

The first lecture from Susan Stockalmeyer about the origins of modern science I found particularly interesting. After this lecture I was looking up Sir Francis Bacon on the web to see what kind of information there was. I wished to further understand this nature of science as it first emerged. I came across this article in which describes Bacon describes the basic principals of chemistry. You can see the forming of scientific method in the words he uses as well as the general language. He is talking as if there has been experimentation done and that these are pure scientific facts, without bias. You can see that this is the birth of modern scientific method. I also find it very interesting just to see the perceptions about the world that people in the past have had. When you think of all of the scientific facts that we take for granted in the modern age and then look back to what was thought in the past, you can get an understanding of the difficulties involved in the original development of these ideas. He talks about the “two great families of things” and Air and flame. We know now that chemistry is in actuality nothing to do with mixing Water and Earth together to form a substance. These things that were absolute truth then have no grounding now.

I think that if something so obviously scientific and correct in Bacon’s day can turn out to be so incorrect that in a hundred years who can say what we take for fact now will be correct. Science is not absolute, however is evolving with humanity and is always biased by the current beliefs of the time. Although the whole aim of science is to provide an objective view into the workings of the universe, this can never be.

Some more writing with absolutly no grounds in reality.