

# SCIENCE IN THE COURTS

June 14-20, 2004

## June 15

8:30 a.m. – 12 noon

**First Session: Professor James S. Trefil**  
*Department of Physics*  
*George Mason University*

Topic: **Scientific Literacy/Standards of Science/Scientific Experts**

Assignment: Trefil & Hazen, The Sciences: An Integrated Approach, pp. 1-25.

Trefil, “A Mind Can Be Open Without Being Empty: Thoughts on the Skepticism of Scientists”.

Trefil, Meditations At 10,000 Feet: A Scientist in the Mountains, pp. 39-56.

Kring & Durda, “The Day the World Burned”, from *Scientific American* (December 2003).

## June 16

8:30 a.m.- 12 noon

**Second Session: Dr. Robert L. Park**  
*Department of Physics, University of Maryland and Director of Public Information, Washington Office of the American Physical Society*

Topic: **The Abuse of Science**

Assignment: “The Seven Warning Signs of Bogus Science”, from *The Chronicle of Higher Education* (January 31, 2003).

“Liars Never Break A Sweat”, from *The New York Times* (July 12, 1999).

“Scientists and Their Political Passions”, from *The New York Times* (May 2, 1998).

“The Danger of Voodoo Science”, from *The New York Times* (July 9, 1995).

“Buying Snake Oil With Tax Dollars”, from *The New York Times* (January 3, 1996).

“Perpetual Motion: Still Going Around”, from *The Washington Post*

(January 12, 2000).

“America’s Strange Attraction”, from The Washington Post (September 8, 1999).

State of Washington v. Lee, Declaration of Robert Park.

“Power Line Paranoia”, from The New York Times (November 13, 1996).

A Review of Scientific Claims by Dennis Lee and Better World Technologies, pp. 1-9.

“Cellular Telephones and Cancer: How Should Science Respond?” from Journal of the National Cancer Institute, Vol. 93, No. 3 (February 7, 2001).

“Science in the Courts”, 36 New England L.R. 575-586 (2002).

Park, *Voodoo Science*, Oxford University Press (2000):

Ch. 7: Currents of Fear, pp. 140-161

Ch. 8: Judgment Day, pp. 162-171.

## **June 17**

**8:30 a.m.- 12 noon**

**Third Session: Professor Bruce N. Ames**

*Senior Scientist*

*Children’s Hospital Oakland Research Institute*

Topic: **Nutrition and the Prevention of Degenerative Disease**

Assignment: Ames, “A Role for Supplements in Optimizing Health: The Metabolic Tune-Up”, 423 Arch Biochem Biophys 227-234 (2004).

**1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**     **Fourth Session: Professor Bruce Ames**  
*Senior Research Scientist*  
*Children’s Hospital, Oakland Research Institute*

Topic:     **Environmental Chemicals and Health**

Assignment:     Gold, Slone, Manley & Ames, Misconceptions About the Causes of Cancer, Fraser Institute (2002), pp. 1-141.

Ames & Gold, “Cancer Prevention and the Environmental Chemical Distraction” from Gough ed., Politicizing Science: The Alchemy of Policymaking, Hoover Institute Press (2003), pp. 117-142.

### **June 18**

**8:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon**     **Fifth Session: Professor W. Kip Viscusi**  
*Director, Program on Empirical Legal Studies*  
*Harvard Law School*

Topic:     **Risk Assessment I**

Assignment:     Viscusi, Vernon & Harrington, Economics of Regulation & Antitrust: The Emergence of Health Safety and Environmental Regulation, pp. 637-646.  
Viscusi, The Value of Life in Legal Contexts: Survey & Critique, pp. 195-222.  
Viscusi, Fatal Tradeoffs, pp. 17-33.  
Viscusi and Hamilton, Cleaning Up Superfund, from *The Public Interest*, 1996, pp. 52-60.

### **June 19**

**8:30 a.m. - 12 noon**     **Sixth Session: Professor W. Kip Viscusi**  
*Director, Program on Empirical Legal Studies*  
*Harvard Law School*

Topic:     **Risk Assessment II**

Assignment:     Sunstein, Viscusi, et al, Punitive Damages: How Juries Decide, Ch. six and ten.

**4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.**

**Seventh Session: *Professor Gerd Gigerenzer***  
*Director at the Max Planck Institute for Human Development,*  
*Berlin*

Topic: **Rationality in the Real World I**

Assignment: Gigerenzer, Calculated Risks, Simon & Schuster (2002):  
Ch. 1: Uncertainty, pp. 3-8  
Ch. 6: (Un)Informed Consent, pp. 87-114  
Ch. 8: Wife Battering, pp. 141-149  
Ch. 9: Experts on Trial, pp. 151-159.

Gigerenzer & Selten, “Rethinking Rationality”, from Gigerenzer, ed.,  
Bounded Rationality: The Adaptive Toolbox, The MIT Press (2001),  
pp. 1-12.

Gigerenzer, “Heuristics as a Solution?” pp. 1-23.

## **June 20**

**8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.**

**Eighth Session: *Professor Gerd Gigerenzer***  
*Director at the Max Planck Institute for Human Development,*  
*Berlin*

Topic: **Rationality in the Real World II**

Assignment: Same readings