

**Honor 2103
Spring 2008**

Questions for Newton:

Due Thursday, February 5:

1. In your own words, what is Newton interested in demonstrating in his letter to Oldenburg? That is, what is the basic problem he is trying to solve with the prism experiments?
2. What is the “Experimentum Crucis” and what does it show?
3. In your own words, what is “refrangibility”?
4. Does Newton offer any words of advise on how to carry out experiments, his method? If so, what does he say about his methods?

Due Tuesday, February 10:

1. (SBM) In your own words, what is the argument concerning a diety and the movements of the universe that Newton is presenting, a.k.a, argument from design?
2. (SBM) Why do you think he goes to the trouble to present this argument? That is, why think that he argues that the movements of the universe (as conceived by Newton) suggest there is a diety?
3. (pdf) What are the major contributions/influences of the Newtonian synthesis on the thinkers of the Enlightenment, as described in the article assigned?
4. (pdf) Do you see that influence today, in the 21st century? Briefly describe what you see as the major or noticeable impacts of Newtonian science on contemporary times.

Remember – In-class video on Thursday, February 12; DON'T MISS IT.