

# Scientific Genius

Bernard Abramson

## Course Information

Mondays from 10:00 a.m.–noon for six weeks beginning September 30 through November 4.

**In-Person – Lecture – Maximum 20**

## Course Description

Ask any scientist, particularly physicists, to name the most significant people in the history of science and a handful of names will be mentioned repeatedly. Isaac Newton and Albert Einstein will be on everyone's list. They clearly changed the course of science, founded entire new areas of study, made profound discoveries in many separate areas, and gave us new ways to think about nature and ourselves.

But they are not alone.

In this course we will look at the lives and discoveries of seven scientific geniuses. From Ancient Greece, via Islamic scholarship, to the emergence of modern science, and into the 20th century. The concentration is on physics. There have been outstanding figures in other sciences but “this is where the light is”.

The only pre-requisite for the course is curiosity. We will delve into each life at sufficient depth to explain what they contributed and why it is important.

## Course Schedule

<b>Weeks</b>	Topics
<b>Week One</b>	Introduction & Archimedes
<b>Week Two</b>	Muhammad ibn Musa al-Khwarizmi & Galileo Galilei
<b>Week Three</b>	Isaac Newton
<b>Week Four</b>	James Clerk Maxwell & Albert Einstein, part 1
<b>Week Five</b>	Albert Einstein, part 2
<b>Week Six</b>	John von Neumann

## **Leader**

Bernard Abramson is a retired corporate Chief Information Officer, with international management and consulting experience, and former Adjunct Professor in the master of technology management program at Polytechnic University. Educated in the UK, he has degrees in mathematics and astrophysics.