The Prediction Project

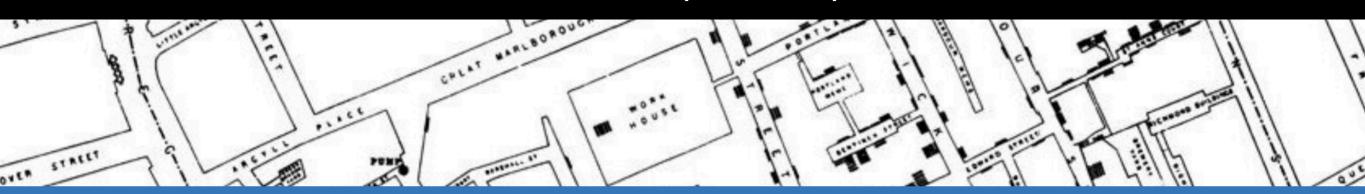
The Past and Present of the Future

Alyssa Goodman
Harvard University

HOME ABOUT PREDICTION TOPICS COURSES COMMENTARY CREDITS



ORIGINS - ARCHITECTURE - STATUS - SAMPLER-IDEAS, MODALITIES, CONNECTIONS - SPIN-OFFS - EXPANSION



Prediction Essentials

Take a look at the essential elements of the course, including the framework for predictive systems.



Omens & Oracles

Gain insight into prediction as a human venture by studying the most ancient forms of prediction in Omens and Oracles.



Rise of Theory

Learn how humanity moved from mystical divination practices to genuine, scientific theories to explain natural phenomena.



Modern Prediction

Discover the cutting edge predictive methods and modeling from preeminent experts across many fields.



How it all fits together

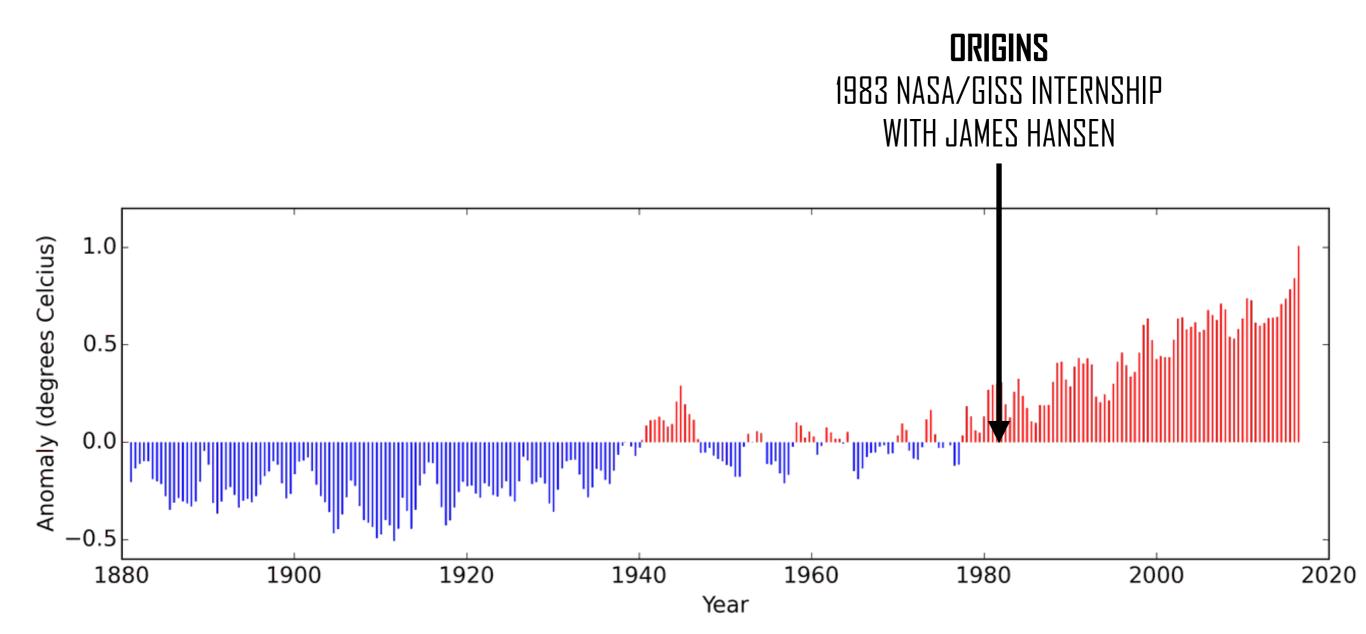
PREDICTIONX: THE PAST & PRESENT OF THE FUTURE











ARCHITECTURE

The Prediction Project

The Past and Present of the Future



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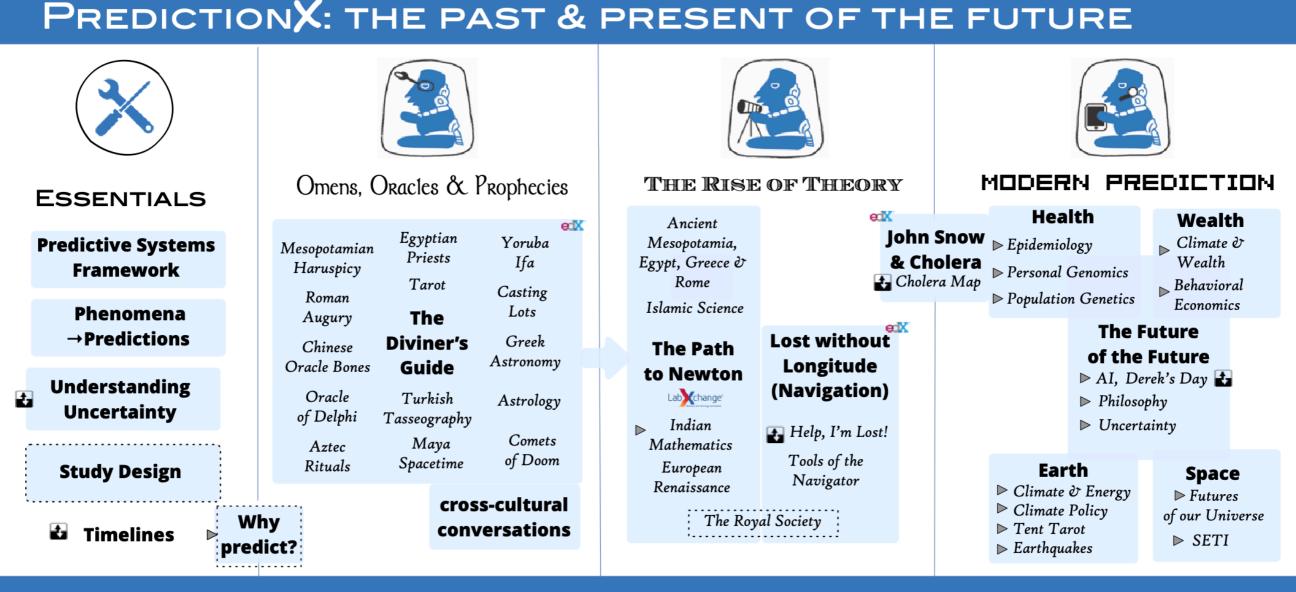












Coming Soon

Interactive Resource

▶ video(s)

edX available on edX





IN TRUTH, A WINDING PATH...

2021

2022







Harvard College

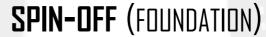
Explore. Expand. Engage.























The TIMELINE **CONSORTIUM** 2017

SPIN-OFF

(TSF METADATA STANDARD, TOOL)















ESSENTIALS

Predictive Systems Framework

> **Phenomena →Predictions**

Understanding Uncertainty

Study Design

Timelines



Omens, Oracles & Prophecies

edX Egyptian Yoruba Mesopotamian Priests Ifa Haruspicy Tarot Casting Roman Lots The Augury Diviner's Greek Chinese Astronomy Oracle Bones Guide Oracle Turkish Astrology of Delphi Tasseography Comets Maya Aztec of Doom Spacetime Rituals

> cross-cultural conversations



THE RISE OF THEORY

Ancient Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece & Rome Islamic Science

The Path to Newton

Lab change

Indian Mathematics European

Help, I'm Lost! Tools of the Navigator Renaissance

Lost without

Longitude

(Navigation)

The Royal Society



MODERN PREDICTION

Health

John Snow

▶ Epidemiology & Cholera

🚹 Cholera Map

▶ Personal Genomics

▶ Population Genetics

Wealth Climate &

▶ Behavioral **Economics**

Wealth

The Future of the Future

▶ AI, Derek's Day

▶ Philosophy

▶ Uncertainty

Earth

▶ Climate & Energy

Climate Policy ▶ Tent Tarot

▶ Earthquakes

Space

▶ Futures of our Universe

▶ SETI

Coming Soon



Why

predict?

Interactive Resource

▶ video(s)



available on edX





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Omens, Oracles & Prophecies

Egyptian

Priests

Mesopotamian Haruspicy Roman Augury Chinese

Oracle Bones Guide

Oracle of Delphi

Maya Aztec Spacetime Rituals

Tarot Casting Lots The Diviner's Greek Astronomy Turkish Astrology Tasseography

> Comets of Doom

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& Cholera

🛂 Cholera Map



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▶ SETI

Coming Soon

Interactive Resource

▶ video(s)



