

Honors Project Proposal

The topic of my honors experience project is to research the synthesis of indigo dye that is used in blue jeans. The synthesis of indigo is an organic reaction that has been discovered to use carcinogens in the reaction, and now is using a biomolecular approach to creating the indigo in order to eliminate carcinogenic intermediates. I will be creating a 15 page (7.5 in CSE) research paper about this process. I will research the way indigo dye has been used throughout history. I will research the different ways that indigo dye can be produced and the people behind the discovery of each type of synthesis. I will be looking at the chemistry behind how each reaction occurs and what chemicals are used in each reaction. I will explain the downfalls and benefits of each reaction as well as the dangers of the chemical reaction. That is my topic and the methods I am going to utilize in order to pursue my topic.

I will be researching through books and online databases. I will be getting these resources from the Rothrock Library. I will also be consulting the internet for articles on this topic. I am expecting to answer the above questions that I previously listed. My intention is to show the evolution of a process that is used by many people every day. Indigo dye was once created using carcinogens like aniline and formaldehyde. Now a biomolecular approach has been developed to avoid using the carcinogens. Those are my intentions and expected outcome of my research paper.

I am responsible for everything about this paper and no one else. I will be doing the research, getting the information, organizing the paper, typing the draft, editing with some help from professors and typing up the final draft. I plan on starting my research the week after this application is approved and should have a works cited page and thesis by October 22, 2010. I should have my information finalized and start to organize my outline by October 29, 2010. 1

will have completed my outline and started a draft by November 15, 2010. I will have my draft completed and being edited by November 29, 2010. I will have the completed project done and submitted to my professor by December 8, 2010. That is my proposal for my honors experience project.