NEW TOPICS IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

A GERSON GREENBURG
Winter 2019
Tuesday 1:00-3:00
First Universalist Church

A syllabus, sort of…..

Any “current events” course relies on the “information of the day”; and there certainly is an enormous amount of information covering science, technology and medicine generated daily. Each week, a variety of topics will be subjects for our discussions. After the first session, an OLLI standard start, c.f. who are we, what do we expect, together we will generate the general questions to be asked or should be asking of the subjects we read about or hear in presentation. Henceforth weekly we will follow a pattern of presentation/discussion concerning the chosen topics. (Weeks 2-8)

While I generally have sufficient material to cover the course content you are encouraged to seek other topics and material of personal and general interest for discussion. I’ll keep it open-ended and range far and wide as needed to explore these vast areas of modern life.

Below is an accumulated list of “sources” used to glean subjects, potentially of personal and group interest, from which a perusal very likely will uncover topics for consideration in our discussions.

PRIMARY SOURCES OF THE “NEWS”

SCIENCE TUESDAY IN THE NEW YORK TIMES
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY IN THE ECONOMIST
SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN…scientificamerican.com
THE WASHINGTON POST
THE WALL STREET JOURNAL
THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR
GOOGLE NEWS… (SELECT SCIENCE FROM LIST OF SUBJECTS)
ADDITIONAL SOURCES/WEBSITES FOR “NEWS”

LIVESCIENCE.COM
DISCOVERY NEWS…newsdiscovery.com
SCIENCE DAILY…sciedaily.com
SCIENCE NEWS…sciencenews.org
DISCOVER…discovermagazine.com
SCIENCE…scientemag.org
NATURE…nature.com/nature
EARTH SCIENCE….sciencedaily.com/news/earth_climate/earth_science/
TECHTIMES…techtimes.com
Genomeweb.com
medicalexpress.com
space.com/science-astronomy

THERE ARE MANY MORE OPTIONS PUBLISHED QUITE FREQUENTLY FROM DAILY TO WEEKLY TO MONTHLY, ETC. I plan to provide evaluation criteria applicable to the popular press and scientific literature, providing an evaluation tool useful in assessing quality of the information. The one for health news, applicable to the press primarily is quite sophisticated in concept, easy to use and has a user friendly accessible web-site where application of the criteria are shown to specific articles in health care.