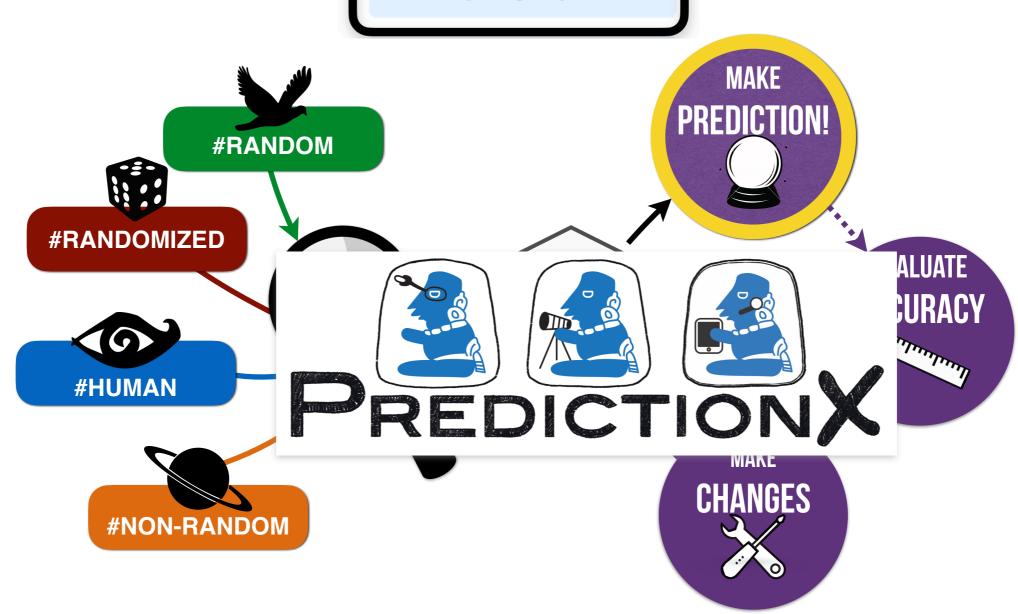
available on edX





ESSENTIALS

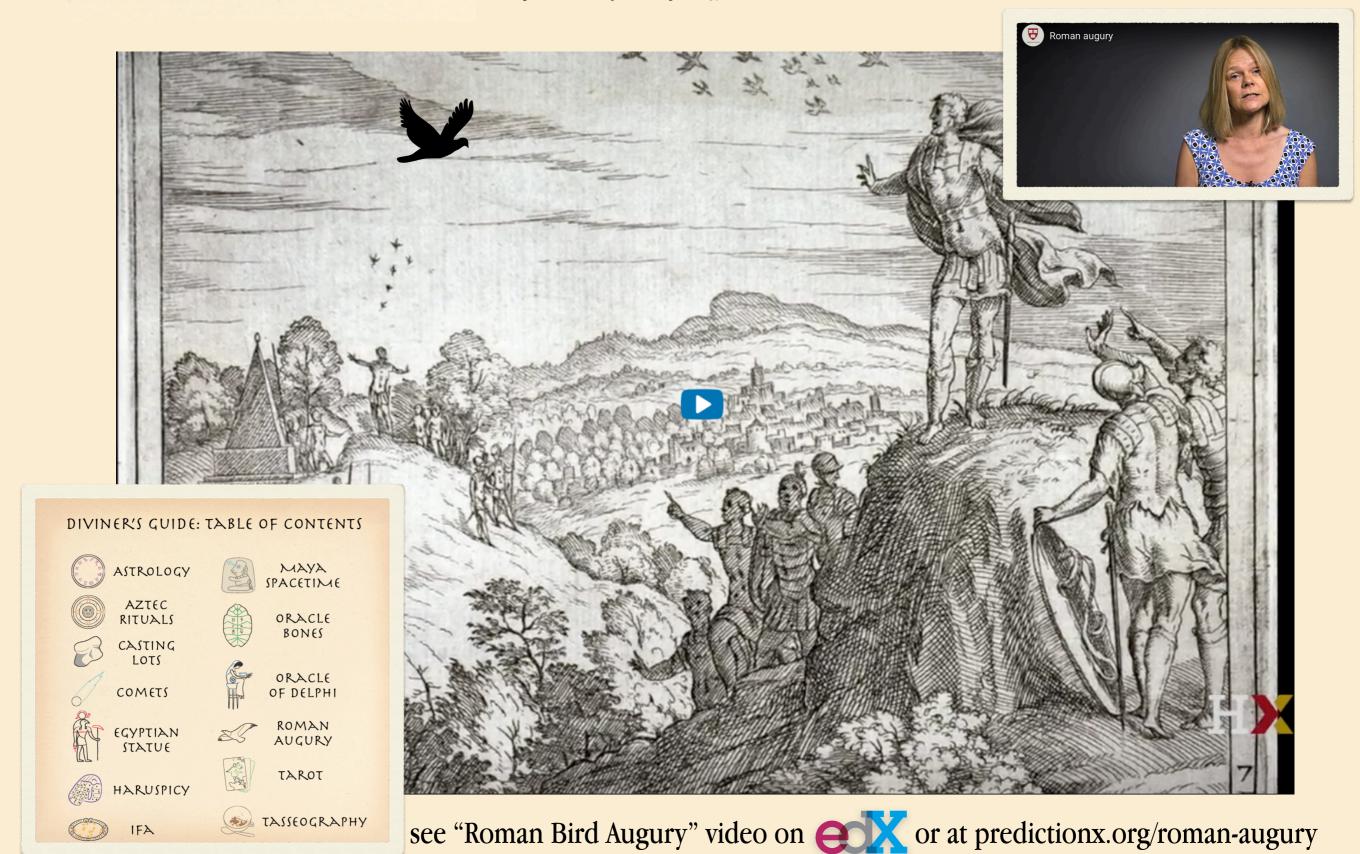
Predictive Systems Framework

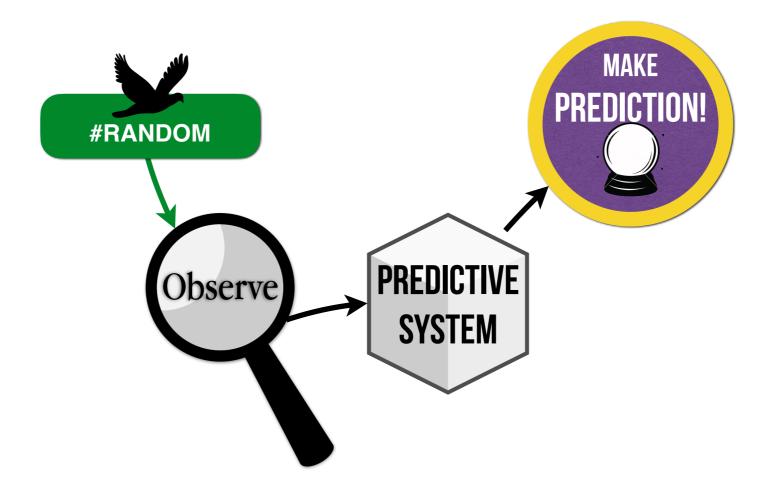


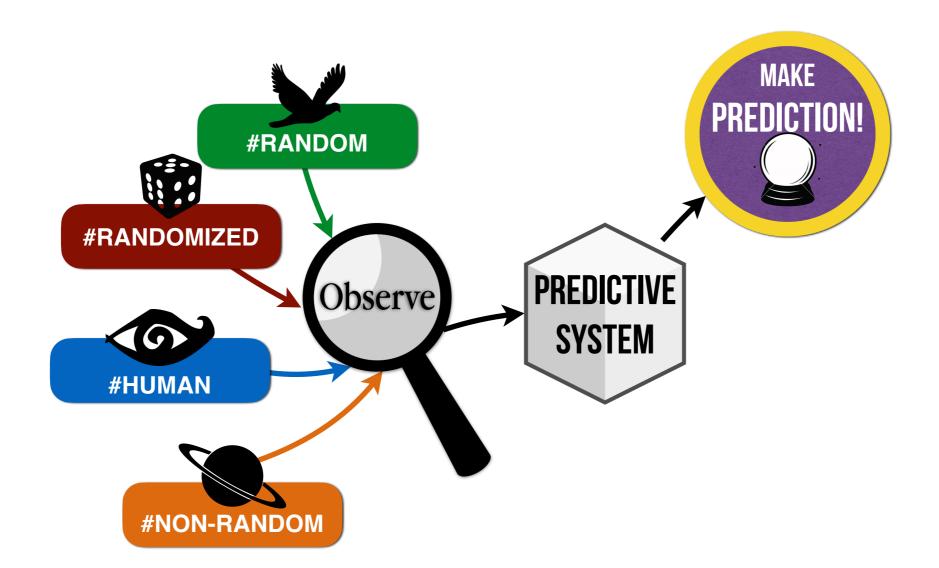


ROMAN AUGURY

"Senior political officials of the Roman state had to take auspices before any major political event like elections." —Emma Dench







#NON-RANDOM



#RANDOMIZED



Ifa

#HUMAN



Egyptian "Bobble Head"

#RANDOM

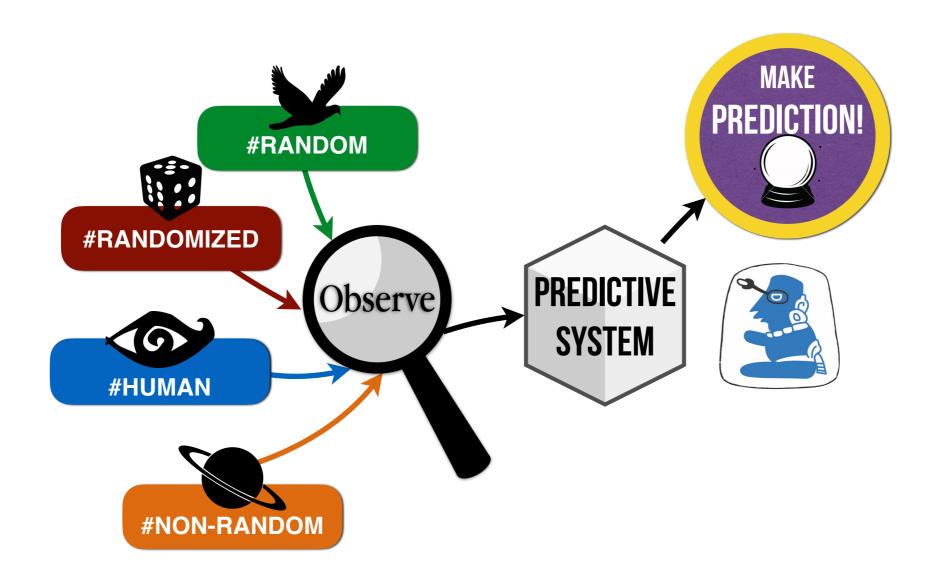


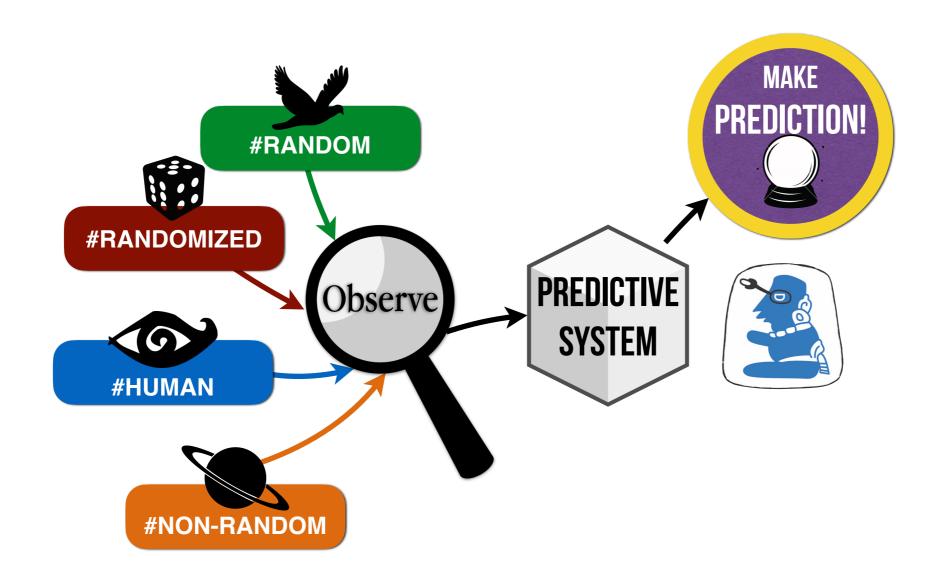
Comets of Doom

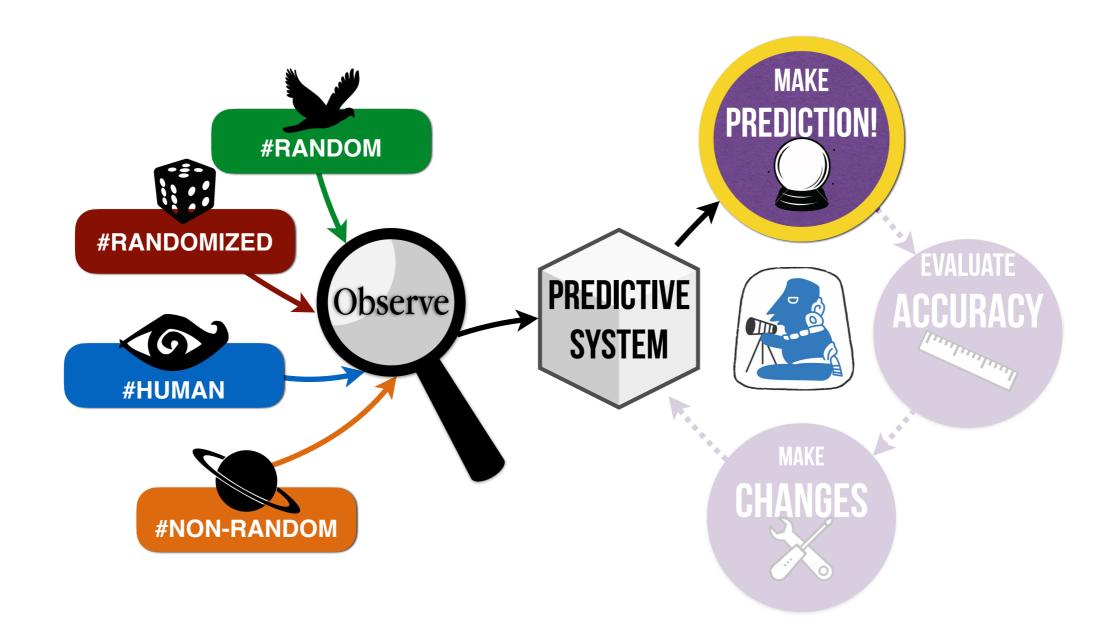


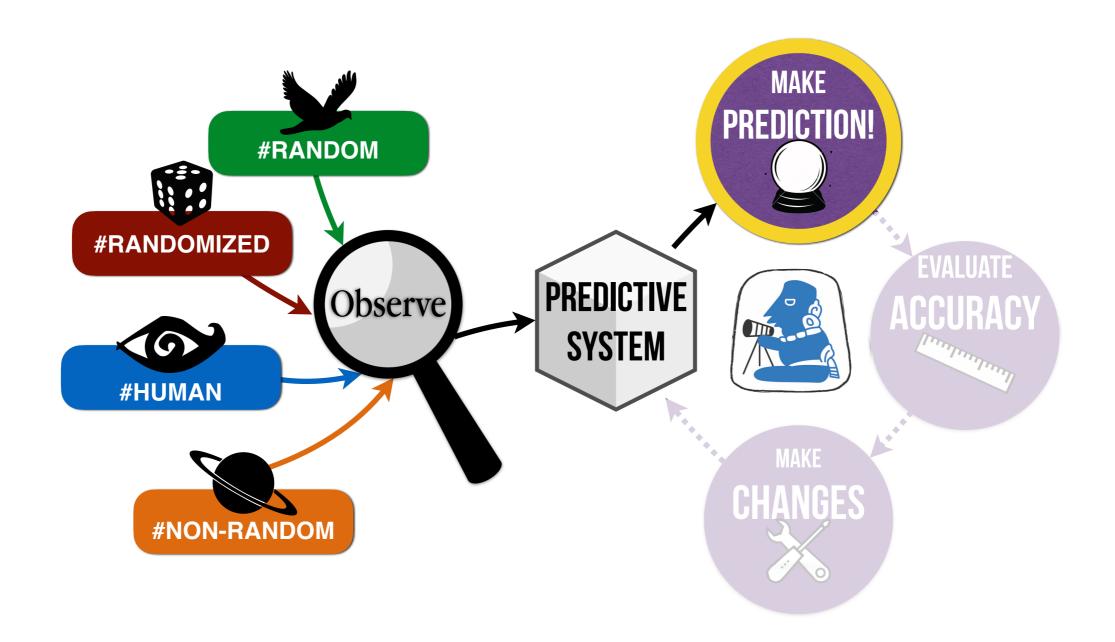
#HUMAN

Ancient Egyptian Divination, featuring Prof. Peter der Manuelian (Harvard Semitic Museum)

