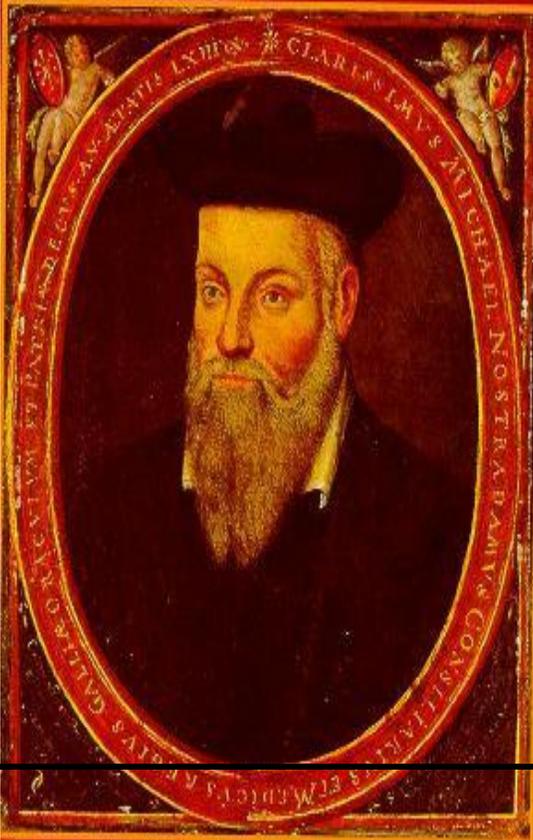


Nostradamus: 2012 Chaos Theory

Grade Level: Post Secondary

Overview	The purpose of this lesson is to inform students about the significance of Nostradamus and why he is so often referenced in connection to end of the world prophecies. Additionally, students will learn why 2012 is being called the year of destruction and what historical parts and evidence supports this claim.
Objectives	At the completion of this activity, students should be capable of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Giving a brief explanation of “Nostradamus”• Explaining why the year 2012 is being referenced as the end of the world• Describing historical clues that tie into 2012
Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clips from History Channel specials that reference Nostradamus. Clips such as these can be found:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ http://www.twitvid.com/CF8E1○ http://www.twitvid.com/7FPNE• Accompanying powerpoint presentation for easier notes (optional) including examples of Mayan and other cultures’ evidence about 2012• Pictures of key figures and evidence such as:  A portrait of Nostradamus, a French seer, depicted as a man with a long, full white beard and a black cap. He is shown from the chest up, wearing a dark, high-collared garment. The portrait is set within an ornate, oval-shaped frame with a red and gold border. The frame is inscribed with Latin text, including "NOSTRADAMI" and "CONSTITUTUS".

Procedures	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Before beginning the lesson, it is important to briefly describe why chaos theories are so popular. People are fascinated by the unknown and by the end of the world, something we have spent millennia trying to predict, and it is important for students to understand that this is a brief introduction to that mentality.<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. In order to explain this, briefly introduce who Nostradamus was and why his theories are so well known and acknowledged. It is important here to mention why Nostradamus is so often held in reference to the end of the world theories.2. Following this introduction, it is recommended that you use the twitvid video http://www.twitvid.com/CF8E1 to show the students a brief overview and introduction to the year 2012.<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. As movies have been made, students likely already realize the fact that 2012 is being referenced as the “End of the World” year. Because of this, it should not be too necessary that you introduce this idea to them.3. When the idea has been introduced to the class, it is possible to branch into the world wide significance of the year. Here it is possible to introduce the Mayans, mentioning how their calendar entirely ends after the year 2012. In addition to this, you may begin lectures about how chaos theories have developed from this.<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Here it is possible to branch into other areas of the world and other examples of chaos theories.b. Nostradamus is a figure that is often referenced in conjunction with these theories. Therefore, students should be given an overview of who he was and what his influence was with this material.c. Use of the other TwitVid video will allow students to view a history channel clip about Nostradamus and chaos theories.
Evaluation	<p>In order to see if students have grasped the main points of the lecture, it is possible (keep in mind the difficulties involved in evaluating large lecture groups) to introduce either a discussion or an evaluation. With a large lecture group, a discussion is better suited to your needs. From a discussion, it is possible to judge whether students understand or not. To lead the discussion, it is possible to begin with a vague question such as “What is a Chaos Theory?”</p>

Sources:

- http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/c/c6/Nostradamus_by_Cesar.jpg
- <http://www.twitvid.com/7FPNE>
- <http://www.twitvid.com/CF8E1>

