Welcome to the laboratory. I look forward to working with you on this independent research project. Though we will meet individually to determine the exact nature and goals of your specific project, I have included here a general set of goals to help frame what we will do in this course, as well as some criteria for how your grade will be determined.

**Course Goals**

1) To familiarize the student with more advanced laboratory techniques and scientific concepts in the areas of synthetic organic chemistry, synthetic inorganic chemistry, and/or basic biochemistry.

2) To make connections between goal 1) and what the students learn in Oxford College’s general chemistry, organic chemistry, and/or biology courses.

3) To introduce the student to the type of laboratory work that they might encounter in an advanced undergraduate lab and/or graduate level lab.

4) To introduce the student to the literature background research that is required for a laboratory research project.

5) To introduce the student to the processes involved in manuscript preparation.

6) To begin to foster a mentality of independent scientific inquiry in the student.

**Grading**

I will determine the grade based on a subjective analysis of the following criteria:

1) Consistent attendance.

2) Student work ethic.

3) Satisfactory completion of a laboratory notebook (see lab notebook guidelines in the course Blackboard site).

4) Satisfactory completion of Part I of the research manuscript. This includes the introduction, experimental protocol, and cited references sections of the manuscript. This is due by Dec. 3 (fall semester grade).
5) Satisfactory completion of the entire research manuscript. This includes the abstract, introduction, experimental protocol, results and discussion, conclusions, and cited references. This is due by May 1 (spring semester grade).

6) Completion of a public presentation of the research project (poster and/or talk).