

EN142 A1: Intro to Poetry

Assignment 4: Poetry Portfolio

Purpose

This final portfolio project encourages you to look back upon your journey with poetry throughout our course. It is your final exercise in metacognition – a reflection on your experiences reading and writing poetry. Because learning is a continual process, reflective space can serve as a useful checkpoint to help us take stock of what we have learned and how we want to shape our learning in the future.

Assignment

Compose a **personal poetry portfolio**, gathering all of the poetry written for Blackboard exercises into one place and offering your own thoughtful stance on what poetry is to you.

Write an opening **personal essay** of approximately **1200–1500 words** in which you discuss your perspective on what poetry does, what the poet's role is, what aspects of poetry are important to you, etc. You might draw upon previous Blackboard exercises and class discussions to help formulate your ideas. Consider the following questions:

- ✓ To get started, return to our opening discussion of “What is poetry?” Has that answer changed for you? How? Why or why not?
- ✓ What poems have been particularly memorable to you and why? What pieces of literary criticism did you agree with and why?
- ✓ How has the poetry creative writing process been? Has that changed the way you read poetry in any way?
- ✓ Return to the initial Self-Assessment: How have your expectations for yourself turned out for this class? Did you meet them? Have you become more confident as a reader of poetry? How? What are your goals for yourself now? What are your takeaways?

Next, **collect, edit, and design your poetry collection**. While you may begin this portion by copy-and-pasting your poems, the final project should not simply end that way. You are encouraged to be creative with fonts, formatting, and design and to make edits as you see fit. You might arrange it into a book, for example. It should have the required **12 poems** with titles. Give the portfolio itself a **title** that says something about the contents within, as well.

Due Dates

Friday 5/6 – Final Portfolio & Reflection due on Blackboard at 11:59 PM as a PDF

Comments

Please note that I am not asking you to chart a positive narrative of self-growth but rather looking for you to spend some time honestly considering how you engaged with poetry this semester and how that engagement might affect your thinking going forward.

In the personal essay, you are welcome to quote and discuss examples from the syllabus as well as from your own poetry.

Formatting Guidelines

- ✓ You are encouraged to experiment with fonts, formatting, and design for this project.
- ✓ Please ensure your name appears on the document and submit it as a PDF to preserve formatting.
- ✓ If you choose to quote or cite a text, use the correct MLA format