

Philosophy 2330: Science
Spring 2022
Second short essay assignment

Please complete your essay and upload it into Blackboard before 11:59pm on Tuesday, Feb 15th.

You are to write between one and two pages (500-700 words) discussing the question of whether Copernicus provided good reasons to believe in a Heliocentric worldview.

First, any good essay will have to describe the meaning of 'Geocentric' and 'Heliocentric'. The natural way to do this is by briefly describing and comparing the Ptolemaic and the Copernican systems. Next, consider why someone (in 1543 – not today) might think that the earth moves or that it doesn't move. Which arguments do you find the most persuasive and why? What about the arguments on the other side? Why are they less persuasive?

You might think it would be helpful to draw a picture to help explain your argument. Please feel free to do so. If it proves difficult to get this to be part of your electronic file in blackboard, feel free to just take a picture of your drawing(s) and email them to me.