

Paper 2, Phsc 107 / Hist 107

Suggested topics:

- 1) Was Isaac Newton's scientific work influenced by his interest in alchemy? Be sure to support your opinion with hard facts.
- 2) In what ways was the initial controversy over the theory of plate tectonics similar to the controversy surrounding the ideas of Copernicus?
- 3) What is the modern origin of the idea of atoms, and how does this idea differ from the Atomism of ancient Greek philosophers?
- 4) How has human understanding of the nature of the Milky Way Galaxy changed over time?

You are free to choose a topic of your own if you prefer, subject to prior approval by me.

Paper requirements:

The paper needs to be related to a topic in the History of Science, from the time of Isaac Newton onward. The paper should be no shorter than 5 pages of text, plus any figures you want to include, plus a bibliography. Font should be no larger than 12 point, and do not use any weird looking font styles. Times New Roman is always okay (it's what this page is written in). Any modern style/format that you have learned for another class can be used, as long as you follow it properly.

You should use at least two sources outside of our course textbooks for the paper, and you need to cite them properly for your chosen style, and include them in the bibliography. Appropriate sources include published books and articles that cover your chosen topic. ***Web sites are not appropriate sources, unless the website is a web version of a document that has been published in hardcopy.*** In this case, make sure you find the bibliographic information of the paper version and use that in your citation and bibliography.

The syllabus describes the system I'll use for grading the papers, and has the due dates.

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