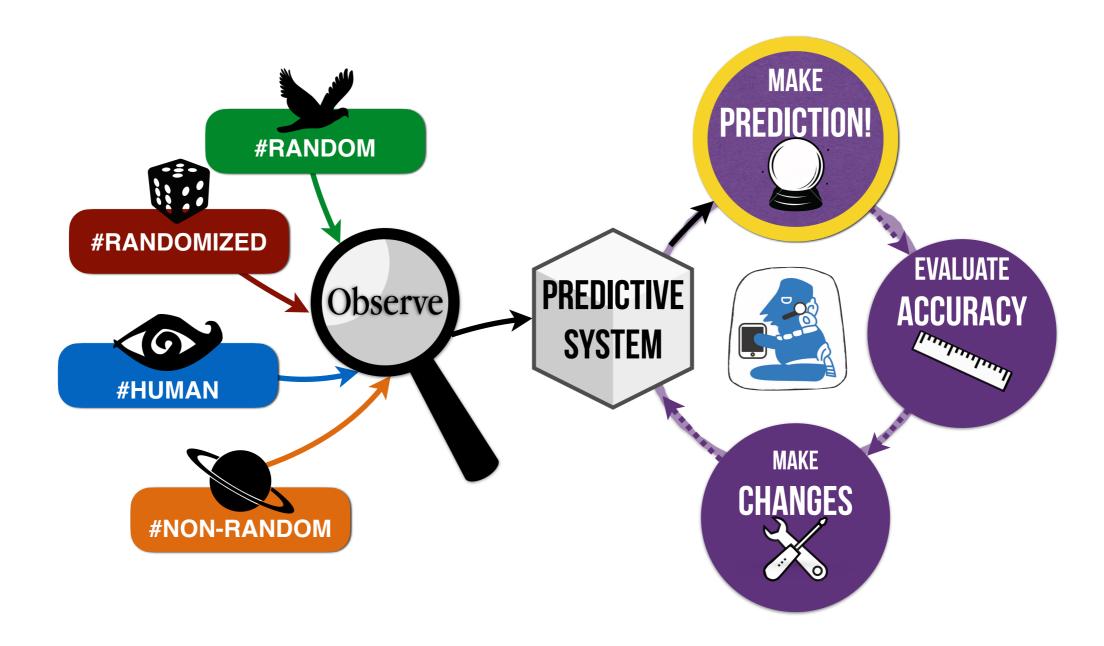


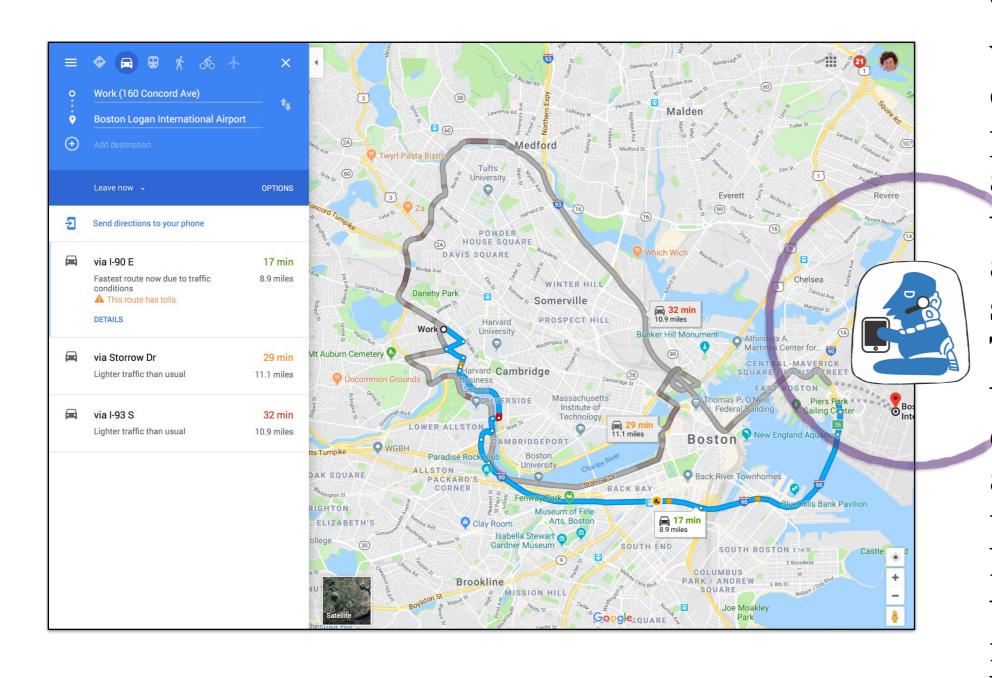






IDEAS





"Most companies who do live traffic **compare** their predictions against actual time in traffic to tune their algorithms and data sources. The likely result of this is that the companies who have access to the best usage data ... are likely to end up with the best predictions in the medium to long term."



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Tasseography

Maya

Spacetime

cross-cultural conversations

Comets

of Doom





& Cholera



THE RISE OF THEORY

Ancient Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece & 🚹 Cholera Map Rome



Islamic Science

Indian **Mathematics** European Renaissance

Lost without Longitude (Navigation)

Help, I'm Lost! Tools of the Navigator

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MODERN PREDICTION

Health

John Snow

▶ Epidemiology

▶ Personal Genomics

▶ Population Genetics

Wealth

Climate ♂ Wealth

▶ Behavioral **Economics**

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▶ Tent Tarot ▶ Earthquakes

▶ Futures of our Universe

Space

▶ SETI

Coming Soon

Interactive Resource

of Delphi

Aztec

Rituals

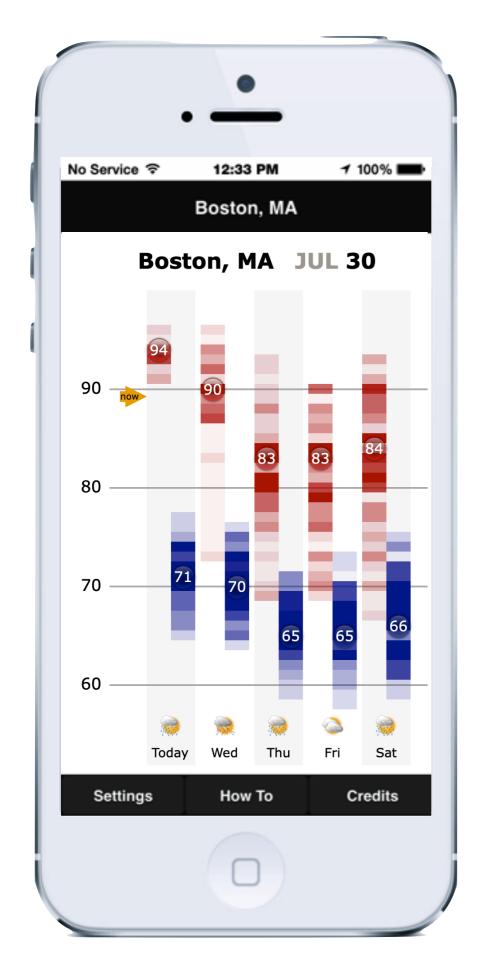
▶ video(s)



available on edX

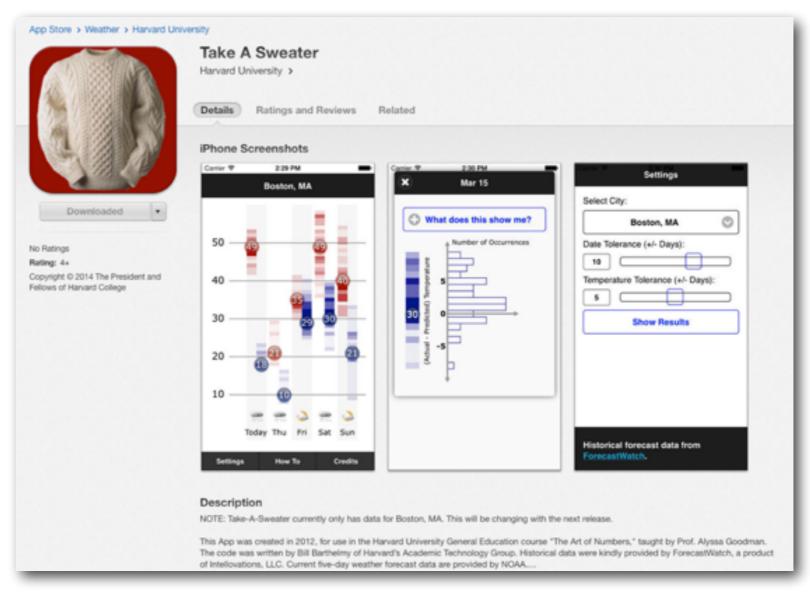






"Take A Sweater"





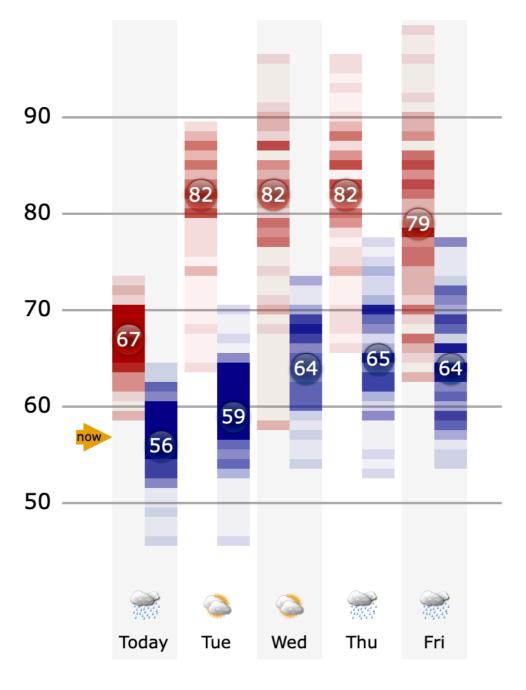
takeasweater.com



Forecasting

Uncertainty

Boston, MA MAY 25

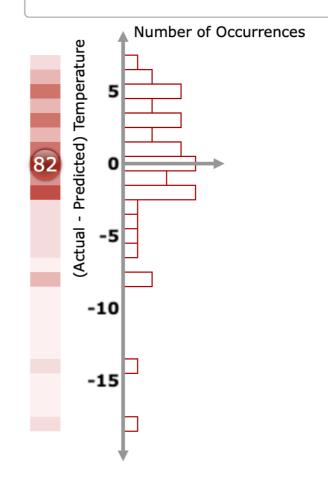


[demo]

Histogram MAY 26

What does this show me?

The graph below shows a sample "distribution" of how far off temperature predictions have been in the past. Perfect predictions give zero as a difference value. The shaded bars just summarize the graph: the darker the shaded bar, the more predictions fell in that difference zone.





The Cost of Uncertainty





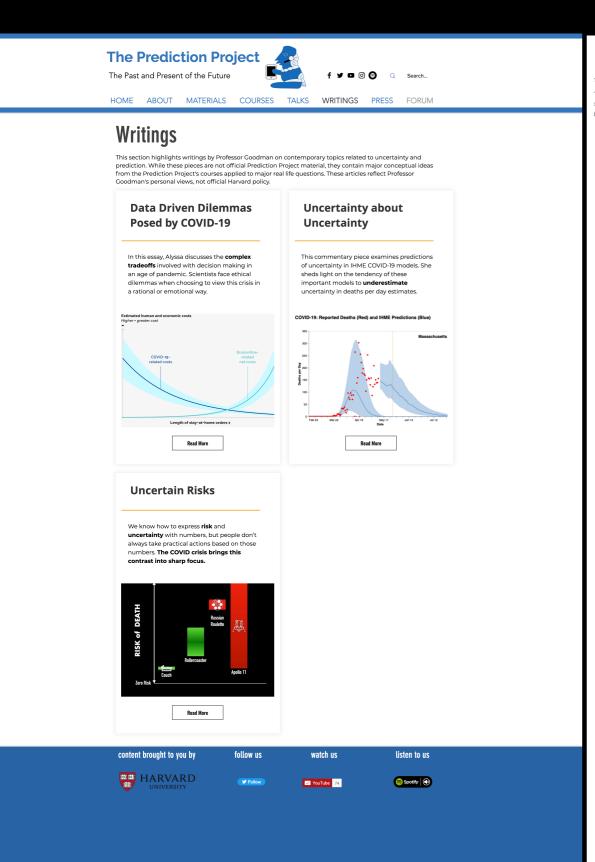
COVID made this all the more relevant. Uncertainty & risk are not the same.

