

Approximate Timeline for Meeting the Literature Seminar Requirement

12 weeks prior	Begin to peruse the most current issues of the ASC journals (http://pubs.acs.org/wls/journals/query/subscriberSearch.html) to find exciting topics that you are motivated to explore further in great detail. Select a primary article as the basis of your talk. Do not be afraid to stop and start on a different topics several times before finding the right one for you. It is difficult to give a good presentation that is based on a bad research article. The time wasted on dead ends in this initial phase will pay off later!!!
10 weeks prior	Submit a primary article from the recent literature that discusses the topic you have selected for your literature seminar to your research advisor for their approval. Do not use review articles as the basis of your seminar!!!! Also, your seminar should not be a book report on this primary article, but the idea is to use this article as a springboard for investigating a fairly narrowly-focused topic.
8 weeks prior	Projects will be officially approved by research advisor and graduate program director or you must redevelop your ideas and submit a new idea within 2 weeks. Turn an abstract of your presentation into your advisor and graduate program director.
8-5 weeks	Obtain all of the pertinent papers to your topic (secondary references from primary article, PubMed/Scifinder searches, inter-library loan, trips to the MIT library). Five weeks prior to your presentation present to your advisor a binder full of articles that will form the basis of your presentation.
3 weeks prior	Submit a draft of your PowerPoint Presentation to your advisor for review and revision. Schedule a meeting with meet with your advisor to discuss your PowerPoint presentation. Advisor will inform GPD of your progress.
2 weeks prior	Submit a revised draft of your PowerPoint Presentation to your advisor for review and further revision.
1 week prior	Practice your presentation in front of your advisor/research group/friends to get feedback. Then practice several additional times. Advisor will inform GPD of your progress.
Presentation Day	Make us proud.