

## **Exploring Alternatives in the Teaching of Lab Report Writing: Deepening Student Learning Through a Portfolio Approach**

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A new way to teach writing to sophomores in an optics laboratory course was developed. The authors, professors from two different colleges and two different disciplines, physics and English, joined forces to generate a Portfolio Method that uses a combination of formal lab reports, portfolios, and most important, contemplative essays. The new method nurtures a positive attitude toward scientific writing and potentially deepens the quality of student learning.

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