

Explore Lunar Studies

A Research Pathway Guide Using ProQuest Content

From breaking news to centuries of scholarship, the Moon raises questions that span science, politics, culture and creative practice. This research pathway guide demonstrates how a contemporary lunar headline can open multiple research paths, connecting students to primary sources, scholarly research and creative works across disciplines using ProQuest.

A student encounters a news article reporting that Japanese astronomers observed two powerful explosions on the Moon caused by asteroid collisions.

“2 Spooky Flashes Lit Up the Moon. Here’s What Made Them.” The New York Times, Nov. 7, 2025. Available in Global Newsstream Collection (ProQuest)

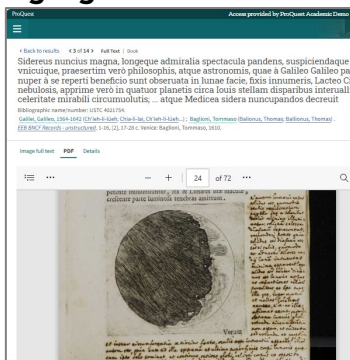
News provides an entry point for users. The research journeys below show how a single story can branch into structured inquiry across disciplines.

Research journey 1: History and public policy

Research focus: How knowledge of the Moon has been recorded, debated and politicized

Best for: History, political science, public policy, science & technology studies

Highlighted sources



1610 Early Modern Text – [Sidereus Nuncius, Galileo Galilei](#)

- Early telescopic observations of the Moon that challenged prevailing cosmological models. Available in Early Modern Books.

1852 Newspaper – [“The Great Moon Hoax,” The Louisville Daily Journal](#)

- Illustrates how popular media shaped public belief and scientific authority. Available in ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Global.



1945-1991 Government Document Timeline – [Chronology: U.S. Military Uses of Space](#)

- Documents the Moon’s emergence as a geopolitical concern during the Cold War. Available in Digital National Security Archive, part of ProQuest One Global Studies & International Relations.

Teaching idea: Ask students to compare Galileo’s observations with nineteenth-century newspaper coverage and Cold War policy documents. How does authority shift among science, media and the state?

Research journey 2: STEM

Research focus: Why lunar and asteroid events matter for Earth

Best for: Astronomy, physics, engineering, environmental science

Highlighted sources

- **2006 Peer Reviewed Conference Proceeding** – "[Keplerian consequences of an impact on an asteroid and their relevance for a deflection demonstration mission.](#)" *Proceedings of the International Astronomical Union*. Foundational modeling for asteroid-deflection research. Available in ProQuest Central Premium.
- **2022 Video** – [Year of the Asteroid](#), from Curiosity Stream. Scientists explain contemporary planetary defense efforts. Available in Academic Video Online.
- **2025 Scholarly Journal** – "[Microbes in space.](#)" *Nature*. Examines the Moon and asteroids as future mission environments. Available in ProQuest Central Premium.

Teaching idea: Have students follow an asteroid-impact question from theory to applied science and emerging research gaps using journal articles, video and dissertations.

Research journey 3: Visual arts and humanities

Research focus: Cultural meaning and creative interpretations of the Moon

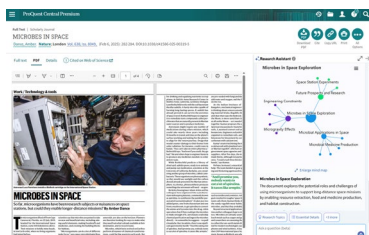
Best for: Art history, music, film studies, fashion, performance studies

Highlighted sources

- **1905 Musical Score** – [Clair de Lune, Claude Debussy](#). Musical interpretation of lunar imagery and atmosphere. Available in ProQuest One Performing Arts.
- **2011 Ebook** – [Fantastic Voyages of the Cinematic Imagination: Georges Méliès's Trip to the Moon](#). Analysis of early cinema's imagined lunar travel. Available in ProQuest Ebook Central.
- **2020 Performance** – [Apollo 13: The Dark Side of the Moon](#). Space history reinterpreted for the stage. Available in Broadway On Demand, ProQuest One Performing Arts.
- **2024 Magazine** – "[Prada, Axiom Space Unveil Lunar Spacesuit.](#)" Examines lunar exploration as a contemporary design and materials challenge. Available in *Women's Wear Daily*, ProQuest One Visual Arts & Design.

Teaching idea: Ask students to analyze how meanings of the Moon shift across music, film, fashion and performance, and what cultural anxieties or ambitions those interpretations reflect.

Explore further with ProQuest Research Assistant



ProQuest Research Assistant helps students engage more effectively with complex sources by supporting comprehension, relevance assessment and discovery of related materials. The tool complements instruction while reinforcing critical reading and analysis.

The Moon through an interdisciplinary lens

Using ProQuest, students can explore the moon and it's influence across:

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|------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • Historical texts | • Video | • Musical scores |
| • Current and historical news | • Archival collections | • Graphic novels and comics |
| • Scholarly journals and magazines | • Dissertations | • and more |
| | • Ebooks | |

Working across formats encourages students to examine how scientific, political and cultural perspectives intersect.