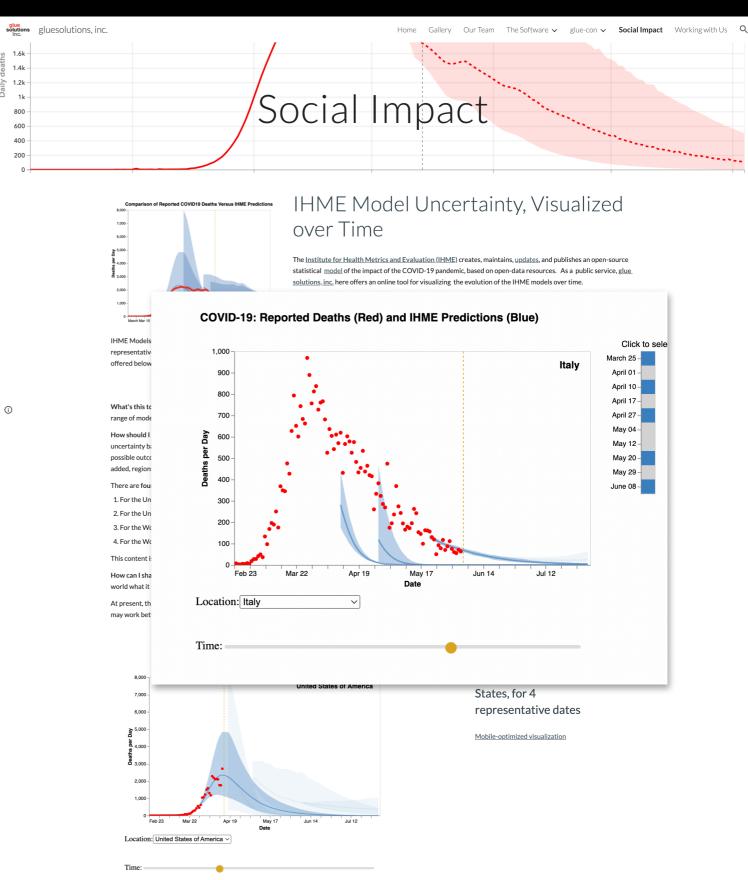
The Cost of Uncertainty depends on the cost of being wrong.

Beheading (ancient oracles)
People die (pandemics)

World Ends (climate change)

ORIGINS - ARCHITECTURE - STATUS - SAMPLER-IDEAS, MODALITIES, CONNECTIONS - SPIN-OFFS - EXPANSION





March 11, 2020 was definitely the most surreal day of my life teaching at Harvard, so far.

Prediction: Day 7

opening remarks on COVID-19 & plans for the rest of GenEd1119

quick review of outdoor Navigation Exercise



questions about "Prediction in Space & Time" re:Navigation, and Epidemiology

John Snow & Cholera (edX highlights & more)

Student research/discussion re:COVID-19 using survey at tinyurl.com/gened1112covid19

Modeling the spread of epidemics, and uncertainty

Bookkeeping SIR Models SEIR Models Agent-based models AI models

Prediction and decision in the face of uncertainty: COVID-19 and Harvard (discussions)

Logistics post-Spring-Break

Special Guest: geneticist **Dr. Immaculata DeVivo**, Professor in the Department of Epidemiology at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and at Harvard Medical School











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& Cholera

🛂 Cholera Map

Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece & Rome Islamic Science

Lost without The Path Longitude to Newton (Navigation) Lab (change

Indian Mathematics European Renaissance

Help, I'm Lost!

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The Royal Society

Epidemiology

Personal Genomics Population Genetics Climate ♂ Wealth ▶ Behavioral

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Space

- **▶** Futures of our Universe
- ▶ SETI

Coming Soon



Why

predict?

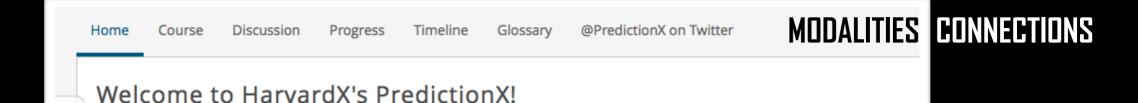
Interactive Resource





available on edX





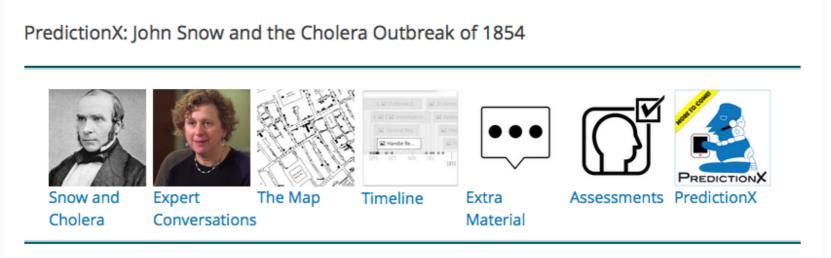


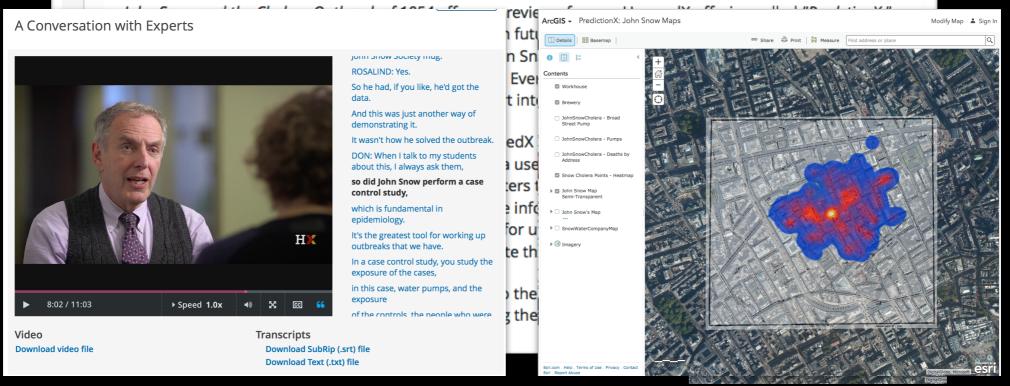
Support

John Snow & Cholera (edX highlights & more)

Mini-Course: John Snow and the Cholera Outbreak of 1854

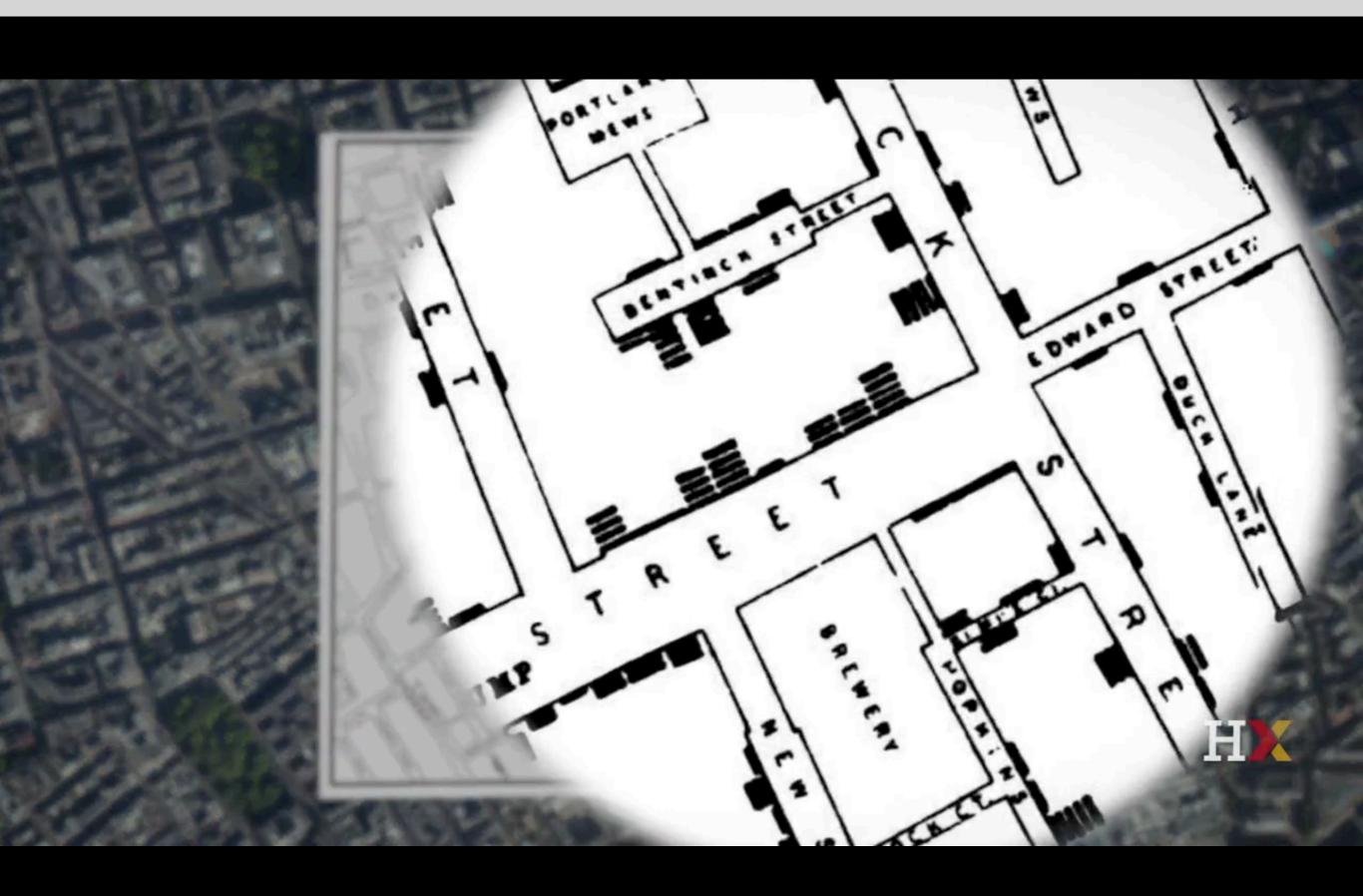






featuring Don Goldmann, AG & Rosalind Stanwell-Smith

John Snow & Cholera (maps)





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THE RISE OF THEORY

Longitude

Help, I'm Lost!

Ancient Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece & Rome Islamic Science

Lost without (Navigation)

Indian **Mathematics** European

Lab (change

Tools of the Navigator Renaissance The Royal Society

Health John Snow ▶ Epidemiology

▶ Personal Genomics

MODERN

▶ Population Genetics

PREDICTION Wealth

Climate ♂ Wealth

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Interactive Resource

▶ video(s)



available on edX





"When Knowledge Conquered Fear"



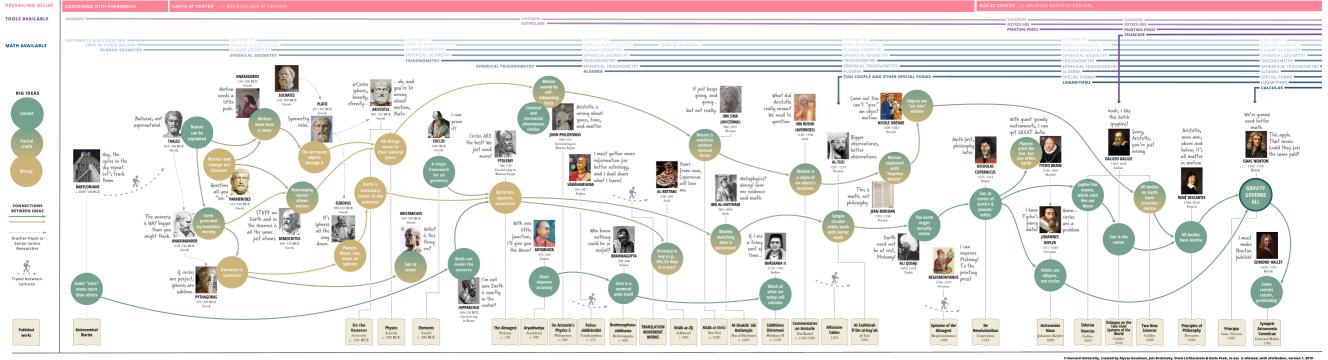
"When Knowledge Conquered Fear" is the third episode of the American documentary television series Cosmos: A Spacetime Odyssey. It premiered on March 23, 2014 on Fox, and premiered on March 24, 2014 on National Geographic Channel. [Wikipedia]. IMDB link Reproduced without permission—please do not distribute.



