

Chemistry 580  
Spring 2007

**Assignment:**

Create an 8-10 page paper (not including cover page or references) addressing a topic in chemistry that you find interesting. The topic should be chosen with the following criteria in mind.

- 1. It builds on material that we have learned in the course of the year.**  
Though the seed material may be only a section of a chapter, it should be connected to something we have discussed this year.
- 2. It should serve as an explanation of a process, physical phenomenon, or theory.**  
Your paper should be explanatory in nature and should be able to serve as a teaching tool for a student who would be taking chemistry 580.
- 3. It should involve detailed information about chemistry ideas.**  
This is not a policy paper or a general overview. Chemistry content matters.
- 4. It should have at least 8 different sources, no more than three of which can be general reference books or web sites.**  
A broad amount of research is necessary. You must pay attention to correct sourcing of material. The paper should use endnotes – **not** – footnotes. You will probably have a very large number of them. Likely at least 30, probably closer to 50.

**Grading:**

The paper will represent 25% of your final grade (i.e. as much as the final would count).

Grades will be given on a scale of 0-6.

The criteria I will consider when grading the papers will be the following: (in no particular order)

- Grammar and spelling
- Clear presentation of data, figures and equations
- Proper references and endnotes
- Chemistry content
- Instructional value
- Relation to material we have studied