

CHEM 610 Accounts of Chemical Research Project

Fall Semester 2017

Each student in CHEM 610 will write a short review on a young academic organic chemist of their choosing. The review should focus on the scientific contributions of a young academic (started career in last ~10 years) and provide historical and scientific context for the significance of their scientific contributions. Each student will submit a draft of the Account, which will then be distributed to classmates for anonymous peer review. The purpose of peer review is to provide constructive criticism of the manuscript to allow the author to strengthen the submission. The reviews will be returned to the authors, who will then have an opportunity to address any issues before submitting the final review. Grades will be assigned based on 1) submission of an initial draft, 2) peer review of classmate's work, 3) submission of a finalized review, and 4) response to peer-reviewer comments.

Review papers will be formatted on the JACS template (6-8 pages of templated writing, including figures and citations). The **required** templates can be found at: http://pubs.acs.org/page/jacsat/submission/jacsat_templates.html.

The assignment schedule and grading scheme is shown below:

Sept 28 Mini-review topics are due. Topics must be submitted by email and be approved by a reply email from the instructor. Students should identify the investigator that the Account will discuss, supply a brief statement (2-3 sentences) of the theme of the review, and provide a .pdf of a leading reference.

Nov 2 Account drafts are due. Submissions should be complete manuscripts, with figures and references embedded. Citations should comply with the formatting expectations of Accounts of Chemical Research. Submissions must be provided by midnight (Central Time) to the instructor via email in the form of a .pdf file. [20 pts based on formatting and completeness]

Nov 21 Peer reviews are due. Peer reviews should first summarize the content of the review (briefly, no more than one paragraph) and then provide constructive criticism of both the content and presentation of the manuscript; suggestions for areas that could be improved as well as comments on the clarity of technical discussion are appropriate. These reviews are anonymous to the author of the manuscript being reviewed. Comments must be provided by midnight (Central Time) to the instructor via email in the form of a .doc file. [10 pts for each of the three reviews each student must provide]

Dec 5 Final mini-reviews are due. In addition to a finalized manuscript, each student must provide a document in which *each of the comments* from the peers reviews are addressed. Manuscripts and reviewer responses must be provided by midnight (Central Time) to the instructor via email in the form of two separate .pdf files. [30 pts for the response to reviewers and 120 pts for the finalized review]

Mini-Review Grading Rubric

Account Draft (Nov 3, 2016)

- Up to 20 pts will be earned for on-time submission of a complete 4-page mini-review that is appropriately formatted, including references and figures. Reviews must be submitted as .pdf files to earn full credit.

Peer Reviews (Nov 17, 2016)

- Each peer review is worth 10 pts, 5 pts for accurately and concisely summarizing the topic of the manuscript being review, and 5 pts for *constructive* criticism of the content and presentation of the manuscript. Comments must be submitted as .doc files for full credit.

Response to Reviewers (Dec 6, 2016)

- Up to 30 pts will be earned for responding to reviewer critique. *Every* comment must be addressed, and the author must explain what was changed or why no change was made; the point of peer review is to improve the manuscript, so the comments should be considered carefully.

Final Manuscript (Dec 6, 2016)

- Up to 120 pts total can be earned.
- 30 pts for discussion of a prominent reference in organic chemistry.
- 30 pts for providing historical context for the contribution.
- 30 pts for providing scientific context for the contribution.
- 30 pts for presentation, clarity of writing, and formatting.

For any late submission, 25% of the points available for the submission will be deducted for each day late.