

Astronomy 2021B

**Photo Assignment
March 31st 2016**

Text

Image One – Egg that looks like Europa

I captured this image while at my girlfriend's house, because I felt the Easter Egg that her roommates had created resembled the surface images of Europa. While an actual egg bears little resemblance to Jupiter's Moon, the way the dye dried replicates the dark streaks that spread across the Europa's surface.

I feel that this simple Easter egg and its resemblance connects to the course because not only does it look similarly to Europa's surface features, but it also requires us to look deeper, and imagine reality in a different light to sometimes uncover what is really before us.



Image Two – North Star atop my Xmas tree, representative of Polaris

The second image I captured was of my Christmas tree which features an unrealistically colored Polaris, or in laymen's terms, the North Star. While the image shown here portrays the star as purple and atop a tree, in reality, Polaris is the brightest star in the Ursa Minor constellation, and has acted as a point of navigation dating as far back as Homer's Odyssey.

This image connects to the course because not only did we discuss Polaris, but we as humans relied on it for so long, only to cast it away to eager holiday decorators, and those lost without a GPS but remembered their sextant. I think Polaris if anything represents a change in technology, and serves as a constant reminder of the evolution that has taken place in regards to our understanding and our use of the solar system as a point of reference, to in the last fifty years being a place of exploration.



Image Three – Old Apple Computer Logo, Visible Light Spectrum

I was fortunate enough to see this image and a few others posted around campus, but of the ones that I found, this old Apple Computers logo was my favorite. This logo is very representative of the visible light spectrum that we studied in class during week one of the course. This image is interesting to me because at the time this logo was used, only a sliver of the population used a Mac, similar to that of the electromagnetic spectrum to which us humans can only see a tiny piece of.



Image Four – Poster for Philosophy 2032, Albert Einstein

While Einstein didn't invent the Astronomical Unit (AU), his theory of relativity certainly impacted the use and precision of the measure, as throughout the 20th century, Scientists have become more reliant on Einstein's Theory of Relativity to precisely determine the measurement.

I thought this poster of featuring Albert Einstein would be fitting as his theory of relativity has become so important in the study of space and time, and has influenced many individuals (myself included) to become more interested in physics, and space as a whole through the famed $E = mc^2$ equation. Seeing it in TV shows as a kid and then as an adult trying to fully grasp the concepts presented has pushed me to pursue courses such as this one, and try and develop my understanding of Space and Astronomy so that I can view our universe through a more knowledgeable lens.

EINSTEIN FOR EVERYONE

Philosophy 2032
Western Arts & Humanities

Do astronauts age more slowly?
Is space "curved" near the sun?
Can a finite universe have no edge?
Can time have a beginning?
Is time travel possible?
Does the moon change because someone looks at it?

The answer to each question is yes. Find out why!

For more information: <http://uwo.ca/philosophy/undergraduate/courses/index.html>

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Image 5 – Painting that looks like the Surface of Mars

The final image I chose is actually a painting that hangs in my apartment, and to me, reminds of me the images we saw in class of Mars' surface from the Curiosity Rover. The painting has the same earthy tones which correspond well with the surface features on Mars which consist of heavily oxidized rocks. While the painting itself is more towards the abstract side, to me it almost looks as if a dust storm is just starting and the surface is becoming hazy.

