

Quarks to Quasars
Paper #1 Assignment: Science as Story Telling

Draft due Tuesday Jan. 15 by 6 pm
Final Version due Friday Jan. 25 by 6 pm
[Submit to Sakai drop box]

Type: personal essay

Format: Word document (double spaced)

Length: 3 pages

At its core, science tells stories about how the world works. Physics in particular has taken on the task of constructing the "big stories" concerning the fundamental constituents of nature and the origins of the universe. Based on your own understanding of how science works, explain how the stories of science are both similar to and different from the stories of folklore, myth, or religion. In this essay you should address the question of which are more "true", the stories of science or the other stories of nature. Also reflect on why you personally (and humans in general?) are interested in these sorts of stories.