

**SAS Honors Seminar 256:
Extraterrestrial Life**

12/1/2011

Readings for Tuesday

Cushman (2007) – review/discussion of a film presenting a human/human “first contact” experience

Dick (2000) – “Cultural Aspects of Astrobiology”

Harrison (2011) – “Fear, pandemonium, equanimity and delight: human responses to extra-terrestrial life”

Audio recordings for Tuesday

From the 2010 Royal Society conference “Towards a scientific and societal agenda on extra-terrestrial life”

(<http://royalsociety.org/Audio-extra-terrestrial-life/>):

I'd like two people each to report on recordings from the “Societal questions raised by the detection of extraterrestrial life” panel discussion:

Frans von der Dunk – Joey, Yael

Margaret Race – Sid, Laura

Michael Michaud – Ben, Austin

Ivan Almar – Jade, Matt

Douglas Vakoch – Baltej, Nora

Kathryn Denning – Lauren, Mohammad

Term paper topics (five days to finalize!)

Approved:

The Future of Space Exploration

Martian Meteorites

Proposed:

Searching for Life on Mars

Practical Implications of the Fermi Paradox

Congressional Funding for Astrobiological Research

The Ethics of Terraforming

The History of SETI

Extraterrestrial Life in Popular Culture

**The Evolution of Intelligence and Prospects of
Intelligent Life in the Universe**