***From Idea to Paperback* Course Overview**

**From Idea to Paperback #1: How to Get Your Story Published For No Money No.1 (Publishing Paths)**

*The Two Paths*. Schmitz talks about the changing publishing world and the differences between Independent publishing (including self-pub and hybrid presses) and Traditional royalty publishers. Each has pros and cons and each has different processes for beginning. Topics: writing process (including differences between fiction/nonfiction), queries, agents, software, and best resources writers should know about.

## From Idea to Paperback #2: How to Get Your Story Published For No Money No.2 (The Nuts & Bolts)

*Self-Publishing Roadmap*. Schmitz uses a detailed "mostly sequential" roadmap to take your concept from an idea to a finished product that is in print, available for sale in different formats and can be carried on bookstore shelves or by corporate distributors... and all without ever paying a "publishing company" to develop your book. This segment gives you a checklist that, if followed, results in a quality published novel or book.

## From Idea to Paperback #3: It’s Your Story – Make it Shine; Make it Real (Workshop)

*Editing Examples and Demos*. A brief discussion on the importance of hooks and opening pages. Schmitz will help authors by providing feedback on the first page and on query letters to writers who desire it. For any remaining time, the class will make a demo account and a sample book to demonstrate the actual process of creating a paperback, ebook, or audiobook and making it available for sale.

## From Idea to Paperback #4: “I’m Here to Help” (Q&A)

*Open Question and Answer*. Lots of writers wonder about things they’ve been afraid to ask or have never been able to find easy answers to. Schmitz has authored both fiction and nonfiction and has over a dozen works in print; he’s encountered most common issues and found ways to overcome problems.

## Course Options & Cost

The full course runs about 4 hours. Longer or shorter options are available. A shortened version can be done in about two hours if desired. A one hour program can be presented with elements of #1 and a heavier focus on #2). A two hour or less block is considered a special speaking engagement.

•For special speaking engagements (2 hours or less) a fee of $250+travel costs is requested.  
•For the full course, a minimum of 6 participants are required. Fee is $90 per person. Each participant receives a two book set of course materials as part of the program ($30 value).   
•*Special rates apply for educators, libraries, and publicly funded organizations. ($45 per participant. This option does not include course books which individuals or groups may purchase separately or at event if desired).*