

**Assignment #7**

1) READ these profile articles:

- From the *New York Times*: Select 3 of the profiles listed in the menu on the *Times*'s "Profiles in Science" page:

<http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/science/profiles-in-science-series.html>

--of course, you may read more ☺ You may either print these out, or bring your laptop to class. However, either way, you should make notes about what you read—what do you notice about the way the writers put their articles together? Begin making a list of elements that make up a good profile-type article.

- Ana Burgos's profile of MIT professor John Essigmann, "[A Professor of Puzzles](#)." Ana wrote this profile for last spring's 21W.035; it was published in the 2012 *Angles* online magazine of exemplary writing.

DO print out this profile, as we will look at it together in class.

FOR CLASS DISCUSSION: What do these articles have in common? What drew you to the profiles you chose to read in the *Times*? Be prepared to point to specific passages that capture the spirit or personality of the person being profiled, as well as passages that do a good job of explaining the science .

2) READ Hancock ch. 3, "Research and the Interview." We'll discuss in class.

3) The PROPOSAL for your Profile or Archive. Please send me a short paragraph stating what you propose to do:

- If a profile, who and why. What about their work do you want to focus on?
- If an archival exploration, what do you want to discover? Why?
- For both: Why do you think this will make an interesting article?

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21W.035 Science Writing and New Media: Elements of Science Writing for the Public  
Spring 2013

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