“Aliens in Outer Space”
Sample Annotated Bibliography

Eric Michael Mazur

Ambrosius, Joshua D. “Separation of Church and Space: Religious Influences on Public Support for U.S. Space Exploration Policy.” *Space Policy* 32 (2015): 17–31.

The author examines the relationship of religion and attitudes toward the ongoing NASA space program. He examines responses to survey data from adherents of the major religious traditions to questions involving space exploration, both with human personnel and without.

Fenrich, Eric Brett. *The Color of NASA: Racial Inclusion in the American Space Program, 1957–1978* [Dissertation]. Santa Barbara, Cal.: University of California, 2015.

The author examines the role of race from the beginning of the American space program to the years following the end of NASA’s Apollo space program. In particular, he explores the role of racism in the astronaut training program in keeping African Americans from advancing into the early “classes” of astronauts.

Jackson, Shareef. “Ed Dwight Was Going to Be the First African American in Space.” Smithsoniammag.com (18 February 2020); available online: <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/ed-dwight-#rst-african-american-space-until-wasnt-180974215/> (accessed 1 September 2021).

This article describes the experiences of Ed Dwight, the first African American to be enrolled in the American training program for potential astronauts. It recounts Dwight’s departure from the program and evaluates the assertions related to his grades and the role racism may have played in his removal.

Lewis, Cathleen. “Arnaldo Tamayo Méndez and Guion Bluford: The Last Cold War Race Battle.” In *NASA and the Long Civil Rights Movement*, eds. Brian C. Odom and Stephen P. Waring, 145–166. Gainesville, Fla.: University Press of Florida, 2019.

This chapter compares the role and significance of Cuban cosmonaut Tamayo Méndez and American astronaut Bluford. It examines the role played by race and the appearance of racial

diversity in the global competition between the Soviet Union and the United States during (and immediately following) the Cold War.

Newell, Catherine L. *Destined for the Stars: Faith, the Future, and America's Final Frontier*. Pittsburgh, Penn.: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2019.

The author examines the role of artist Chesley Bonestell in creating images that made the possibility of human interplanetary exploration realistic. She traces the artist's life and career, his relationship to former Nazi-turned-American rocket scientist Wernher von Braun, the images that accompanied articles and early television programs on the possibility in the pre-Sputnik era of human exploration of the Moon.

"Titov, Denying God, Puts His Faith in the People." *New York Times* (7 May 1962): 2.

This news article provides a brief account of cosmonaut Titov's trip into orbit, quoting his restating of the Soviet position on religion as it relates to space travel.

Turner, Frederick Jackson. "The Significance of the Frontier in America History." In *The Frontier in American History*, 1–38. New York, NY: Henry Holt and Co., 1920; reprint, Mineola, N.Y.: Dover Publications, 2010.

This chapter in a larger work by Turner examines the significance of a demographic notation from the American Bureau of the Census related to population density and its relationship to the concept of "frontier." The author traces the concept through American history, noting its significance in the development of American cultural and political patterns.

Uri, John. "Space Station 20th: Celebrating the Holidays in Space." NASA (23 December 2020); available online: <https://www.nasa.gov/feature/space-station-20thcelebrating-the-holidays-in-space> (accessed 6 March 2021).

This webpage hosted by the larger NASA website details the ways various holidays have been observed by the astronauts and cosmonauts in the International Space Station. It examines the ways both religious and national holidays have been expressed and shared among a small but increasingly diverse population.

Weitekamp, Margaret A. “More Than ‘Just Uhura’: Understanding Star Trek’s Lt. Uhura, Civil Rights, and Space History.” In *Star Trek and History*, ed. Nancy Reagin, 22–38. New York, N.Y.: Wiley, 2013.

This chapter details the role played by Nichelle Nichols, “Lt. Uhura” from the 1960s television program Star Trek, in the NASA space program. It examines the role of race and the desire for greater racial diversity, as well as Nichols’s role in attracting the first women and African American men into the program.