

## Morphology, Low-Temperature Fabrication of nano-Ceramics with New Functionality

Hee-Joung “Grace” Joun, Kaushik Vidari, Nicole Ray, Indu B. Mishra and William T. Petuskey  
School of Molecular Science and the School of Engineering Matter, Transport and Energy  
Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ 85287-1604

The emergence of many new fabrication methodologies in the past 20 years has given rise to a plethora of ceramic materials with exotic new properties that distinguish them from the same materials produced by traditional, bulk processes. Nearly all are attributed to nanoscaled complex physical structures that evolve through some sort of starkly nonequilibrium, high driving force process that cannot be contained in one-dimensional action. A common thread to all of these processes is that they take place at low temperatures, where the chemical, electrical and mechanical driving forces are seemingly enhanced. Common relationships between reactions driven at low temperature and morphology are examined for several very different cases carried out in our laboratory. These include (i) the electrochemical etching of titania nanotubes used for chemical sensor platforms, (ii) the growth of semiconducting silicon nanowires in plasma-emersion CVD, (iii) the aqueous deposition of nano-ferrite thick films where the magnetic domains are decoupled from the physical nanostructure, and (iv) the simultaneous formation and self-assembly of magnetic nanoparticles into 1D, 2D and 3D superstructures at the micron scale.