

To: Lesley Bolton

From: Kyle Derby MacInnis

Subject: GRST 321 - Project Proposal - Antikythera Mechanism

Date: March 2, 2015

After reviewing the available topics for the term project, I have decided that I am most interested in writing an analytic essay on the Antikythera Mechanism. As student in the Electrical Engineering program here at the University of Calgary, I have a strong passion to understand and analyze technologies both contemporary and ancient. My main interest within my chosen field is specifically aimed at control system theory and its applications to robotics and automation in modern electronics and computers. More broadly, my interest is in computation in general, and thus I am fascinated to learn about this ancient computer.

As the oldest known analog computer, the Antikythera Mechanism inevitably drew my attention for both its technological value, as well as a source of insight into history. I feel I will provide a thorough and thoughtful examination of the device in my essay due to my experience within engineering alongside my love of history. The purpose of my essay will be to analyze the internal structure of the mechanism to show how it pertains to the overall function of the computer. I will also focus on the historical implications that the device may have had as well as examining the device's accuracy and any potential shortcomings which may have been present in the design.

Please accept this as my project proposal, and I look forward to receiving approval.

Regards,

Kyle Derby MacInnis - 10053959