

# World Religions in Greater Indianapolis Teaching Module

**Teacher Name:** Rachel Michele Barrett Knight    **Discipline:** Composition    **Date:** January 29, 2017

**World Religion:** Buddhism

**Teaching Module Title:** Buddhism in U.S. History

## Teaching Module Goals:

1. Students will read about historical events with current events in society related to Buddhism.
2. Students will compare and contrast readings with an emphasize on evaluating the information.
3. Students will develop a plan for writing a comparison essay.

## Assigned Readings and/or Websites:

1. Mann, G. S., Numrich, P., and Williams R. (2008). *Buddhists, Hindus, and Sikhs in America*. Oxford University Press, p. 1-15.
2. Cohn, D. (2015, September 30). How U.S. immigration laws and rules have changed through history. *Pew Research*. Retrieved from <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2015/09/30/how-u-s-immigration-laws-and-rules-have-changed-through-history/>

## Lesson Plan:

This could be used as a classroom activity to prepare for a compare/contrast essay.

1. Students should read both the first chapter in Mann and the website information prior to coming to class.
2. Students should be put into groups to evaluate similarities and differences. Each group should evaluate the information they read and make distinctions about the information.
3. Students should decide what pieces of information are most interesting to compare or contrast and organize the information into a possible outline and develop a thesis statement for their practice essay.
4. Students present the information to the class with a discussion focused on thesis statements and the way the information is organized while connected to the thesis.

## Written Assignments and/or other Assessment Instruments:

1. Students create a thesis statement reflecting the comparison of the two readings.
2. Students create a short outline focused around the thesis statement provided.