



About “Flex” Classes

Flex Classes are completely online and asynchronous, meaning you can complete the course work on your own schedule. They do run week-to-week so a cohort of students can work together, but you can log in any time during the week. There are no live meetings to worry about, so these classes are ideal for people with unpredictable schedules. Because you can sign on any time during the week to complete your tasks, and because there is no live video conferencing, they are also a good option for people with unreliable Internet access.

Like all Loft classes you will join a strong community of writers with the guidance of an experienced teaching artist to help you set and attain your personal writing goals. Classes usually include vibrant asynchronous discussions, peer critiques, and focused feedback from your teaching artist. The Loft has always valued the strong connections among writers cultivated by its classes; this is a mission we bring to our classes that make them distinct from other online writing programs.

How do flex classes work?

Each class has its own dedicated private class website with text-based lectures and readings, writing prompts, and text-based discussions. You receive instructions on how to access the website at least two days before the class begins. You can then login on your own schedule each week to participate in the class.

We are now using the Wet.Ink platform to deliver flex classes. You can find out more at Wet.Ink.

What are the technical requirements?

- You can use any up-to-date browser on a personal computer (Mac or PC) with an Internet connection.
- You may also use a tablet or mobile device with a web browser.

How much time does it take?

- You should plan to spend about two hours a week participating in class activities. Low-stakes classes take about one hour a week.

Do I have to log in during a specific time every week?

- No! These classes are intended to be completed on your own schedule. Log in any time during the week to read content, complete assignments, and participate in discussions.

What if I miss a week?

- If you miss a week, it is easy to catch up by browsing through the past week's content and discussions. You continue to have access to the course content about one week past the end of class to finish up the readings and activities. You can also download all of the content to your computer for future reference.

Are classes private?

- Yes, your work in an online class is private to that classroom, and we emphasize that to teaching artists and students.
- You have the option of using a pseudonym in your online class.

If you have any questions, please email edu@loft.org.