The Path to Newton

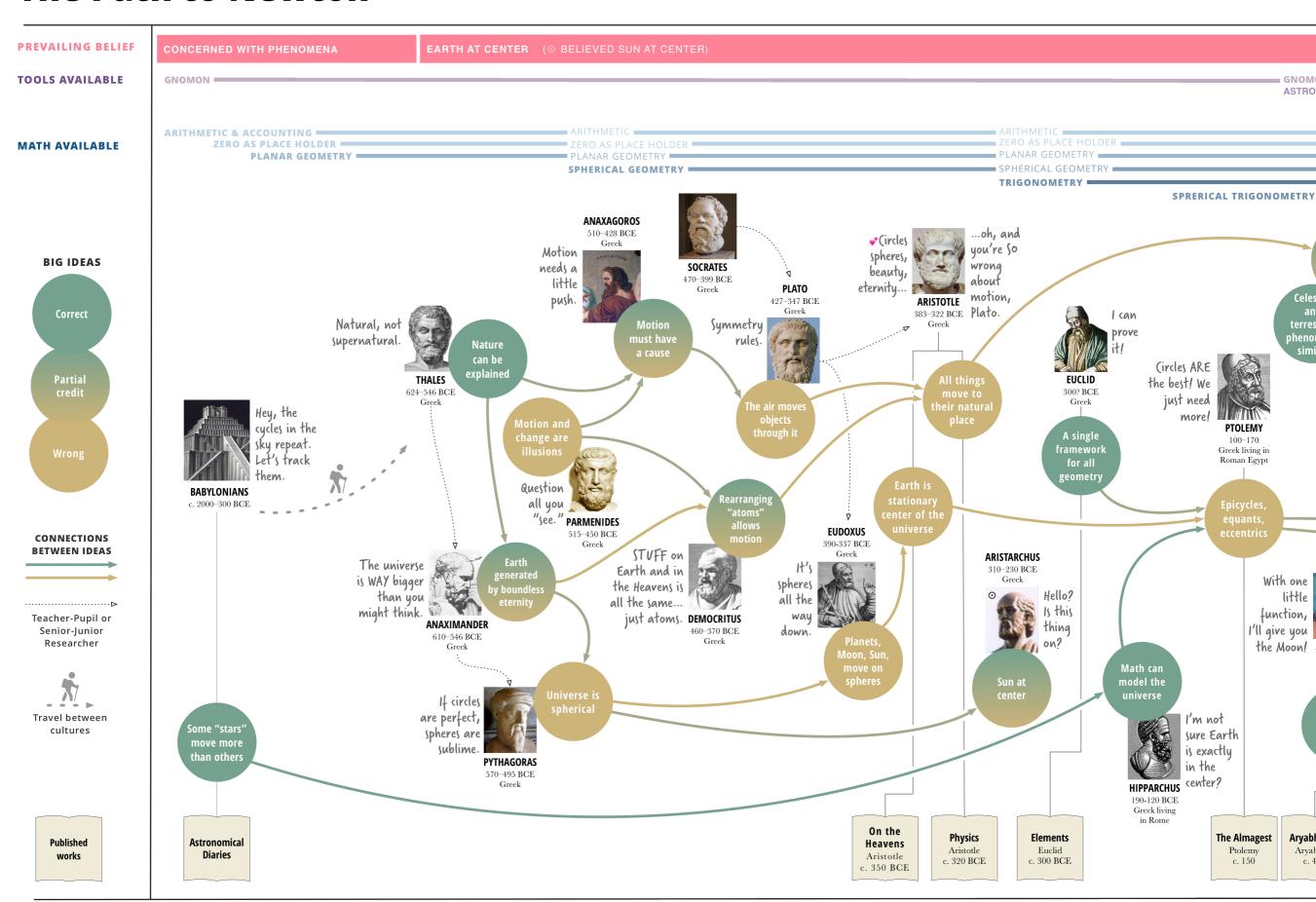
The Path to Newton

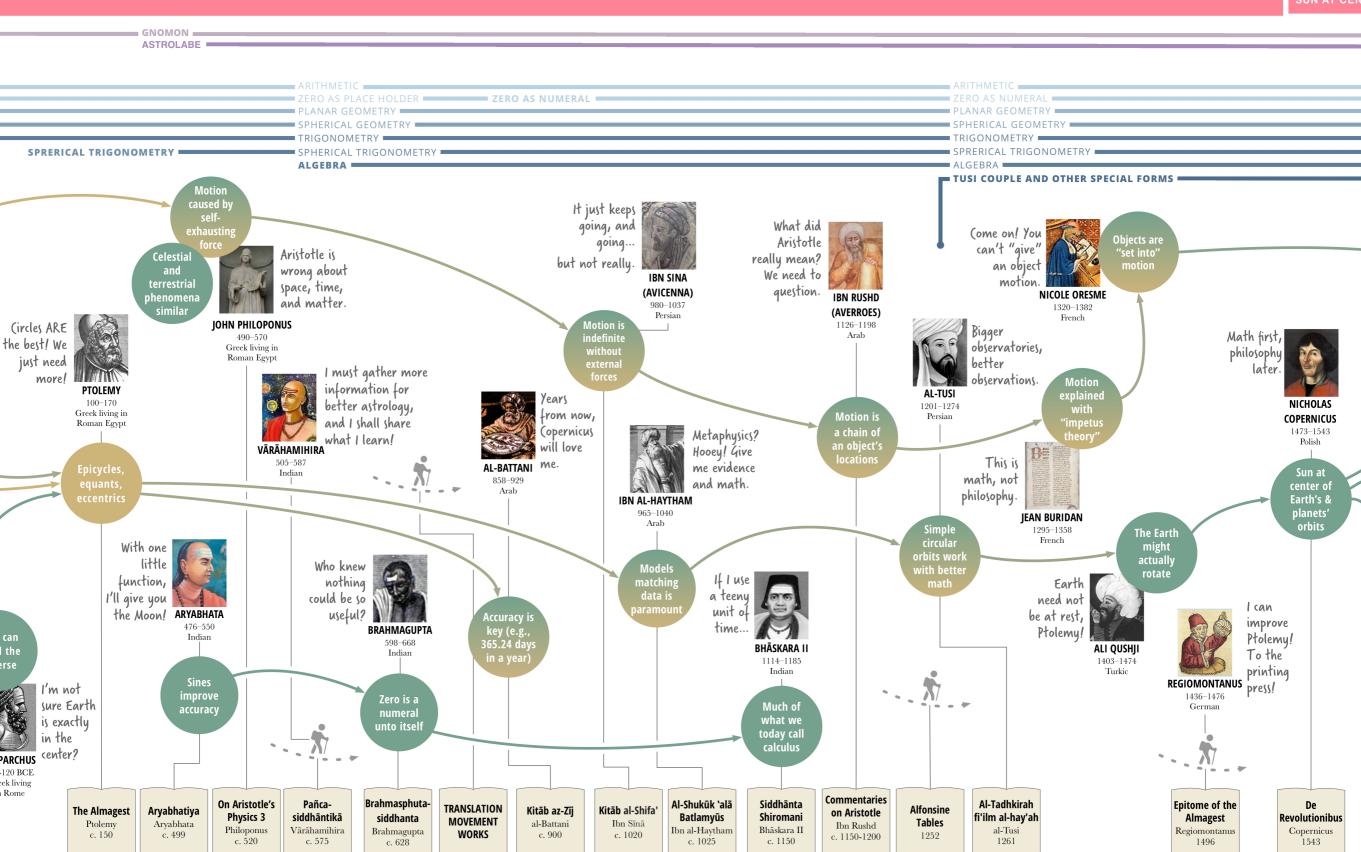




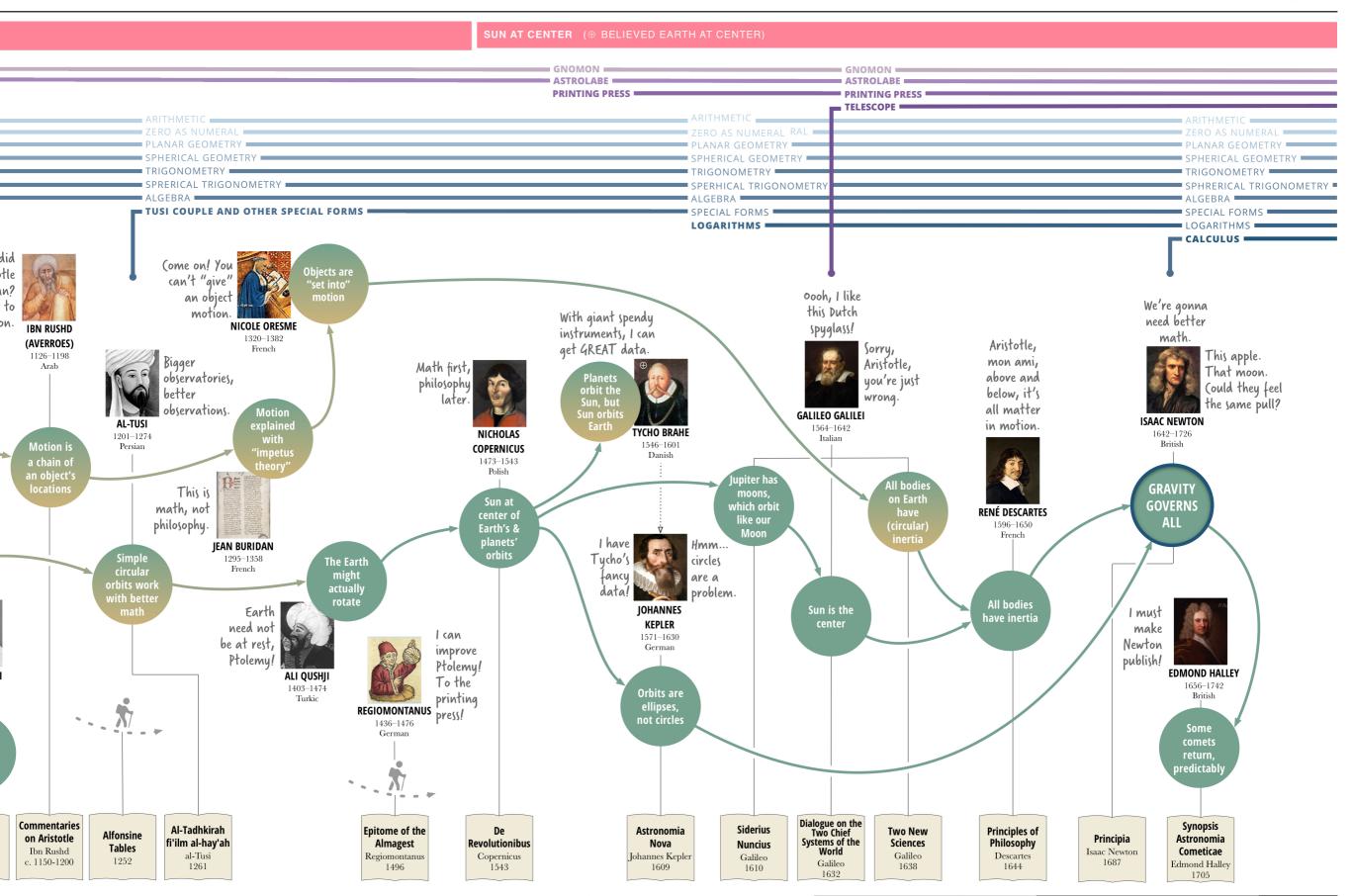


The Path to Newton









Library catalog > Pathway



The Path to Newton on LabXchange

1 Favorite • 23 Views • 1 Clone

An experience where the interactive Path to Newton website is enriched with other web resources from The Prediction Project and Crash Course videos.

Uploaded February 10, 2022



[™] Language English

Background Knowledge 2 License

None

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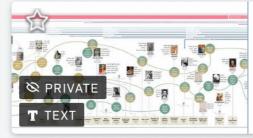
本 English ~

This content is from The Prediction Project.

View website

View Profile

Start pathway

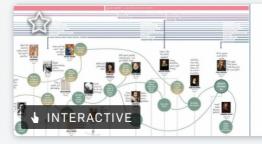


Welcome!

Alyssa Goodman

Thanks for visiting the Path to Newton here on LabXchange.

14 Views • 2 Remixes



The Path to Newton (an online Interactive Exploration)

The Prediction Project

This interactive timeline explores the philosophical and mathematical conceptions of the Universe and of how and why objects move on Earth, in...

6 Favorites • 350 Views • 4 Remixes





The Presocratics: Crash Course History of Science #2

CrashCourse

Just when did humans start thinking they COULD explain the physical world? Who did that, when, and why? ... Let's just say it was an obsession with so...

