Call for Papers: The American Muslim Experience

For 11th and 12th grade high school students

Purpose:

To encourage critical thinking around topics of related to the Muslim experience in America.
To demonstrate college readiness, research skills, analysis, and presentation skills,
To receive authentic feedback from university faculty and to present and engage with university students at the 2017 Undergraduate Research Symposium at Duquesne University.

Awards:
Three papers will be recognized for excellence, top submissions will receive $300, and the opportunity to present their paper at CERIS Undergraduate research symposium at Duquesne University in April 2017. All student submissions will receive a notice of submission.

A group of three faculty and PhD students will read the papers and select the top papers. Other papers may be given honorable mention.

Topic Themes:
History of Islam in America
Islam and Democracy
Race, Civil Rights and Islam
Islam and Popular Culture
Islamophobia and American Discourse
Muslim Voices in America
African American Muslim Narrative

Students should consider what are the main political, religious, and cultural considerations and influences within a selected topic theme. Students should identify the main position, debates or themes in the historical or contemporary narrative where relevant. Students should work with a teacher to define topic within one of the above themes, and receive feedback on an outline and subsequent drafts.

Timeframe:
September 15, 2016: Notice sent to teachers
November 20, 2016: Reminder notice sent to teachers
March 1, 2017: Papers Due (students must register and submit their paper)
March 20, 2017: Finalist notified
April 8, 2017 Paper presentations at 2017 CERIS Undergraduate Research Symposium
Paper Instructions:

Length: Papers should be about 8 pages long, double-spaced, in 12-point font, with one-inch margins.

Additions: (This is in addition to a student 8-page of writing) A required bibliography that lists sources cited. Students should use at least 4 to 10 sources including a combination of books, articles, journals (using databases such as J-Stor or Ebsco Host), Internet sources (we advise you to use websites reservedly), primary source documents and personal interviews. Students can use either the MLA or APA format.

Numbered notes: Sometimes called ‘footnotes’ but if you choose to use them, you should insert them as endnotes”, i.e. between the end of your paper and the bibliography. It will be important that you use your sources in a balanced manner. Every attempt should be made to balance your material, both from your sources and throughout your paper. Obviously, your subject should dictate the distribution of notes throughout the paper. Papers should typically have 10 notes (citations)

Pictures: Students are welcome to use photos when relevant. Each picture you include must have a caption that includes information about the source.

Cover Page: Cover page should include student name, title of paper, name of school, year in school, name of class the paper was written for.

Students must register https://goo.gl/forms/B0lbNiSYg9MH71Fe2 (link is found at www.cerisnet.org) and send their final paper to cerisnet@org in PDF format.

For more information contact Elaine Linn cerisnet@org

Sponsoring Organization:
Housed at the Global Studies Center at the University of Pittsburgh, The Consortium for Educational Resources on Islamic Studies (CERIS) is a collaboration of 31 academic institutions in Ohio and Pennsylvania dedicated to the sharing of resources related to Islamic Studies. CERIS aims to foster understanding about Islamic Studies, which encompasses many languages, literatures, and disciplines, and extends from the seventh century to the present and across broad geographical areas of the world. Please visit www.cerisnet.org for more information.