

Guidelines for Lindy Flynn's Flash Writing Workshop

This class is an Introduction to Flash Writing. We will be reading examples of both creative non-fiction and fiction, and discussing the aspects that especially pertain to flash. We will also be doing timed writings each class. We may share writings in class - but there will not be critiquing. There will only be as much homework as you want to do.

Writing between classes is enthusiastically encouraged - and there will be dyad/triad sharing at the beginning of each class. What is encouraged even more is to read flash - both varieties. On the attached Bibliography there are many websites that showcase both fiction and non-fiction flash pieces. Love to add new ones. Also please share with us prompts that intrigue you.

Welcoming all levels of experience, this class focuses on the pleasure of writing and positive support in a non-judgemental, humorous atmosphere.

Be Kind

Especially to ourselves! No criticizing your own work or others. When giving feedback begin with what you liked. Be specific.

Listen

Listen with an open mind.

Lightly and with a sense of humor

Although subjects we write about may be serious, let's have class be enjoyable and fun.

Natalie Goldberg's Rules of Writing Practice

1. Keep Your Hand Moving
2. Lose Control
3. Be Specific
4. Don't Think
5. Don't worry about punctuation, spelling, or grammar
6. You are free to write the worst junk in the Western World
7. Go for the jugular

(from *wild Mind: Living the Writer's Life* by Natalie Goldberg)

"In Short" Bernard Cooper suggests that short nonfiction requires "an alertness to detail, a quickening of the senses, a focusing of the literary lens... until one has magnified some small aspect of what it means to be human."

We look for works that have the ambition of enlarging our view of ourselves and the world.