Due Dec 13th, 2015

Chem 321

Dr. Alex Leontyev

Written assignment

The purpose of this assignment is to learn a great deal about some organic chemistry topic. Choose a topic that you like or find interesting (see me if you need help to decide). Your paper will summarize the current state of knowledge on one of the following topics:

1. Specific organic compound that has some application (this could be a drug, material, biologically active molecule, etc.). Examples: cocaine, Esomeprazole, Oseltamivir, Teflon etc.
2. Specific reaction that was or was not covered in the course. If you decide to write about reaction that was not covered, make sure you connect it somehow to what was covered in the course (same reagents, products, or substrates)
3. An organic chemist who intellectually contributed to the field of organic chemistry.
4. Organic chemistry as a profession (what do organic chemists do, what kinds of jobs/careers are available in organic chemistry).
5. Nobel Prize for organic chemistry and its significance. Note that Nobel prizes for organic chemistry were awarded in 1902, 1905, 1910, 1912, 1915, 1927, 1928, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1947, 1950, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1965, 1969, 1975, 1976, 1979, 1981, 1987, 1990, 1994, 1996, 2001, 2005, and 2010 years.
6. Women in organic chemistry. Choose a woman scientists who does research in organic chemistry and write about this research. The best way to find a woman scientist is to go to a website of the chemistry department of a university with very high research activity and scan through faculty list there.
7. Choose your topic. If you decide to go with this option, email me a brief summary of what your are going to write about (3-5 sentences). I will try to accommodate your interests.

The length of the paper should be 3-4 pages. If you refer to specific compounds and reactions, include their structures and equations. References must be included. You can choose any citation style you want, but be consistent about that. The assignment is due on December 13th. Send it to me by email alexleontyev@adams.edu.