

## EXPOSITORY WRITING: READER/WRITER NOTEBOOK

Writing and reading are interconnected activities. Reading inspires writing; writers often choose topics, voices and styles in response to authors (professional and student) that they have encountered. The purpose of this notebook is to allow you a space for both formal (assigned) and informal writing and to focus on the rich connection between reading and writing.

### **FORMAL:**

In your reader/writer notebook you will summarize and comment on one assigned reading per week. What ideas did you find most interesting, puzzling, provocative, inspiring? How do you respond to the author's style of writing? (These entries should be about 1 pg. typed, double-spaced). Sometimes I will assign a reading; other times you will pick the reading.

You should also include pre-draft exercises.

### **INFORMAL**

This is a space for you to think about and respond to the popular culture around you: ads, newspapers/magazines, TV, film, Internet, etc. Entries can be handwritten and freeform. Some students find it helpful to jot down ideas and reactions after seeing a film, TV show, surfing the Web, etc. You can include newspaper or magazines clippings that pertain to writing as an art/discipline or mass media (e.g. film/book reviews, etc.)

Writing regularly in the informal section of your notebook, helps to generate ideas for writing.

**NOTE:** Please use a binder with two pockets, one for the formal section and one for the informal section. You should bring this with you to every class; I will collect them randomly throughout the semester. Sometimes I will collect a particular assignment, but not the entire notebook.