



24PearlStreet: Orientation and Guidelines

Welcome to 24PearlStreet, the Fine Arts Work Center's online writing program. Thank you for helping to make this a vibrant community of peers, coming together online to pursue creative work. This venture is built upon the tradition of excellence in writing for which our Summer Writing Workshops in Provincetown are acclaimed. The faculty includes some of the most respected writers working today. We are happy to bring them, and Provincetown, to you. And we thank you for joining the Fine Arts Work Center's community of writers.

As a workshop participant, you will play a key role in helping to create an engaging online community; do your best to exceed your instructor's expectations, your classmates', and your own. You will interact with your classmates and instructor using email and the class blog; use these interactions as opportunities to learn from your fellow writers' work and comments. Your instructor will establish guidelines for commenting on your classmates' work in appropriate and effective ways. You are responsible for creating a community in which everyone can thrive. We hope that you will make connections with colleagues and friends who will continue to help you in your writing long after this class ends.

Constructive feedback is an integral part of any workshop. As a workshop participant, you will rely on your fellow writers to help identify strengths in your work alongside areas for improvement. As with any online platform, it is important to remember that conveying tone can be difficult. Keeping that in mind, do your best to offer comments respectfully, constructively, and kindly. Treat the work of others as you would like yours to be treated. Your workshop instructor may offer additional critique guidelines; refer to them often.

In the unlikely case that problems should arise, instructors may remove students from the class. No refunds will be given to students in these cases and blog access will be revoked. If you have concerns about student conduct, please reach out to the administrators. We are here to make sure every student has a positive, productive, and enjoyable workshop.

One of the benefits of online learning is the ability to work on your own time. For example, an assignment might conclude with "Please post your work by midnight on Tuesday, and comment on your classmates' work by midnight Friday." If you need to divide commenting over several days, you can, but meet the deadlines your instructor sets. Often assignments will build on each other, so it's important to work within the deadlines on a weekly basis.

We are proud of our faculty, and we are proud that their ideas for challenging classes have brought you to us. The instructors will give you the opportunity to improve, to practice, to get feedback, to stretch intellectually and creatively. They take your writing seriously; treat their time and your own time with respect by meeting deadlines with your best work.

We are so happy to welcome you (or welcome you back!) to the 24PearlStreet community. If you have questions, please contact Gemma, Program Manager (gleghorn@fawc.org).