2 Views • 2 Remixes



Plato and Aristotle: Crash Course History of Science #3

PREDICTIONX: THE PAST & PRESENT OF THE FUTURE



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& Cholera

🚹 Cholera Map



THE RISE OF THEORY

Ancient Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece & Rome



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Islamic Science

(Navigation) Help, I'm Lost! Tools of the

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Climate ♂ Wealth

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Space

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▶ SETI

Coming Soon

Interactive Resource

Aztec

Rituals

▶ video(s)



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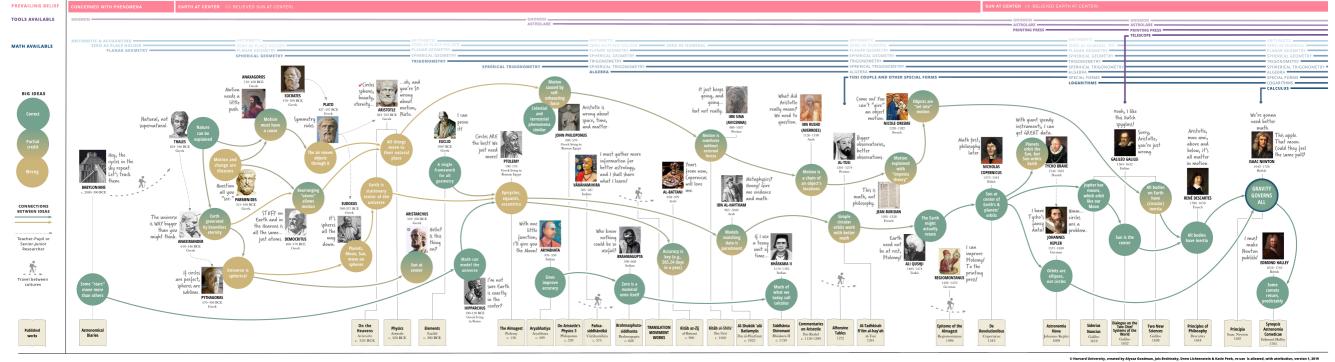


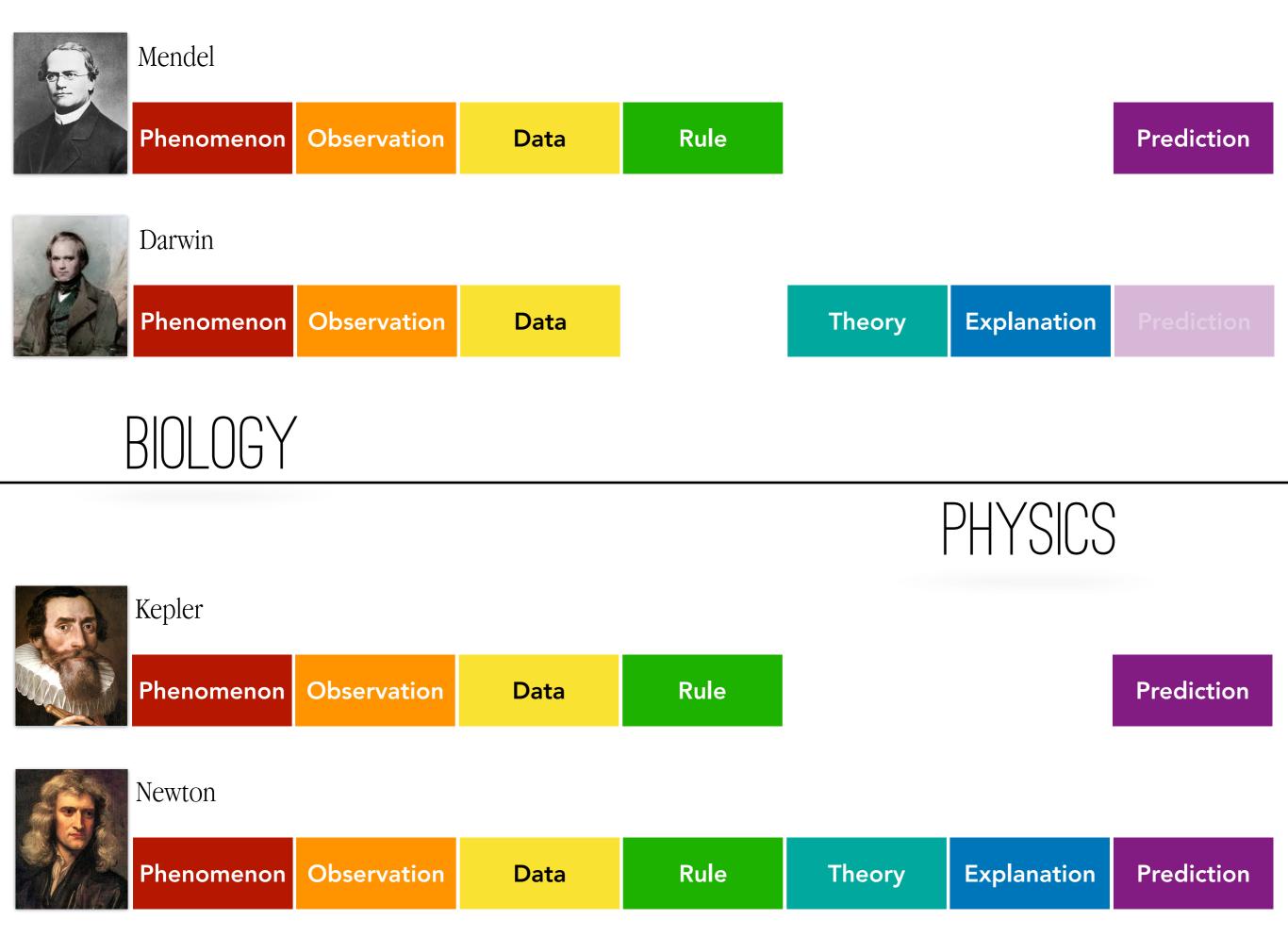
The "Padua" Rainbow

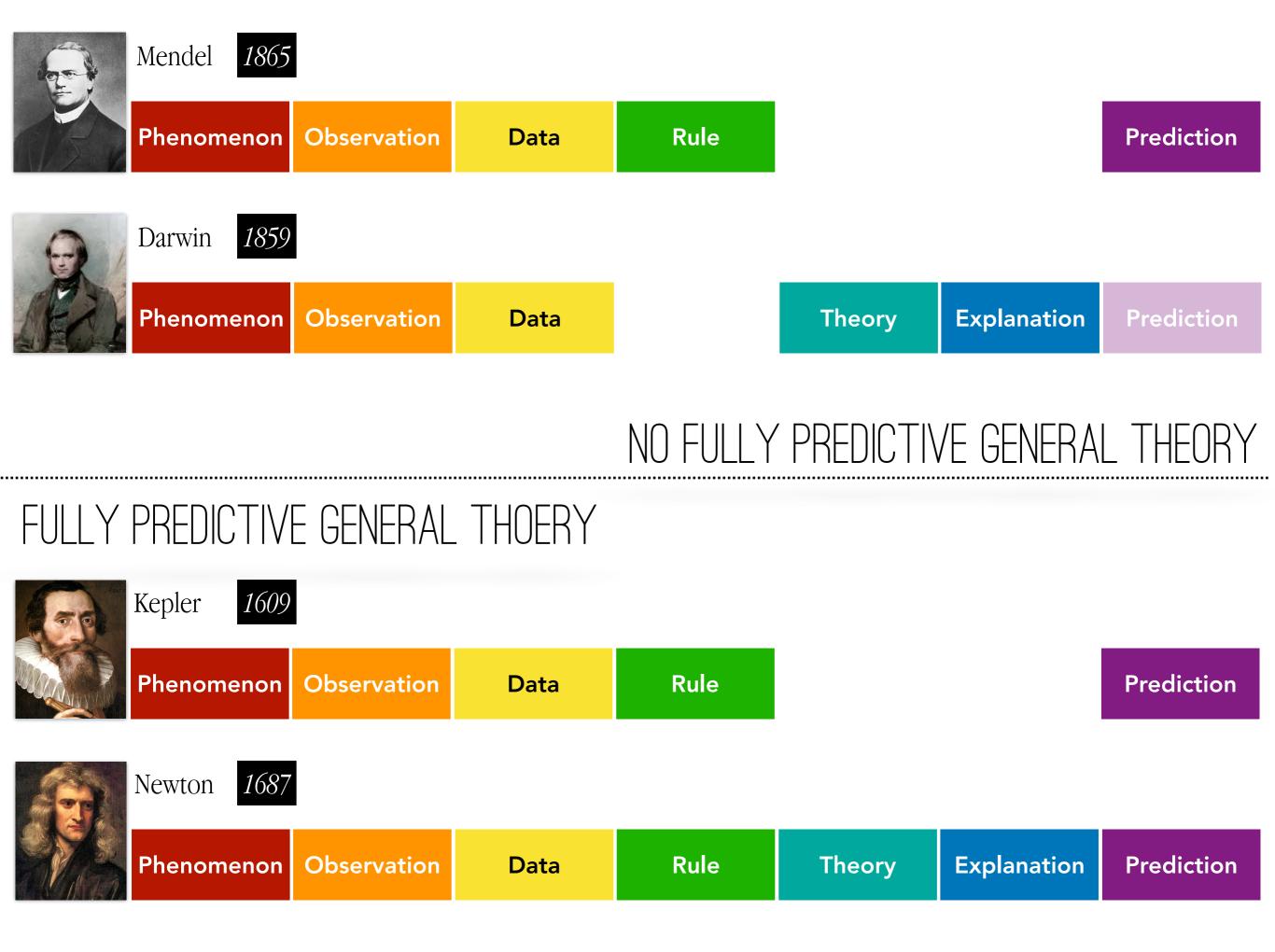
Phenomenon Observation* Data Rule Theory Explanation Prediction

The Path to Newton









THE FUTURE OF THE FUTURE

20th century

Phenomenon Observation	Data	Rule	Theory	Explanation	Prediction
------------------------	------	------	--------	-------------	------------

21st century?



is one form of MODERN PREDICTION

PREDICTIONX: THE PAST & PRESENT OF THE FUTURE



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▶ Personal Genomics

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Coming Soon

Why

predict?

Interactive Resource

of Delphi

Aztec

Rituals

▶ video(s)



available on edX

available on LabXchange



The Prediction Project

The Past and Present of the Future









Search...

HOME ABOUT MATERIALS COURSES **TALKS WRITINGS FORUM**

Modern Prediction

Prediction is everywhere in the modern world, making up essential aspects of almost every part of our lives. From checking the weather on your phone, knowing when you will arrive to work, to longer term predictions of the success of your stock portfolio and your personal health goals. This section of the course examines five areas of modern prediction: Earth, Health, Wealth, Space, and the Future of the Future -which looks at the driving forces currently changing our own conceptions of prediction, including artificial intelligence and machine learning -- to give learners a picture of the state of modern predictive methodologies. Select which modern form of prediction you want to study first by clicking on an image of the topic you want to study using the interactive menu below.

This site contains our prediction videos uploaded on YouTube; to enjoy them in their full format with video annotations and useful links, check out our Modern Prediction cluster on LabXchange.



EARTH

Study the complex modeling that has defined humanity's comprehension of climate change and the future of our planet in Earth.



HEALTH

Discover the incredible modern advancements in global health prediction -- using technology to make humanity healthier from mobile health to genomics, and possibly altering what it means to be human.



SPACE

Learn about modern astronomical prediction, with cutting edge simulations now defining the field of astronomy and contributing to a monumental change in our understanding of the universe.



WEALTH

Understand the rapidly changing modern state of wealth prediction, pulling on innovative fields such as behavioral economics to comprehend the inherent difficulty of predicting markets.

How will prediction change as technology further develops? How will artificial intelligence influence our ability to understand uncertainty? These questions and others are touched on by philosophers and scientists in the Future

FUTURE OF THE

FUTURE

of the Future.

SAMPLER(!)

Corporations and Climate with Rebecca Henderson:

Alyssa speaks with Harvard University Professor Rebecca Henderson about organizational rigidity as an essential barrier to overcome in order to mitigate climate change.



Climate Policy with Gina McCarthy:

Alyssa speaks with former head of the EPA Gina McCarthy about the future of climate and the role of prediction in policymaking. ($\underline{LabXchange\ Version}$)



The Future of Energy with Dan Kammen:

Alyssa speaks with UC Berkeley's Professor of Energy Dan Kammen about climate change and the future of energy on Earth. (LabXchange Version)



Predicting Health, and Earthquakes with Susan Murphy and Brendan Meade:

