Essay on Human Spaceflight Destination to Achieve the Goals of the U.S. Space Program

Our national leaders have different views on space exploration goals for our Nation. Some have mentioned going to an asteroid; others support going to the moon or to Mars. Within the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) there are differing views on the path we should take to achieve our Nation’s strategic goals in space. Without agreement on a specific destination and with insufficient funding to do all missions proposed, difficult decisions must be made to provide the direction for NASA to achieve their directed strategic goals.

Assignment:

1. Read information about the U.S. space program strategic goals and objectives listed by NASA in the 2014 NASA Strategic Plan and current plans for exploration in other pertinent documents that are available on the class website (http://www.colorado.edu/ASEN/asen3036/).

2. Write an essay that describes where you think NASA should go to achieve the U.S. human spaceflight goals. Be specific in describing a human space mission destination and why you think your chosen destination will achieve the goals. Include a specific ultimate destination for astronauts, and explain why it is the best choice. Discuss only things realistically achievable in the next 50 years, and consider technology and budget limitations.

Administrative Guidelines:
- Essay must be more than one page, but less than 2 pages (does not include references)
- Format: single-spaced, typed, 12 point font, 1” margins
- You must have at least 3 references. All must be documented to allow finding the referenced information – any format is acceptable. Your reference list can be on a 3rd page.
- Essay header must include: Course name (ASEN 3036 Introduction to Human Spaceflight), assignment (Homework 1), your first and last name, date submitted, title of your essay.
- Paper copy of essay must be submitted at or before the start of class on February 7, 2016.

Essay Grading:
Your essay will be graded on content, grammar, spelling and clarity.
Submit report on time 10 %
Use correct format (follow directions above), references 10 %
Have an Introduction, Body, and Conclusion 10 %
Address all assignment topics 30 %
Be clear, smoothly flowing, understandable 20 %
Correct spelling 10 %
Correct grammar 10 %

Writing Tips:
Carefully read the assignment for the paper – make sure you address the required topics
Outline what you want to say before writing paragraphs
Have an Introduction – write what you will discuss in the body of your paper
Have a Body – write things about your topic in a logical order. Cover the topic completely here.
Have a Conclusion – write what you can conclude from what you wrote, or a short summary
Have a friend read and edit your paper
Eliminate RED undrlns - Use Spell Check!
Get help if you need it – Use the CU Writing Center – look at:  http://www.colorado.edu/pwr/writingcenter.html