This is the final paper assignment for the "Socio-technical Issues in Biomedical Informatics" course:

You are charged with proposing a day-long seminar in "Socio-technical Issues in Biomedical and Health Informatics". What would it look like, and why? More specifically:

1. What would be the primary theme of the seminar?
2. Who would be the target audience?
3. How would the seminar be structured?
4. What preparation would you expect of participants prior to the seminar?
5. What would be the objectives and expected outcomes of the seminar?
6. What resources would you draw on to create the seminar?
7. How does your worldview influence your choices above? That is, what are your motivations in choosing a specific theme, audience, and learning objectives? Why do you think a seminar designed in this way is important?

In terms of emphasis, the first four items are fairly straightforward, and should together take up one-third of the paper. Items 5 and 6 should take up one-third; the emphasis should be on the former, with the latter as an explanatory glue. Item 7 takes up the final third of the paper.

We will evaluate your proposal using the following criteria:

A. SEMINAR DESIGN

1. How viable is the proposal as an operational seminar?
2. How well does it address *biomedicine and health issues* integrated with *informatics issues*?
3. How appropriately focused is it for a single day?
4. How well can the stated objectives and outcomes be met by the proposal?

B. SEMINAR COHESIVENESS

1. How logically consistent is the proposal?
2. How well does the proposal match the expected target audience?
3. How well does the proposed structure and primary theme reflect the stated objectives and outcomes?
4. How well does the proposal overall reflect the worldview/motivation discussion?

C. YOUR ANALYSIS

1. How critically aware is the proposal?
2. How well does the proposal address *significant sociotechnical issues* in biomedical and health informatics?
3. How well do your motivations behind the proposal's address the nature of "sociotechnical issues"?
4. How well does the proposal address potential critical reaction, particularly as it relates to well-established characterizations of "biomedicine", "health," and "informatics"?

Class discussion raised a few important points for clarification:

1. The proposed seminar needs to *explicitly address* in some way *the interface of biomedicine, health, and informatics*. It might do so in a critical way, but *all three* of these components need to be addressed.
2. The definition of "biomedical and health informatics"--particularly the informatics part--appears contentious, and it is certainly a basis for sociocultural analysis. For the purposes of the assignment it's important to take the *standard published characterizations of the field* into account.

The final paper should generally be limited to 2500 words, though it's clear that everyone writes differently.