

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Hammurabi's Code Assignment

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First, look up [Hammurabi's Code](http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/ancient/hamcode.asp) (available at [www.fordham.edu/halsall/ancient/hamcode.asp](http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/ancient/hamcode.asp)). Write down the punishments Hammurabi gave for the following crimes.

| Crime  | Punishment |
|--|------------|
| Accuse another person  |            |
| Steal from the temple or court                                       |            |
| You buy something from a merchant, but another person says it is his |            |
| Kidnapping a minor child   |            |
| Breaking a hole in someone's house with the intent to steal          |            |
| Your stuff is stolen, but they can't find the thief                  |            |
| Firefighter takes stuff  |            |
| Don't fix your dam; it breaks  |            |
| Tavern-keeper has conspirators meet in his tavern                    |            |
| Son strikes father   |            |
| Put out another's eye  |            |
| Knock out another's teeth  |            |
| Strike a higher-ranked man   |            |
| Hits pregnant lady so she dies                                       |            |
| Doctor accidentally kills a patient while operating                  |            |

## Answer the following questions about Hammurabi's Code:

What is the basic rule for the laws of Hammurabi's Code (hint: see the punishments concerning eyes and teeth)?

Laws have two goals: punish the lawbreaker and deter future crime (meaning stop someone else from doing it). If you were the victim of a crime, how satisfied would you have been with the punishment meted out by Hammurabi? Why?

Do you think that Hammurabi's Code was effective as a deterrent (did it prevent other crimes)? Why or why not?

## Your Code

You are Hammurabi (or Hammurabi-ette).

You may work with 1 or 2 other people (no more).

You will write your own code of laws.

Answer the following questions as you invent your own code of laws:

What crimes are capital offenses (result in death)? How would the punishment be carried out? Who would attend?

How would you punish someone for each of the following crimes:

1. Assault
2. Stealing
3. Kidnapping
4. Treason
5. Murder