

Spring 2021

Pandemic Pandemonium Speech Assignment

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Pandemic Pandemonium - Spring 2021 Student Winner based on Assignment

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Semester taught assignment: Fall, 2020

Course Title: HUM 1A - Honors - World Cultures and Societies A

Assignment Title: PANDEMIC PANDEMONIUM SPEECH ASSIGNMENT

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[YOUR ASSIGNMENT TEXT HERE]

HUM 1A, Honors, Fall 2020

Prof. Cynthia Rostankowski

PANDEMIC PANDEMONIUM SPEECH ASSIGNMENT

This semester, you will be asked to give an informative speech which must include visual forms of information presented in the form of a video. Since so much of our current understanding is informed by visuals, how you will use them will be an important part of your presentation. As you create your presentation, be sure that your work will accomplish the following:

- a. Describe the circumstances of the event you have chosen,
- b. Speak of how the event affected those connected to it,
- c. Speak of how it is an insight into our own contemporary life and circumstances.

In crafting your speech video, your guideline will be that your images or other visuals must serve to make the case for what you intend to express in your speech.

Your speeches will focus on one of the following:

1. **Epidemics** (plagues) in our class readings e.g.
 - a. Plagues of Egypt relating to Moses in the book of *Exodus*
 - b. the beginning of the *Iliad*
 - c. the plague passage in Book II of Thucydides' *History of the Peloponnesian War*
2. **Otherness within communities** in our class readings, e.g.

- a. Enkidu as Other among the animals, not among humans in the *Epic of Gilgamesh*
 - b. Experiences of Medea in the tragedy by Euripides, "Medea"
 - c. Ruth as Other (Moabite) among the Israelites in the book of *Ruth*
3. **Disasters** in our class readings e.g.
- a. Flood stories in the book of *Genesis* and in the *Epic of Gilgamesh*
 - b. Battle against the Kaurava family in the *Bhagavad-Gita*
 - c. The fall of Troy at the beginning of the *Aeneid*
 - d. Sufferings of Job in the book of *Job*
 - e. Battle with Humbaba in tablet V of the *Epic of Gilgamesh*
 - f. The death of Hector in book 22 of the *Iliad*
 - g. Melian Dialogue in Book V of Thucydides' *History of the Peloponnesian War*

If you think of another reading that falls into one of the three categories, please contact me, and I will be happy to entertain your alternative option.

Please note, you may present a speech as individuals or as a duo (4 minutes per person, 8 minutes for duo). I will provide the class with a list of dates for uploading your videos, and you can sign up for which date will be best for you. All students will be able to view all the videos, but there will be two students who will be assigned as peer commentators for each video/speaker, and who will respond to a brief set of questions in commenting on the works(s) to which they are assigned. Because there will be two required written sets of comments for each video, everyone will comment on more than one video. Student commentators will receive participation points for their comments. You have already received guidelines for developing your speech (Hinerman selection), and you will also be given a set of questions to respond to in commenting on the speeches of your classmates. If you have any questions, please ask! I am always happy to help. 😊

Dates during which you will be asked to submit your video speeches: 6 October-5 November, 2020

Enjoy!