

Chem 197  
Fall 2019

formal paper ii: writing for your peers

David Lindley's book *Uncertainty: Einstein, Heisenberg, Bohr, and the Struggle for the Soul of Science* explores the development of quantum mechanics and the debate between Albert Einstein and Niels Bohr on its meaning. For this paper, pick an idea of interest to you from Lindley's book and develop it into an essay of 800–1000 words intended for an audience of your peers, perhaps as a non-fiction essay for the *Midwestern Review*. You might choose to focus on an aspect of quantum mechanics that intrigues you (for example, the implications of Bohr's complementarity principle), an area of disagreement between Einstein and Bohr (such as whether every effect must have an ultimate cause), a character sketch of one of the text's principle protagonists (perhaps you find Bohr's behavior boorish), or an example of the misuse of the uncertainty principle in areas removed from the behavior of atoms (a common problem in popular culture). In addition to drawing upon Lindley's text, you may wish to consult other sources; however, although your essay will take a position on the issue you explore, this is a general-interest piece not a research paper. The primary emphasis here is on developing an interesting idea in a way that engages your audience. Have fun with this.

**Due Date.** The first draft of your paper is due in class on Friday, October 25<sup>th</sup>; please bring three copies with you to class as you will work in groups to review and respond to each others drafts. Your final draft is due on Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup>.