

DAILY ASSIGNMENT

due: Monday September 22, 9 am

read: pages 11 – 43 of *Heisenberg Probably Slept Here*

1. Sign up for project II (http://www.eg.bucknell.edu/~kvollmay/found_f2003/ and click on “ Sign-Up Sheet for Project II (Physicist of Past)”). **Do not sign up for a physicist which will be discussed in our course** (see course information for syllabus) and **do not sign up for a physicist who has already been picked by another group**. You find a description for project II on the backside of this page. To get an idea about which physicist (or astronomer) you would like to work, check our textbooks (Cropper and Brennan) and/or the reference-books about bibliographies of scientists which Jim van Fleet showed us at the end of our library tour. Before you sign up for your physicist make sure that we have enough literature about the person in our library (minimum: one book about the person’s life and work).

Examples are Ludwig Boltzmann, Edward Teller, Enrico Fermi, Niels Bohr, Cecilia Payne-Gaposchkin, Joan Freeman, and Edward Bouchet.

Please let me know if you need any help.

2. Write a brief summary about Newton’s life (dates of main events, keywords are fine).

3. Describe the character of Newton.

4. What did you find most interesting of this reading and/or most difficult?

5. Are there any questions or topics with regard to Newton which you would like to discuss in class?

PROJECT II: BIOGRAPHY ABOUT A PHYSICIST IN THE PAST

For this project (which consists of a paper and a talk) you work in groups of two. The following description is for your paper but the content will be very similar for your talk.

Project: Write a biography about a physicist (or astronomer) in the past, i.e. not living, who is not included in the course syllabus. Your paper should describe the physicist's life, character and work. For their life include all important events, especially those which might have had impact on their life and/or work. Explain their main scientific achievements. In case your physicist was influenced by society, or vice versa, describe the necessary historic background. What motivated them? What led to their success?

Groupwork: Since you work in groups of two, divide the paper into two equal parts. Each one of you will work on one part and then you will get together to combine them. You will get two grades, one for your part (when you hand your paper in, indicate clearly who worked on which sections), and one for your whole paper.

Academic Responsibility: It might be in this paper very difficult to find your own words after having read about your physicist. Nevertheless you are not allowed to use any sections of your sources. **You must find your own words.** Anything else is academic dishonesty and considered a major delict. In case of any doubt, please feel free to contact me.

Deadlines:

- Sept. 22: together with your group partner sign up for a physicist
- Sept. 24: bibliography (including one or more non-reference books)
- Sept. 29: first version of your paper for peer review
- Oct. 1: second version of your paper
- Oct. 8: final paper

Memberlist: see daily assignment for Sept. 15