Primary Source Analysis

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The basics:

1. Who wrote this source? When? How do we know?

**Galileo Galilei** wrote this source in **1615**, as noted in the title.

1. Who was the original the intended audience?

The original intended audience is **Grand Duchess of Tuscany**.

1. What were the author’s goals or purposes for its production?

The goal is to send a forceful statement of views on the relationship between religion and science.

About the source:

1. What can we learn from this source? What information does it contain?

* Many other professors disagreed with Galileo's opinion on celestial system
* Galileo thought that the other professors are not objective concerning to the most recent discoveries
* Galileo felt a kind of responsibility to utilize the intellect and wisdom granted by God to promote reason and science and deny things that are not supported by evidences

Analysis:

1. What questions can I ask (or answer) using this source? What kinds of arguments might it support or be used to further?

One question could be, how Galileo feels people should read Bible when there're some evidences that are conflicted with the documents treat as sacred by the Church. In the letter, Galileo supported the idea, that people should use the sense, reason and intellect given by God to promote the truth and to deny the falsity.

1. Link this source to **two** concepts/ideas that David has brought up in lecture. Explain how we can better analyze the source if we understand those ideas. How does this source demonstrate or complicate the concepts you chose?

* Religion: If we know better what idea was the Church supporting and why exactly they don't like the idea given by Galileo, we may have better understanding of why the Church had so strong opposition towards Galileo.
* Technology: If we know better how important a role technology had played in Galileo's ages, and how it compromised the authority of the Church, we may better understand their conflicts.