

# CHAPBOOK

*This final project is a display of your best work from the semester. You choose the poems, you choose the order, you choose the format, you choose the layout, you choose the overall design. It can be simple or elaborate in design, but it must be sturdy and a little special. Therefore, you will not use a 3-ring binder or a folder or paper stapled together. I have a binding machine here at school—you may buy cardstock (or other sturdy cover—front and back) from me or buy it on your own. Binder combs are \$.10 and card stock is \$.15 a page. Or you may use your imagination and create your own books.*

## FINAL PRODUCT

2 chapbooks (identical)—

I will keep one and you will keep one, but you need to bring both to the final.

## FORMAT REQUIREMENTS

### Cover

- Title
- Design/Picture
- Author's Name

### Title Page

- Title
- Author's Name
- St. Louis, MO
- May 20\_\_



### Dedication Page

- optional dedication
- optional epigraphs (meaningful quotations)

### Introduction—a “dear reader” of sorts

- poetic accomplishments and growth during the semester
- how you selected the poems
- how you create the poems
- how these poems changed over time (revision process)
- why you chose the poems you chose
- the poems you are most proud of
- things you want the reader to notice
- why you placed the poems in the order that you did

### Table of Contents

- list of all poems and page numbers

### Poems

- 10-15 poems (at least 10 need to be from class, but you may include work you've done outside of class that you wish to share)
- poems should be revised one more time before turning in—listen/read comments on old portfolios
- page numbers on each page

## About the Author

- write a biography or autobiography (can be in 1<sup>st</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> person)
- write some insights or advice for future students
- describe some goals that you wish to accomplish after high school
- explain what your plans are after graduation (college, work, travel, etc.)
- discuss possible majors/minors/occupations you are interested in
- include a recent picture (you can scan, insert a .jpg or use an actual photo)

## Extras (which may make your book more personal, but will not substitute for quality poetry)

- interesting layout
- photos (friends, family, images to go with poems)
- graphics
- original art work
- matting poems
- special quotations (attributed, of course)

## Binding

- no** string tied binds (too floppy and fragile)—but I'll teach you how to sew a binding if you like
- no** 3 ring binders (too bulky)
- no** report covers (too everyday—I would like for this to be a special book that you keep always)
- no** flimsy paper covers (too fragile)—must be at least cardstock weight—front and back.
- be as creative as you wish (take a look at some of the old books)
- the main thing is that it provides a sturdy binding that houses a special collection of work

*I will bind the books up until the day BEFORE your final. We will not have time to assemble books during your final block. So plan ahead if you need my binding. For two copies*

*You will have time in class to work on your chapbooks, but you will need to bring all materials with you. I cannot promise glue and string and colored paper.*

## Order of Poems

- think about a progression from beginning to end
- think about what poems would go nicely together
- think about what poems would contrast each other
- think about common themes or subjects or moods

## Assessment

- fulfilling all of the above requirements for 2 books
- quality of poems and revisions
- quality of introduction including giving specific examples and showing your understanding of the craft of poetry and your growth as a poet
- presentation (neatness, mechanics, aesthetic sensibility)
- oral presentation (discussion of your work, reading of select poems)
- chapbook will be worth 2 portfolio grades