

Winter, 2010 Chem 201 lab guidelines for special project on Household solids or liquids.

- 1) **Household liquids or solids:** You are to do an analysis of a household solid or liquid (for example, determination of the amount of a metal X in a liquid cleaner Y.). It is expected that you will also eventually consult with the manufacturer to get the values they claim to be in their product.
- 2) **Doable in 2 lab sessions.** You are to decide on a special research project that can be completed in 2 lab sessions. Check the library's analytical chemistry section and find several suitable possible projects.
- 3) **First come first served.** Prepare a draft proposal (1-page) on your project showing the methods to be employed. It is expected that you prepare 3 proposals in case your preferred choices are rejected. Having thus prepared 3 proposals will of course not insure that one of them will be picked – especially if you are too late in proposing them. If someone else is already doing this project, your proposal most likely be rejected. (i.e. it's first come first served)
- 4) **Availability of equipment and reagents.** Check the lab for availability of all the reagents and equipment needed. This is your responsibility not the lab instructor's. If everything is available for the suggested experiment, then show it to your instructor for approval or suggestions.
- 5) **Experiments to avoid.** Avoid organic chemistry type analyses (like caffeine in coffee). Avoid use of bodily fluids. Avoid use of silver nitrate (expensive) unless you can supply your own reagent.

6) **Important Timetable for proposals:**

- a) **first draft** should be ready on or before **Feb.9** (Tues, -3 pts if you are late)
 - b) **final drafts** should be approved by **Feb 18** (Thurs, 3pts if late)
 - c) Start the lab research before or by **Feb 25**. End it by Mar. 2 ideally. That leaves 1 extra day (March 9). Note that March 4 is a **furlough** day for our lab.
- 7) **March 11** is check out day. Students should come promptly. No experiments to be allowed this day. All work must be turned in during lab on the 21st, including the formal report for the research project.