We will be using journals **every day**, so make sure that you bring them to class. I will often ask you to freewrite in your journals in class, and you will also be doing work in them outside of class. As for what the journal looks like, that’s up to you. It should be portable (like a binder or laptop computer), and it should **always be with you in class**. Aside from that, I leave the choice up to you.

Over the course of the semester, I will give you prompts that will ask you to respond to writing in a variety of ways to the reading that we do—these prompts should start in your journal. Also, starting this week, I want you to write some sort of response to each of the readings that we do for class. Thus, you will want to respond to our readings **prior to each class meeting**.

Your responses to our reading are a wide-open affair. You can write poems, freewrites, or even an essay if you’re so inclined. But I fully expect that for each day of reading you will write **one full page** of coherent writing. I also expect that somewhere in your response you will do each of the following things:

- Quote from the text(s),
- Respond to the text(s) as a reader,
- Respond to the text(s) as a teacher,

Your journal will be evaluated twice. I **will never** hold you accountable for grammar and mechanics in your journal, and the key part of your grade for your journal will be the quality of your reflection about your work as a teacher and student. Ultimately, your journal will be evaluated using the attached rubric.

Ultimately, I view the journal as a way for you to have time and space to reflect on what it means to use reading and writing as a teacher, and for me that is the most important thing about your journal.

**Journal Due Dates:**

- First Check off: Tuesday: 5/1/07
- Final Check off: Thursday: 6/7/07