her consort). Three major beliefs of Wicca are animism, pantheism, and polytheism.



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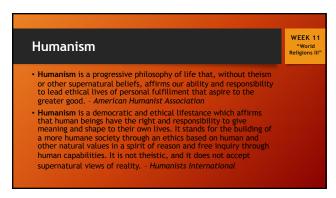
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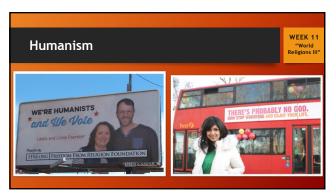


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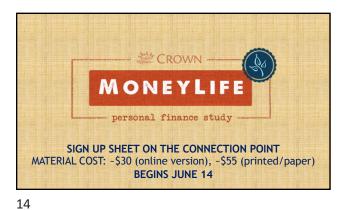




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