

August 31, 2015  
MSE 2101 topics

- Mythology vs. Science
- Why would Earth be flat, motionless and centered?
- Intuition vs. observations
- The predictive power of observations: solar and lunar eclipses
- ~600 B.C.: Thales, “What is the Universe made of?”
- Three considerations of why ancient Greece may be considered the birthplace of modern science; scientific models
- ~580 B.C.: Anaximander, “Why does the sky revolve?”
- ~500 B.C.: Pythagoras, “What is geometrically perfect?”
- ~400 B.C.: Plato, Aristotle and the Geocentric model
- ~260 B.C.: Aristarchus, “If Sun is much larger than Earth, why would it revolve around it?”
- ~240 B.C.: Eratosthenes, the advent of geography
- ~150 B.C.: Ptolemy and the Ptolemaic model: “How do we explain the retrograde motion of the planets?”