The Portfolio

1. Four papers each 3-4 pages. Shorter papers will automatically receive a lower grade.
2. The original one page assignments corresponding to the longer version. If you do not have the one page assignment, you need to attach a note explaining why. If you have decided to change your topic from what you did originally, attach a note explaining why.
3. These papers should have a clear focus as introduced by your thesis (the point or points you are making), be organized, and sufficiently developed. If you cite anything, you need to have a Works Cited page and use APA or MLA or Chicago. However, whichever citation style you use, the set-up should be MLA (left-sided heading, title, page numbers, double-spacing, etc.).
4. Grammar counts! Please proofread.
5. Please staple each paper together separately. You can hand me the sheaf of papers or put them in a folder of some kind.
6. Your portfolio is due Wednesday, December 2 by 4:00. No late portfolios will be accepted without prior notice of some disaster involving police officers, doctors or natural disasters.

The Final Paper

1. The final paper, 8-10 pages, will be an expanded version of one of the smaller papers or a combination of elements from different chapters. You could look at the activity section at the end of each chapter for ideas.
2. Your paper needs to address some aspect or aspects of what writing does and how it does it. The “how” part is the most important—description is only a part of your whole. Be as specific as you can when discussing “how” a text does what it does.
3. Set-up should also be MLA style, but you can use APA or Chicago if you prefer for citations and the Works Cited.
4. The paper will have at least four sections, numbered as below with these headings:
5. Introduction

An overall sketch of your paper with (possibly) your motivation, the point or points you will be making and any description that your reader needs.

1. Methodology and/or Data

You should discuss here which type of research methodology you are using (see chapter one) and why it is appropriate, how you found or collected your data. Any back ground your reader needs about the data should be in this section.

1. Discussion

This is the largest part of the paper where you discuss your results and how they demonstrate your thesis, what you introduced in section 1.0. You will have several subsections here (3.1, 3.2, 3.2.1, 3.2.2, 3.3, etc.) This is where you lay out your points and show how the data supports those points.

1. Conclusion

Looking back, recast your discussion into a succinct paragraph or two where you show the data presented in section 2.0 supports the claims made in 1.0. You may also discuss the application of your research or mention directions for further research in this area.

References—you should already know about this.

Appendices—here, you can add any additional materials (transcript of conversations, examples, or other materials).

1. You will also turn in an abstract of your paper as though you were applying for the Southwest/Texas Popular and American Culture Association conference [www.swtxpca.org](http://www.swtxpca.org) in the Linguistics area <http://www.swtxpca.org/CFPs_2009/Literature/linguisticscfps_nancyantrim.pdf>

The abstract is 200-250 words and has three basic sections: a general statement about what your topic is and why you are writing on this topic; the details—what you are investigating, how and why as well as what your results are; what the implications may be because of this research. See examples.

1. Your paper is due Wednesday, December 9 by 1:00. No late papers will be accepted without arrangements made in advance or proof of your disaster such as a police report, hospital bill or court documents.