

First Year Seminar  
**Homework Assignment 6**  
**Testing ESP**

**Reading Assignment: By Monday April 4: Shermer, chapters 4, 9, and 10, and Randi, chapter 7. You may also find it helpful and to read Randi, chapter 13.**

**Hypothesis: ESP is common and somewhat reliable**

Description: This is a group activity. Your goal is to test one or more aspects of ESP. There are at least three different kinds of ESP; you can choose whichever one you want:

*Precognition:* The ability to predict future events

*Telepathy:* The ability to transmit or receive thoughts from others

*Remote Viewing:* The ability to see objects or gain knowledge without using the usual senses.

The main question you are trying to address is whether ESP is real or not. You can test each other, or you can test volunteers.

Step 1: Design the experiment. This will be done primarily in class on Thursday, March 22. You may choose to add refinements. You must, however, turn in a one-paragraph summary of your experiment by the end of class on Thursday. The whole group must come up with this together.

Step 2: Perform the experiment. For this homework, it is acceptable to test a single person (or a small number of people); you don't need to test zillions of people. You may perform all tests on members of your own group if you want to. **This must be completed by Tuesday March 27**

Step 3: Analyze the data. What can you conclude?

Step 4: **Due midnight Thursday March 29.** Write a rough draft report of your results. This must be done individually. You should include the purpose of the experiment, why you used the methods you did, how you analyzed your results, etc.

Step 5: **Due midnight Tuesday April 3.** Write a final draft of your results.