



This is a graded discussion: 100 points possible

due Apr 5



## Week 3 Discussion: Ritual and Altered States

[Arion Melidonis](#)

Select a specific ritual and discuss it from an anthropological perspective. What type of ritual is it and how does it operate within the culture. Is it a prescriptive or spontaneous ritual? Does it follow the stages of the ritual process and how? Does the ritual operate on a symbolic, material or functional level? How does the ritual relate to the culture's beliefs, symbols and myths? Does the ritual work to reinforce or invert cultural values and taboos? Why? Does it work to create an altered state of consciousness? If so, how is this altered state brought about and what does it do for the ritual participants? Does the altered state to create a sense of identity, wellbeing, healing, transformation or connection with the supernatural? Is this altered state beneficial to the culture that practices it? Does it reinforce or invert the social structure?

Complete your initial post by Wednesday at 11:59 pm. Respond to at least two other posts by Sunday at 11:59 pm. When completing this assignment be sure to apply the course theories and perspectives. When you respond to another student, don't just tell us that you like their post or not, utilize the course theories to analyze their posts.



Replies are only visible to those who have posted at least one reply.

