

## SCIENCE AUTOBIOGRAPHY

Astronomy began as the study of the positions of celestial objects ... the sun, moon, stars, planets, comets, and other phenomena. Over the centuries, western astronomy has expanded to encompass the study of the nature, origin, and evolution of everything in the universe, from elements in Earth's core to the most distant galaxy, and the universe itself.

As we begin our exploration of astronomy, it will be helpful to me to know a little bit about where you're coming from ... what ideas, assumptions, and experiences you bring to the course. This information is strictly to help me "meet you where you are" and help you get the most out of the course.

### ASSIGNMENT

Write a bit about yourself. Where is your home? What is your class year? What is your major? Why did you chose SLU and what's your dream career? Describe why you're taking this course and what interests you about astronomy. What would you like to learn? What do you expect astronomy to be about? What makes you anxious about this class? Describe your experience with science (eg. in school, space camp, Discovery Channel, etc.) and your attitude toward science (have you been dreading taking science since your first year?).

Lastly, describe a time when you overcame obstacles to achieve something. Did you get frustrated by the obstacles and how did it feel to overcome them to succeed?

This should take a page or two. It's not an onerous thing. Please type it and print it out to hand in.

**DUE: FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 2026**