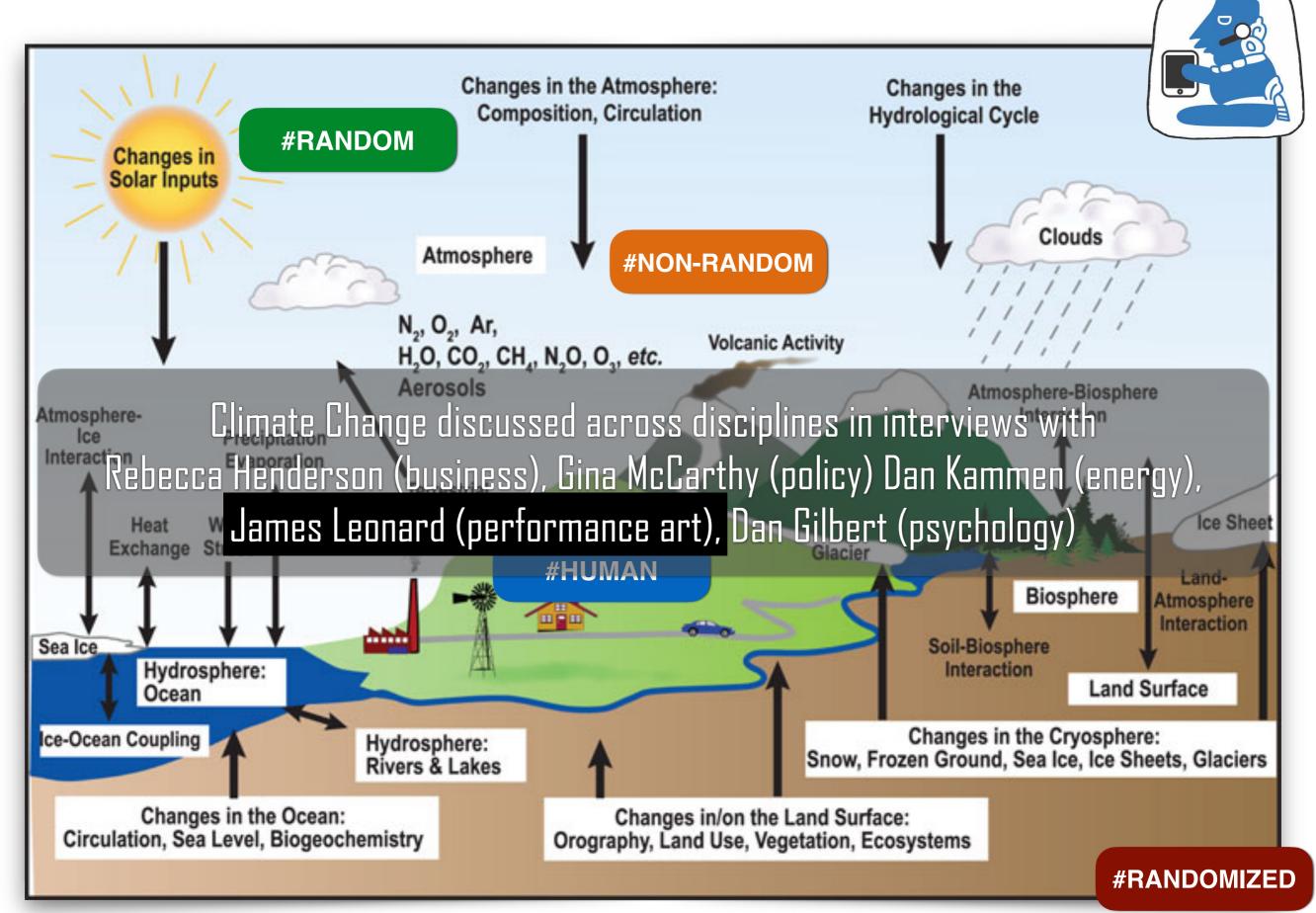
Alyssa speaks with earthquake predictions expert Prof. Brendan Meade and mobile health researcher and statistician Prof. Susan Murphy. This interview looks at the power of technology in guiding humanity's future health outcomes in a variety of ways. (LabXch



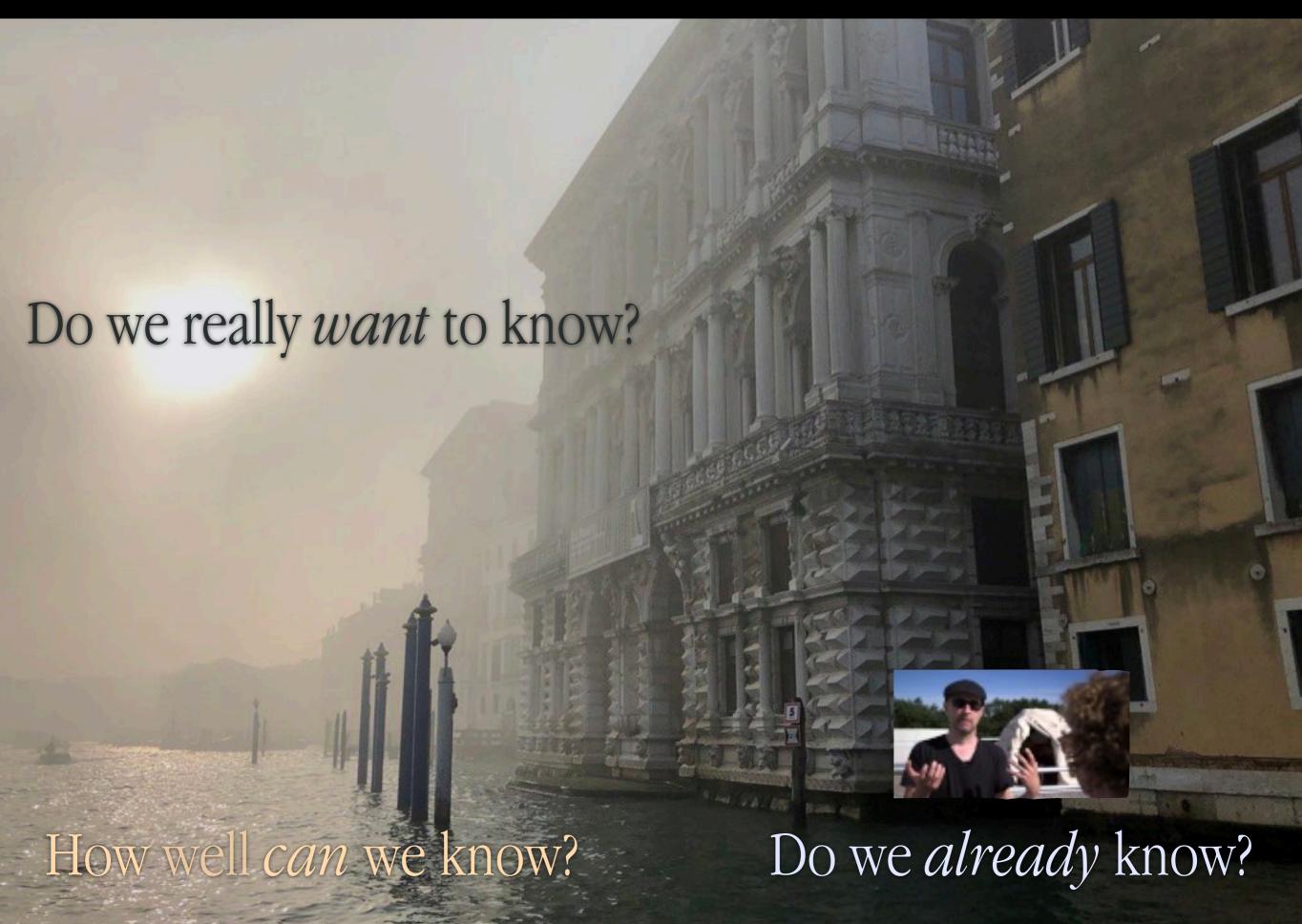
The Future of Climate Prediction by Michael Foley:

Read this essay by Alyssa's teaching fellow Michael Foley on the use of models in climate science to predict the future of Earth's climate and the outcomes of human-caused

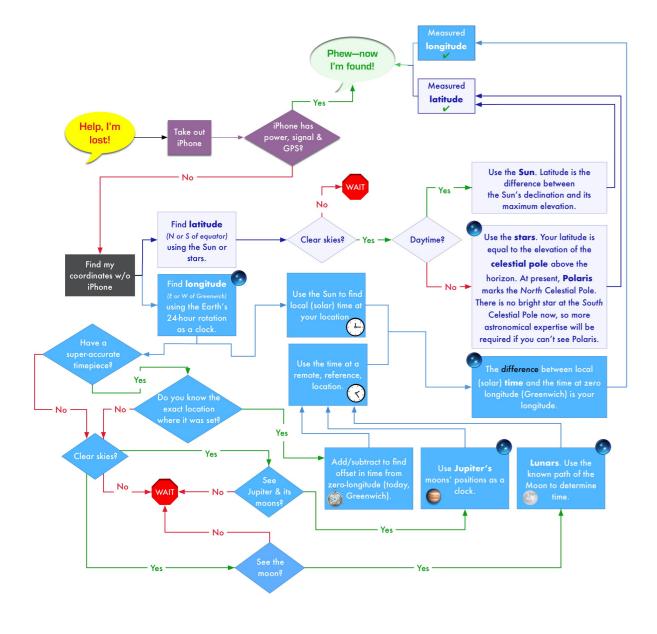
Climate change predictions have taken on an increasingly important role in national and climate change predictions have taken on an increasingly important role in hational and international decision making given that the current economic and social course would lead to catastrophic warming. Given that many sectors of society contribute to climate change and the whole world will experience its impacts, such predictions must consider the domains of both physical laws and human interactions. Addressing #health, #wealth, and domain is drout in physical law and formal is a described. Successing "areaut," wheath, a fearth in the shadow of climate change is a daunting task, and responses to climate change effects and predictions have ranged from aggressive mitigation to proactive or reactive adaptation.

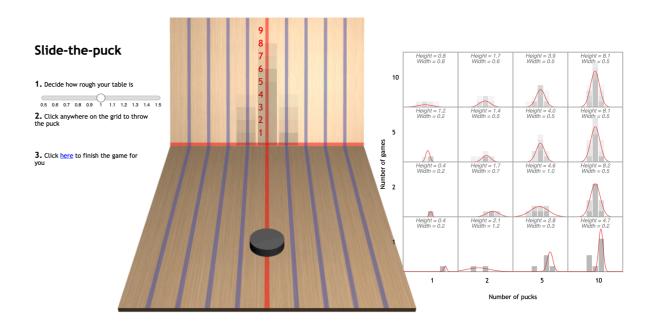


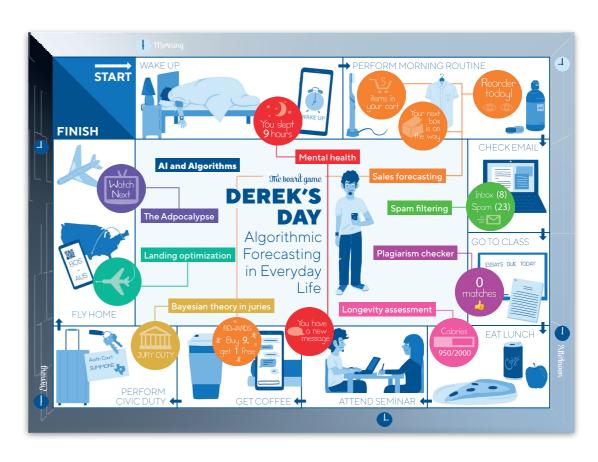












ENGAGING INTERACTIVES EXPLAIN NAVIGATION, UNCERTAINTY, AI, AND MORE

Course

Progress

Dates

Discussion

Guide

Frequently Asked Questiones

Meet the Course Team

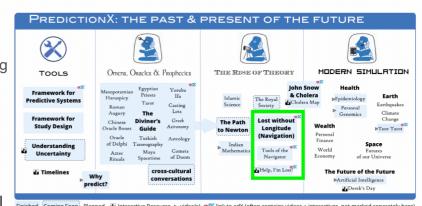
Pre-Course Survey

Instructor

Learner's GUIDE to Lost Without Longitude

Overview: The **Prediction** project is an ongoing study of how humanity has predicted the future, from antiquity to the present. *Lost* without Longitude is a module within the Prediction project that focuses on the connection between prediction and navigation and why longitude was, for millennia, so difficult to measure. The module is a piece of the larger edX offering known as "PredictionX," which includes content like PredictionX: Diviner's Guide and PredictionX: John Snow and the Cholera Outbreak of 1854.

Structure: In Lost Without Longitude, we combine text, infographics, interviews with experts, and videos made using WorldWide Telescope to explore the tools and techniques navigators have used throughout history, with a particular focus on the importance (and difficulty) of measuring longitude. By studying the following pages, watching interviews with experts, and experiencing digital tours of the solar system, you will learn how to use the sky, time, and a number of special instruments so that you can find your way no matter where you are.



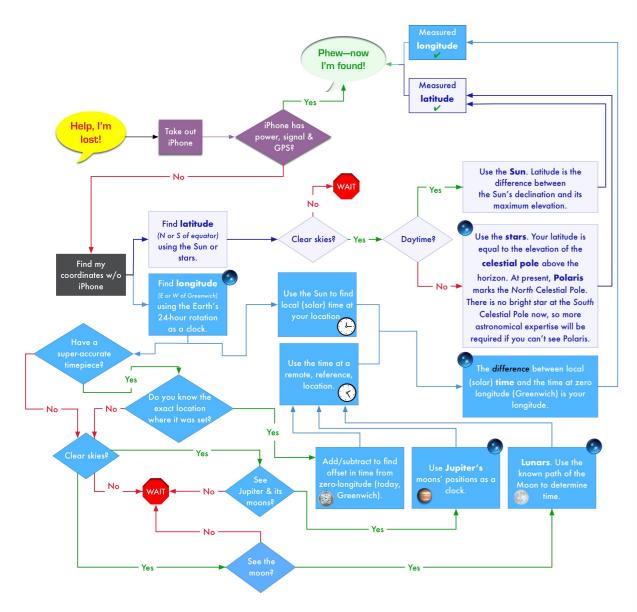
Lost Without Longitude offers a ten question final exam. If you get 8 or more questions right, you can earn a certificate. (Even if you do not want a certificate, the exam is a good place to test your knowledge on the key aspects of the course).

If you have any questions or thoughts on the course, please feel free to post in the discussion forum.

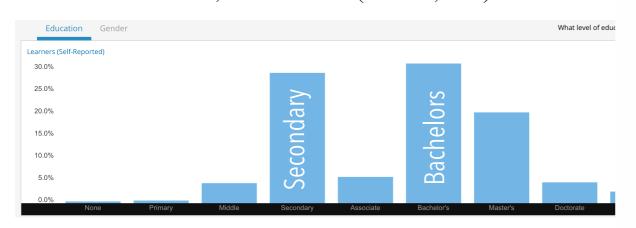
How to use the material: On this "guide" page, we offer you quick and easy links to all the course materials. Essentially, you can think of this guide as the "homepage" of a web site, and you're welcome to use it in lieu of the standard edX navigation tools if you prefer. We suggest going through the material in the order it's presented in numerical order below, but you can also skip around as you like.



