

HPRS4010 New Religious Movements

Component 1 - Website Critique - 2,000 words

The objective is to critique a website belonging to a movement/organisation, etc, that can come under the “new religious movements” umbrella. Please choose from one of the following:

from WORLD’S RELIGIONS

- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints: <https://www.lds.org/>
- Jehovah’s Witnesses: <https://www.jw.org/en/>
- Christian Science: <https://www.christianscience.com>
- The Family International (TFI) (formerly Children of God): <https://www.thefamilyinternational.org/en/>
- Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU) (Unification Church): <http://familyfed.org>
- Jesus Fellowship (formerly Jesus Army): <https://jesus.org.uk>
- Transcendental Meditation (TM): <https://www.tm.org>
- International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON): <http://www.iskcon.org>
- Osho: <https://www.osho.com>

from PSYCHOLOGY

- Scientology: <https://www.scientology.org>

from EXTRATERRESTRIAL CULTURE

- The Aetherius Society: <https://www.aetherius.org>
- Raelism: <http://www.rael.org/home>

from FICTION

- Church of the Flying Spaghetti Monster: <https://www.venganza.org>

This assignment should include/give information on the following:

- The name and URL of the website
- Why you chose this website.
- A description of the content
- An assessment of the content
- How accessible the material is.
- How you respond to the appearance of the website.
- What the website is aiming to do. To whom is it aimed?
- Is the web site likely to be attractive and encourage people to “join the cause”?

The most common problem with critiques that I have seen is that they become a critique of the actual topic of the website rather than a critique of the website itself. Take care with this!

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NB These guidelines have been written specifically for this assignment. If another module asks for a critique of a website, please ask the module tutor what their guidelines are as they might be different.