

“Explorations in Central Asia” – Assignment

Scenario: Each group of 2-3 students is a team employed at a travel agency that develops specialty travel-learning tours for specific groups. Now the agency is planning programs to Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan. Each team is assigned a group of travelers and has to produce:

1. a travel plan of a tour specifically for that group. Including:
 - a. a general itinerary (which cities they will visit) for 9 days of focused activities (not including arrival or departure days) along with a map showing the proposed itinerary
 - b. a specific outline of 3 of those days (some activities/places to visit) with a short justification of each day and how it fits with the theme

2. a 3-5-minute presentation with powerpoint or other visuals outlining their proposal and 3 examples

Each group must then present their proposal before a “board of directors” – teacher plus 3 students. (Rotate the students so that each one has a turn to sit on the board.) These will fill out the included evaluation sheets, which may be used in grading (teacher’s discretion).

Note: Included with this lesson is:

- students’ directions
- help sheets for each topic (giving students suggestions of resources)
- evaluation sheet for project presentations
- the list of travel groups (below)

Travel Groups

(Each team will develop an itinerary for one of the following groups of travelers.)

- a. group interested in Turkic cultures
- b. group interested in relations among different ethnic/linguistic/religious groups
- c. group interested in the history of the medieval Silk Road
- d. group interested in the history of the Soviet Union
- e. group interested post-Soviet politics
- f. group interested in music and dance
- g. group interested in fine art and traditional crafts
- h. group interested in religions
- i. group interested in people's adaptations to the environment
- j. group interested in nature
- k. group interested in developments in science and technology
- l. group interested in exploring culture and the economy through food
- m. group interested in architecture
- n. group interested in education and educational change