Molecule Project
• Point Value = 20
• Components: Paper (due 11/11) and Poster (presented 11/8).
• Paper must be typed, including any structures.
• Students will work in groups of one, two, or three. Each group will do a different molecule.
• It should be presented at a level appropriate for other class members who are not necessarily knowledgeable about your molecule.

Components
• Title (common name of molecule)
• Alternate Names, including systematic if available
• Structure (drawn using structure-drawing software, such as ChemDraw)
• Physical Properties: appearance, state at room temperature, boiling/melting point, solubility in water and at least one organic solvent, odor, ...
• Other Information: This should include at least some of the following plus whatever else you think is interesting—therapeutic category (for drugs); notoriety; toxicity; mention in popular culture/literature; when first synthesized or isolated (which one?), by whom, from what
• References, including web pages

This information should be organized into sections or bullet points for the poster and paragraph form for the written report. Your poster should include a few graphic images that support the text and should exhibit elements of good design. It should be able to stand on its own without a presenter (informationally, not necessarily physically). It should be readable from a reasonable distance (2-3’). You may either write directly on the poster board or paste pages onto it. The poster will probably not include all the information from the paper and definitely should not consist of a printout of the paper.

Poster Presentation
Each member of the group should be prepared to answer questions about their molecule. Each person will take a turn next to their poster while other class members, the instructor, and assorted guests look at the posters and possibly ask questions. This will be part of your grade. The instructor may keep the posters, but they will be returned by the date of the final exam.

Grading
Your written report will be graded on readability, grammar and spelling, educational value, accuracy, intelligent discussion of topic, and proper attribution of sources. Your poster will be graded on all of the above plus design and layout. Students will evaluate other students’ posters. Group members will evaluate the participation of other group members.

Resources
Merck Index, online MSDS’s, Appendix from the Techniques Lab Book on “The Literature of Organic Chemistry,” The ACS Style Guide, SMC Library Databases (http://library.smc.edu/eresources/database.html); ChemDraw program (part of ChemOffice) available in Science computer lab, some structure drawing programs available free online.