



# CERIS

## Consortium for Educational Resources on Islamic Studies

A collaboration of  
academic and community  
organizations  
in the tri-state region

American Middle East Institute  
Baldwin-Wallace College  
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Duquesne University  
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Mount Aloysius College  
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The Pennsylvania State University  
Pittsburgh Theological  
Seminary  
Saint Francis University  
Saint Vincent College  
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Sewickley Academy  
Slippery Rock University  
The Ellis School  
University of Pittsburgh  
University of Pittsburgh  
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University of Pittsburgh  
at Greensburg  
University of Pittsburgh  
at Johnstown  
Washington & Jefferson  
College  
Waynesburg University  
World Affairs Council  
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Youngstown State  
University

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## Call for Papers: The American Muslim Experience

### For 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> 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/B0IbNiSYg9MH71Fe2> (link is found at [www.cerisnet.org](http://www.cerisnet.org)) and send their final paper to [cerisnet@org](mailto:cerisnet@org) in PDF format.

For more information contact Elaine Linn [cerisnet@org](mailto: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](http://www.cerisnet.org) for more information.