Lost without Longitude



Education Level, June 2022 (N=22,000)



CONNECTIONS















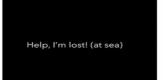
GUIDE Page

What is Navigation? Latitude and Longitude

Navigation as Prediction

The Longitude Prize Help, I'm Lost! and GPS

STAFF DEBUG INFO



Help, I'm Lost! (8:46)



When GPS Stops Working (0:56)



Navigation as Prediction (2:14)



Calculating Latitude (2:04)



The Prime Meridian (4:39)



The Economics of Longitude (1:56)



Lunars and Eclipses (1:36)



Lunars Are Hard to Predict! (3:00)





The Astronomer and The Watchmaker (2:40)





Longitude and a Royal Observatory (5:02)



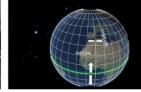
Astronomers, Lunars, and Why We Need Clocks (5:08)



Using Landmarks in Maine



(58:37)



The John Harrison Story Latitude and Longitude (1:46)



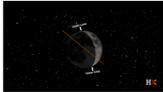
Earth as a Clock (0:48)



The Celestial Sphere (2:10)



Jupiter's Moons (2:02)



Lunars Overview (2:06)



Why Lunars Are Hard (2:02)



The Longitude Prize and Global Trade (4:15)



Methods (6:30)

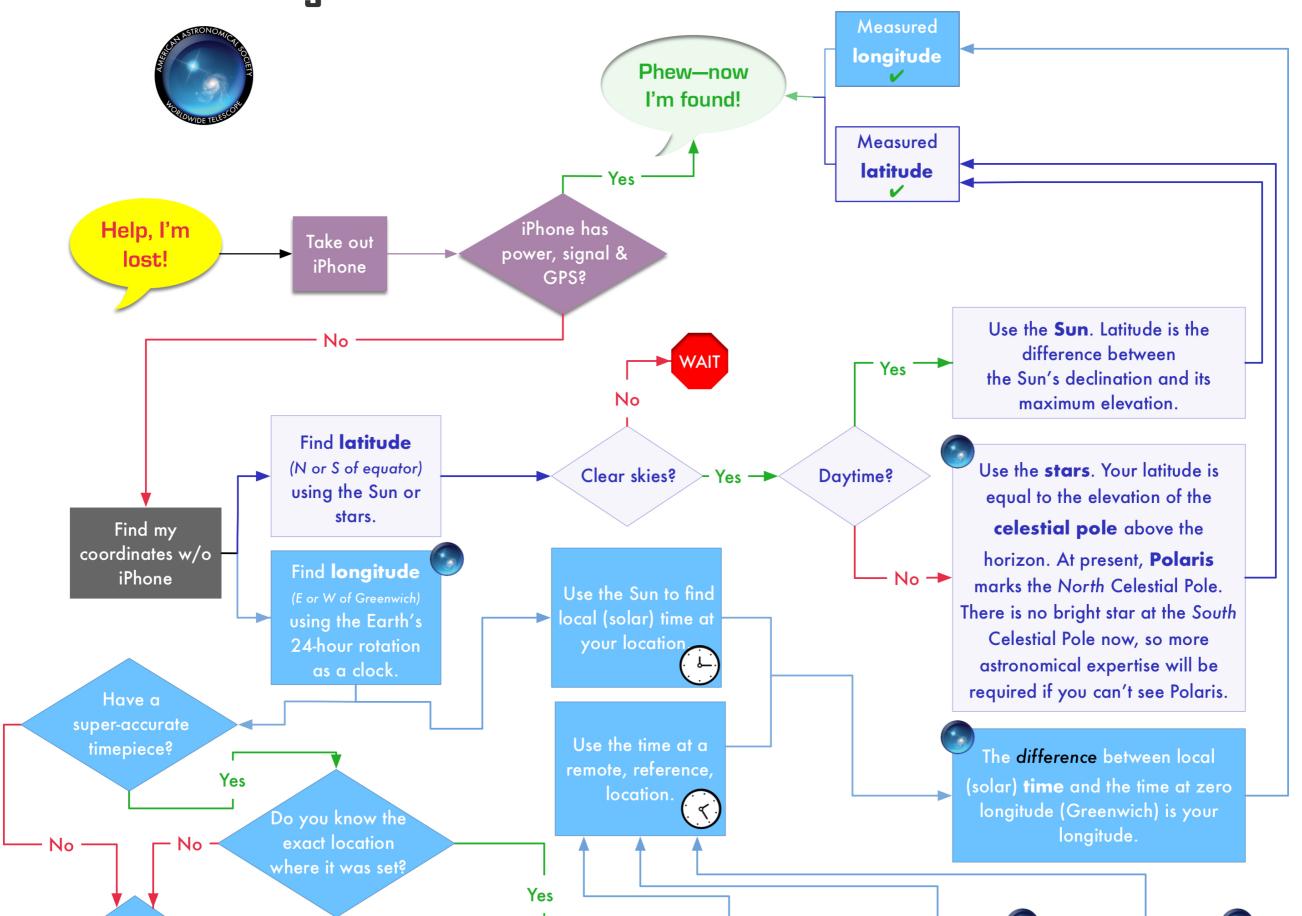


The Longitude Act: State-Funded Science (3:05)



2014 Longitude Prize (3:11)

Lost without Longitude



Earth as a Clock



The Celestial Sphere



Jupiter's Moons





Latitude & Longitude



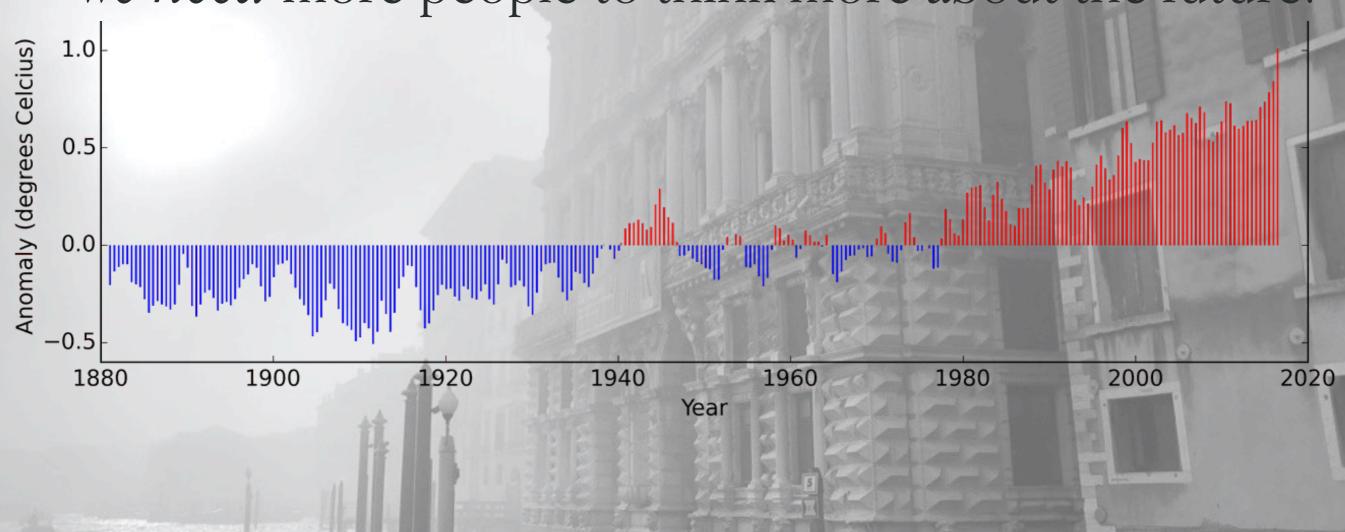
Lunars on the Sky



Why Lunars are Hard

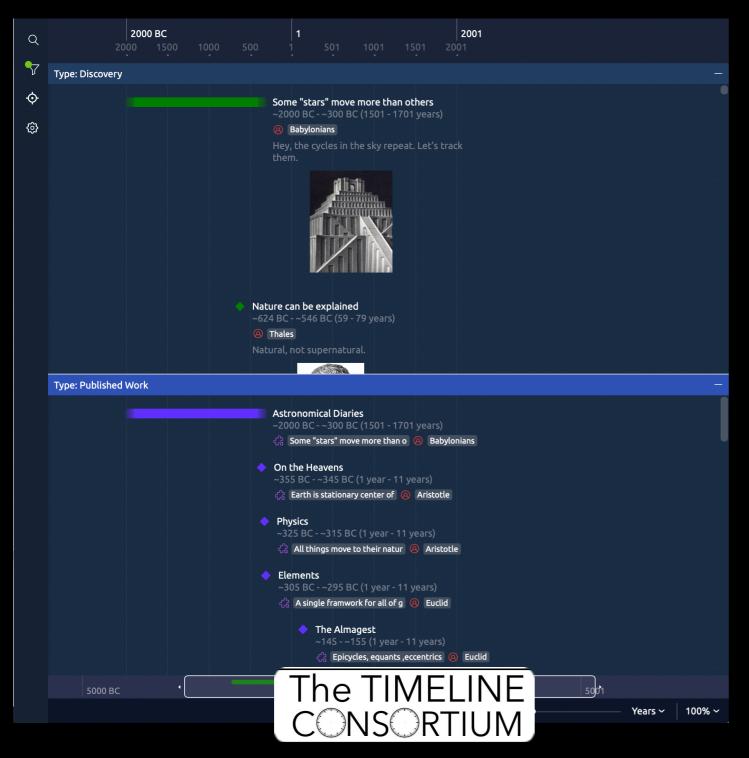




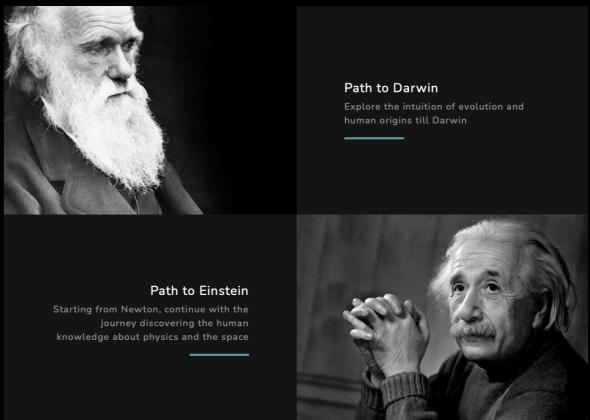


SPINOFFS

THE TIMELINE CONSORTIUM & STANDARD (TSF)



PATH-TO FOUNDATION



+Path-to Modern Genetics



The Prediction Project

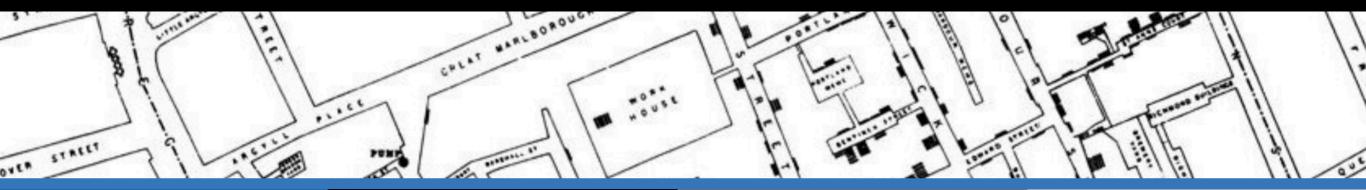
The Past and Present of the Future



HOME ABOUT PREDICTION TOPICS COURSES COMMENTARY CREDITS



OPPORTUNITIES FOR EXPANSION/COLLABORATION: MORE MODULES, BOOKS, DOCUMENTARIES...



Prediction Essentials

Take a look at the essential elements of the course, including the framework for predictive systems.



Omens & Oracles

Gain insight into prediction as a human venture by studying the most ancient forms of prediction in Omens and Oracles.



Rise of Theory

Learn how humanity moved from mystical divination practices to genuine, scientific theories to explain natural phenomena.



Modern Prediction

Discover the cutting edge predictive methods and modeling from preeminent experts across many fields.



How it all fits together

PREDICTIONX: THE PAST & PRESENT OF THE FUTURE









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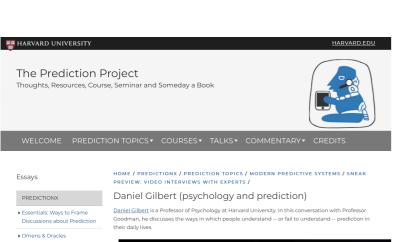




path-to.org

MODALITIES





▼ Modern Predictive Systems
 ▼ Sneak Preview: Video

Agustin Rayo (philosophy)

(artificial intelligence)

(earthquakes) and Susar

Daniel Gilbert (psychology

Brendan Meade





Would You Rather 1 Million or 1 Billion Dollars? - Daniel...

