

#### Scratch notes:

- diversity in culture, religion amongst islands
- geographic/biological diversity, mountains to coral reefs to rainforest
- Indonesia is best place, in our opinion to widen our perspective, we've only been to europe/ india Indonesia offers something that is vastly different than what we have seen before. Never been to a majority muslim country, country with largest muslim population
- religious history is fascinating — 8th century borobudur largest buddhist temple in the world, which is right across from 9th century prambanan hindu temple
- history of indonesia is not something that is emphasized in american culture, and in the context of how powerful indonesia is, this seems curious

#### Essay Outline:

Focus on religion and wilderness

- as a community focused on Science, Math and Engineering, there is a loss of religious study
- while we as logically oriented people, we tend to ignore this aspect of life
- religion is driving force for the world

- Indonesia from a religious perspective is profoundly interesting, most populous muslim country in the world, but as the original spice island, it has seen divergent religious influences
- at one point it was a mostly hindu country, at other times mostly buddhist. Christian missionaries also had a lasting impact on some of the more eastern islands.
- Indonesia thus offers us to see many different cultures in one place
- through studying Indonesia's religious history, we'll also learn about architecture, art and colonial past
- religion is the best portal into indonesia life

#### Personal

- talk about world religions class that i took in high school, one of the classes that i took that had the biggest impact on me
- studying different religions expanded my view/understanding of the world
- For me Indonesia is perfect because of the rich unique culture but also because it is in a part of the world that i've never been to.
- Never been to a developing country, so I'll be able to see how billions live for the first time

#### Group

- as pair we are confident, we can tackle the challenges provided by the cities and wilderness of indonesia, since we as a pair have tackled ph12 and the analytical track of ph1. We've shown we can collaborate, come to solutions on difficult problems, not always agreeing but respecting each other's opinion. As vice chancellor and a TA for lab class, we both have organizational skills to be successful abroad.

#### Review

- in total we think Indonesia would provide us the most eye opening experience in the world, because of its diversity both in culture and natural wonders. We look forward to the challenge of hiking up mountains, navigating ourselves through the hectic streets of Jakarta etc. We must admit that as a nation of 17, 000 islands, Indonesia is impossible to fully experience in 3 short

weeks. We've picked our destinations so we can see some of the cultural highlights and still see bustling, modern life.