Daily Assignment

due: Friday, September 20, 8 am

read:  • Baconian Vision (on ERES click on “The many faces of Science” and then click on “The Baconian vision”)
       • literature of your choice about Francis Bacon

On Friday, Sept. 20, we will discuss Francis Bacon (1561-1626). Search for literature about Francis Bacon. Since Bacon had a very versatile life, we divide the work and will share our results on Friday. Each one of you works on only one of the four topics listed below. Please hand me your answer as hardcopy or via email before class. Bring also a hard copy of your findings to class to share your results.

For your search on Bacon keep in mind, that I mean Francis Bacon (1561-1626), not Roger Bacon (although he would be interesting for our course too) and not Francis Facon, the artist of the 20th century. To give everybody of our class the opportunity to have a look at the books, try to read the books in the library. Do not check them out and please reshel them. For the reshelving use care, so that they end up at the exact same place as before. This is an exception, in the future do not reshel used books yourself! (This is important for the records of the library about which books are in use.)

Reference all sources which you use. You may use labels to avoid having to write the same complete reference many times.

1. Write a biography (keywords!) about Bacon. Include dates of birth and death, of important work, and other major events in Bacon’s life. Try to get a grasp of his life. Do not get into detail about the topics given in 2.-4., since other members of the class will study them.

2. Describe the main achievements of Francis Bacon as a scientist and philosopher. What are his main thoughts? In which work (names of published books) has Bacon described his philosophy and science?

3. Describe Francis Bacon, the statesman. Which professions/jobs did he occupy. Describe his political life (1576-1621).

4. Describe Francis Bacon, the poet. What is his literary work? What is his writing style? (You may even like to bring an excerpt from one of his books.) What is this about Shakespeare?