

Using Music in Religious Education

Summary

The activity suggests using music in teaching religion by providing students with musical examples.

Description of the activity

The activity requires students to form groups, each group to choose a religion and study its music preferably using musical instruments (for example with the help of music teachers or students playing some instruments). Later, groups play music of that religion to the class and discuss similarities and differences, with guided questions, like:

- What does the music make you think of;
- How does the music make you feel;
- Why do you think the author wrote this music;
- Would you like to hear this music again;
- Draw the picture you see in your mind when you listen to this music;

Activity structure

- **Preferred premises of the activity:** the activity can be held in class or in a music hall
- **Resources needed:** musical instruments, computer and projector and sound equipment.
- **Recommended number of people participating:** a class of students – 20-30 students.
- **Previous knowledge of participants necessary:** Some previous knowledge about different religions might be necessary. Students might be invited to read the first chapter of this guide.
- **Activity duration:** the activity can be held as one time event during class.

Learning Objectives

Students to acquire knowledge about the role of music in the different religions. With this activity students may also acquire knowledge about music genres, techniques.

Expected Outcomes

Through the use of music in studying religion the students will be able to better understand the status of music as a universal language. Through the use of music students might be able to better understand the message of the sacred texts.

Target group

Students between 13 and 18 years of age

Subject of the curriculum in which the activity could be implemented

Literature
Philosophy
Arts/Music
Languages
History
Geography





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Learning style of this activity

Verbal, Social

Learning objects to be used with this activity

Russian Orthodox Choir Chanting Choral Vocal Top 10 Collection:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dTnxFgmQLKc>

Canto Gregoriano: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Aoj2kGBddRA>

Quran recitations: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GkjNROBu6l0>

Variations of the activity

The activity can be done together with the music teacher in school. Some practical activities for students might be involved – singing, playing an instrument, etc.



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