Name: _____

Prompt: Tell me a story from the history of astronomy, cosmology, cartography, or geometry that we have not discussed in class. Include historical anchorpoints (dates, times, places, names) and explain why this story is relevant to contemporary science.

 A+   Satisfies all of the requirements for an 'A' grade (see below), with additional originality, sophistication, effort, or skill going beyond what is expected.
 A   **Superior**
- Develops a compelling narrative.
- Narrative illustrates the relevance of the historical episode to contemporary science.
- Goes beyond the material covered in lectures and demonstrates critical ability and/or innovative ideas.
- Contains historical anchorpoints for time, place, characters, sociopolitical context, and scientific context.
- Contains no factual errors.
- Has a clear and concise introduction, thesis, and conclusion.
- Writing in the essay is clear and contains few or no grammatical errors.
- Demonstrates an in-depth understanding of the historical episode on which s/he is writing.
- Shows creativity and independent thinking in his/her retelling of the story and connection of the historical episode to contemporary science.
- Citations and bibliography are accurate and in proper format.

 A-   Satisfies most of the requirements for an 'A' grade, but only comes to 'B' standard in some other respects.
 B+   Satisfies all of the requirements for a 'B' grade (see below), and meets the 'A' standard in a few respects.
 B   **Meritorious**
- Develops a narrative.
- Narrative illustrates the relevance of the historical episode to contemporary science.
- Goes beyond the material covered in lectures.
- Contains historical anchorpoints for at least 4 of: time, place, characters, sociopolitical context, and scientific context.
- Contains few factual errors.
- Has an introduction, thesis, and conclusion.
- Writing in the essay is clear and contains few grammatical errors.
- Demonstrates understanding of the historical episode on which s/he is writing.
- Shows creativity and independent thinking in his/her retelling of the story and connection of the historical episode to contemporary science.
- Citations and bibliography are accurate and in proper format.

 B-   Satisfies most of the requirements for an 'B' grade, but only comes to 'C' standard in some other respects.
 C+   Satisfies all of the requirements for a 'C' grade (see below), and meets the 'B' standard or above in a few respects.
 C   **Satisfactory**
- Historical episode is presented in a chronology, list of facts, or other non-narrative format.
- Historical episode is connected to contemporary science.
- Goes beyond the material covered in lectures.
- Contains historical anchorpoints for at least 2 of: time, place, characters, sociopolitical context, and scientific context.
- Contains some factual errors.
- Lacks an introduction, thesis, or conclusion.
- Writing in the essay contains grammatical errors.
- Demonstrates understanding of the historical episode on which s/he is writing.
- Citations and bibliography are formatted improperly.

 C-   Satisfies most of the requirements for an 'C' grade, but only comes to 'D' standard in some other respects.
 D+   Satisfies all of the requirements for a 'D' grade (see below), and meets the 'C' standard or above in a few respects.
 D   **Minimal**
- Basic content of historical episode is unclear.
- Relevance of historical episode to contemporary science is unclear.
- Goes beyond the material covered in lectures.
- Contains historical anchorpoints for at least 1 of: time, place, characters, sociopolitical context, and scientific context.
- Contains factual errors.
- Lacks an introduction, thesis, or conclusion.
- Writing in the essay is unclear.
- Writing in the essay contains grammatical errors.
- Citations or bibliography are absent.

 D-   This is the minimum passing mark. Barely sufficient evidence to avoid failure, with only a rudimentary knowledge of the subject; contains irrelevant material or significant errors and misconceptions.
 Failure. Inadequate in conception, substance or follow-through.