

DAILY ASSIGNMENT

Due: Monday, November 22, 9 am (via web-entry)

Read: hand-outs (& blackboard):

- “Becoming a Scientist” etc. from *The Door In The Dream* by E. Wasserman
- “What is Science?” from *The Many Faces of Science*
- “The Seven Warning Signs of Voodoo Science”
- “How Thinking Goes Wrong”

1. Summarize with a few sentences the reading of E. Wasserman (in-class work on Friday, Nov. 19). Include in your summary the main steps towards a research scientist career?

2. On Friday, Nov. 19, we watch in class the episodes of the movie “Me & Isaac Newton”. Take detailed notes during the movie. The featured scientists are Gertrude Elion (Pharmaceutical Researcher), Ashok Gadgil (Water Researcher), Michio Kaku (Theoretical Physicist), Maja Mataric (Robotist), Steven Pinker (Cognitive Scientist), Karol Sikora (Cancer Researcher), and Patricia Wright (Lemur Researcher).

Comment on:

- How did each scientist discover their passion?
- Describe their research process. (We will need your notes on Monday, when we will define science and pseudoscience.)
- What do the scientists describe as rewarding?
- Describe with your own words their science.
- How well is the reading “Becoming a Scientist” by E. Wasserman in accordance with the featured scientists?

3. Find an examples for Voodoo Science which are not given in the readings. Explain why you think it is Voodoo Science instead of science.

4. Summarize and reflect on the readings “What is Science?”, “The Seven Warning Signs of Voodoo Science”, “How Thinking Goes Wrong”

5. Do you have any comments about this reading and/or last class?