# PHY1600S - Effective Communication for Physicists.

**Assignment 6**

Do **one** of the following:

**A.** Critique a scientific paper from a journal in your field (physics, chemistry, mathematics) or from a more general scientific journal (*Nature, Scientific American, Discovery*, etc.). You may assume that your readers are (reasonably!) intelligent physicists, but do not assume that they are experts in your field, or that they have read the paper.

**B.** Critique a book on science that you have read or are reading for pleasure, or for one of your courses, present or past. Again, assume that your readers are reasonably intelligent physicists, but do not assume that they know your field well, or that they have read the book.

Note that this assignment allows you to assume that your readers have a good knowledge of most physics principles and terminology, which you could not do in your newspaper article (although several of you, unfortunately, did!).

Evaluate both the content and the writing/organizational style, and comment on whether the level of the document is appropriate for its intended audience.

Your first paragraph should briefly review the contents. Subsequent paragraphs should give both positive and negative criticism, and your final paragraph should let the reader know what to expect.

You may assume that the editor of the journal in which your critique will appear (!) has asked you to ensure that it will fit within one page, 12 pt type, including a title and your name.

*A Suggestion: Check out the review sections of books in journals that focus on education in Physics ( e.g. American Journal of Physics, Physics Today), in Chemistry (e.g. Education in Chemistry, Journal of Chemical Education), or in Mathematics (e.g. Research in Mathematics Education, Educational Studies in Mathematics) for reviews that you can use as models.*

*As usual, have your article proofread for grammar and English usage, etc. by your Reading Partner before sending it to me. Acknowledge your partner's work by inserting their name at the end, or along with your name at the beginning.*