***Discussion board assignment for “Finding Resonances:* Using biographies of lesser known astronomers that match a learner's  identity or interests*”***

***Two posts - you will not see anyone else's until after you post yours, then respond to a classmate. I suggest you write out your post, then copy and paste to make sure it isn't lost.***

***For your first post:*** It is never too early to start thinking about a final project, but this post has an inspirational side too. Research an astronomer that you relate to, perhaps someone from your cultural heritage, country or region of origin, gender, or perhaps discoverer of something in astronomy of great interest to you. In a short writing (several paragraphs) give:

* + a brief bio and background
  + the main topic in astronomy they are associated with
  + your reason for selecting the person
  + a picture if available
  + Avoid the "old chestnut" types, Galileo, Newton, etc. or just about anyone in the current chapters.  Modern astronomers  are especially interesting, but you can include historical figures that may have been overlooked.

***For your second post:***

This can be short, but respond to a classmate whose first post you find interesting or inspiring - just a sentence or two here of encouragement, or your response.  If possible, also find someone who has not yet gotten a response !

(Graded on participation, generally full points if both posts were submitted – half credit if no responses to classmate – up to 10% deducted for missing parts otherwise)

|  | **Levels of Achievement** | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Criteria** | **Novice** | **Competent** | **Proficient** |
| **project summary [Click for more options](https://mymasonportal.gmu.edu/webapps/rubric/do/course/manageRubrics?dispatch=edit&context=course&rubricId=_249816_1&course_id=_414678_1#contextMenu)** | **0 to 7 points**  Minimal or the appearance of not significant thought and preparation | **8 to 11 points**  mostly complete but may lack detail | **12 to 15 points**  Complete - outlines main points of project and is well thought out |
| **references [Click for more options](https://mymasonportal.gmu.edu/webapps/rubric/do/course/manageRubrics?dispatch=edit&context=course&rubricId=_249816_1&course_id=_414678_1#contextMenu)** | **0 to 1 points**  Only one source, or no reliable or credible sources | **2 to 3 points**  2 or more sources, but not all are credible | **4 to 5 points**  at least 2 credible references from primary or secondary trusted sources (.edu, .gov or peer-reviewed journals) |
| **presentation [Click for more options](https://mymasonportal.gmu.edu/webapps/rubric/do/course/manageRubrics?dispatch=edit&context=course&rubricId=_249816_1&course_id=_414678_1#contextMenu)** | **0 to 29 points**  Presentation lacking information or incorrect, may be incomplete. | **30 to 34 points**  Informative, but presentation is not well thought out, or does not present materials concisely or is incomplete | **35 to 40 points**  Engaging and informative, presented well |

Assignment was similar for the project, but students needed to expand on the discussion posting and include at least two credible sources. The assignment was also longer, up to 10 minutes and needed to include visuals in addition to an audio recording or paper if those options were selected. The general rubric is below.