

Summary of WID artifacts and revisions in the wake of the workshop on January 30

These materials were developed for Classical Mechanics (PHY 420) which is offered as an optional writing intensive course. This assignment is the major writing component for this course, the others being a resume and a professional cover letter. The goal of this project is to introduce students to science writing in the form of a technical report with an abstract. The assessment for this assignment leans on the ideas of contract grading, with a sequence of coupled assignments that present writing as a process of revision. Two additional short assignments, external to the main writing project but necessary for full credit on the assignment, require that the student seek assistance from the Writing Center and reflect on the revision process.

This assignment was presented, as used in my Fall 2019 class, to the WID Fellows in a discussion in January of 2020. Feedback from that discussion has been incorporated into the assignment definition and associated documents presented here. Specifically, that feedback focused on changing the title of the assignment from a "synopsis" to a "technical report" to make it more applicable to students head into engineering disciplines, modifying the grading scheme to encourage better participation in the entire revision process, and making the first sub-assignment a student-generated rubric that identifies the key components as expressed in the template file.