

## **Astronomy Article Summary Guide**

Following developments in astronomy and space sciences by reading newspapers and magazines is an interesting and useful way to appreciate your coursework. To that end, you will find and summarize an article related to astronomy each month, **beginning Friday, September 18<sup>th</sup>**. Following due dates are 10/16, 11/20. Please note these dates. Here are some guidelines for your submissions:

1. **Sources**. The first article will be provided to you. In general, articles should be for the general audience (non-technical) and should be from magazines or newspapers. The article you select should be substantive. Magazines like Sky and Telescope, Discover, Astronomy, Popular Science, Newsweek, are all excellent sources of science journalism. The Monday issue of the Boston Globe has a Health/Science section, and the **Tuesday edition of the New York Times** has a Science/Technology section. Southworth Library has excellent resources for your use.

On-line articles are encouraged as well; make sure your source is a reputable one (again, like the NY Times ([www.nytimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com)) or the Globe ([www.boston.com](http://www.boston.com)) are good web sites, and magazine sites should be easy to find too).

2. Summaries should range between one and two pages, be typed, double-spaced, with a font-size less than or equal to 12. Your narrative should be an informative and compelling read and should inspire the reader to go find the article themselves.

3. The full reference (title, author, source, page number, date) should be the very first line of your summary. Every summary should have its own title that is not the same as the title of the article. For example:

**Astrophysicists Pursue Einstein's Elusive Frame Dragging**

*Your title*

In the article "X-ray Evidence Indicates Twisting of Empty Space" (NY Times Sunday Online, by William Tell, Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup>) the author writes about recent

*Article title*

developments in experimental confirmations of Einstein's now almost century-old theory of General Relativity. Etc., so on and so forth...

Note: please boldface and underline **your title**, and be sure that every article summary opens up with its first line as the full reference.

4. Please staple a copy of the article itself to your summary. Do not tear articles out of magazines; this deprives future readers of the article.

These will be read and graded with high standards for writing (as if you were writing for English class) as well as for its scientific clarity. Please feel free to tactfully include your opinion if you think it will enhance your summary.

This is an opportunity for you to focus on topics that are of special interest to you! I am looking forward to reading your work.