

Frequently Asked Questions about Hybrid Courses

Can I apply to South Louisiana Community College online?

Yes, you can apply online. Go to solacc.edu/admissions and complete an SLCC application.

How does a hybrid class work?

You will attend class on a specific day/time on campus, and then the rest of the course work is made available online through Canvas, the learning management system (LMS). Canvas. 50% of the course is offered on campus, and the other 50% is completed online. Some instructors may require proctored testing, which will be explained by the faculty member. So, you have to become familiar with the Canvas Learning Management System. There is face-to-face meeting in hybrid classes. You will be required to do a Canvas orientation module to insure you understand how to use Canvas.

While learning materials vary from class to class, you will have lecture, as well as textbooks, PowerPoint presentations, interactive lessons, and Internet resources. Learning activities may include writing papers, posting comments or essays to online discussion forums, completing individual or group projects, and taking quizzes and exams. While students meet at a specific day/time, the rest of the work is done online with deadlines for homework and exams.

Students do interact with their instructor and classmates via face-to-face class time, and web discussion forums, e-mail, chat sessions, and phone calls.

Is a hybrid class the same as a self-paced/independent study class?

No, hybrid classes are NOT self-paced. You can expect due dates for homework, online class participation, and other activities which will be explained and discussed at your face-to-face class meeting.

Is taking a hybrid class easier than taking a regular class?

Yes and no. The course content of a hybrid class usually is identical to that of a regular face-to-face class. Some people think the course is even more demanding than a regular face-to-face class because you have to have good reading

comprehension, good computer skills, and be self-disciplined. It is best to have high-speed Internet access. Open labs are available on campus for students.

What Internet skills would be helpful in a hybrid class?

The most successful students tend to have the following skills:

- Familiarity with web browsers.
- Familiarity with email programs and attaching documents and opening attachments.
- Knowledge of how to make and organize electronic bookmarks.
- Familiarity with web-based interactions: email, listservs, online discussions, etc.
- Familiarity with Microsoft Word.
- Experience in successful Internet searches using a variety of search engines.
- A level of comfort using technology.

What equipment and software do I need to be a hybrid student?

You will need:

- Access to a fairly new computer.
- Reliable Internet access.
- Latest version of a web browser. (Canvas supports the latest two versions of Internet Explorer, Firefox, or Chrome.)
- Word processing software.
- Course specific software as required by the instructor.

All online and hybrid courses use Canvas as the Learning Management System.

Do I have to own a computer to enroll in a hybrid class?

No, but you must have access to a computer with reliable Internet access throughout the semester. You can also complete most of your coursework using the Canvas Mobile App.

How much time do I have to spend in a hybrid class?

In short, you should plan to spend at least the same amount of time you would spend for a face-to-face class. Nearly all hybrid students agree that hybrid courses are neither faster nor easier.

Do I have to log in to class at a particular time?

Usually not. You will have deadlines for posting your assignments, quizzes, etc., but when you complete that work is up to you. You would be well-advised to set up a daily schedule to avoid being overburdened at the end of the week. If you have a problem, contact the instructor or use the discussion board to try to get help from other students in the class.

Where do we meet for hybrid class?

You will have a time/date/room location on your schedule where you are to meet for the face-to-face component of the hybrid class. The rest of the class will interact through the Internet and everyone will communicate with each other using Canvas email and discussion. Your instructor will make course materials and assignments available using web pages, discussion boards, and announcements.

How do I turn in homework and take tests?

This varies, but you will usually get assignments by email or on the course website with instructions for turning in the work. You might be asked to email or upload your work, complete an online quiz, or participate in web-based discussions. Instructors use Canvas to manage assignments, discussions, quizzes, and grading. Hours of operation are not the same each semester, so check the testing center web page frequently.

What's it like to be a hybrid student?

Hybrid classes are very different from face-to-face classes on campus. In general you can expect to:

- Spend 3 hours per week working on the class. For example, for a typical 3-hour course, you will spend at least 6-9 hours per week on course reading, assignments, and communication.
- Participate in online discussions or other written communication.
- Experience an uncomfortable transition period. It can take a few weeks to learn how the course works if you do not have previous experience participating in an online class.
- Experience some frustration with written communication. Most people find it easier to ask questions face to face because the response is usually immediate. You can always call your professor or make an appointment to visit in person.

What can I expect from my professor?

You can expect your professor to do all the things he or she would do for you in a face-to-face class.

You can expect:

- A syllabus and course schedule.
- Assignments with clear instructions and timely feedback.
- Prompt responses to questions.
- Clear guidelines about how long it will take to get homework and quiz scores and responses to questions.
- Netiquette and protocol to be enforced.

You should *not* expect:

- 24/7 support. Honor the professor's virtual office hours. Your professor will not be available on the weekend.
- Help with prerequisite skills.

What do hybrid instructors expect from students?

There typically is little difference here than in a regular face-to-face class.

Instructors expect that everyone will participate in the class with courtesy and consideration for each other and for the instructor. Emails and web postings should be appropriate, relevant, and reflective of a professional demeanor. Inappropriate behavior includes, but is not limited to, the following: inappropriate remarks online, cyber bullying, and plagiarism.

Please refrain from:

- Taking others' thoughts or words without appropriate acknowledgment.
- Submitting work that has been written or revised in part or in whole by another person.
- Submitting work that you have submitted for another class.

Do you have any tips for online students?

- Schedule time to focus on the class. Don't think that you don't need to make time for class just because you're not on campus. Write session times in your

calendar just as you would for an on-campus class, and make sure you have a quiet place to work.

- Keep up with the class and make it a top priority. Often the biggest problem online students face is gradually falling behind.
- Do assignments BEFORE the due date.
- Have a back-up plan in case of technical problems.
- Work with a small group, either in person or via phone or email.
- Communicate! Your teacher can't see your facial expressions or body language. You must be willing to speak up using email, discussion boards, or phone calls. Ask if you are not clear about instructions, due dates, or your progress.

Where can I get materials and books?

Online class materials and books are available from the [SLCC bookstore](#). Required class materials and text books are listed. All class materials and textbooks, unless otherwise specified, are required for the first day of class.

How do I get started?

For most online and hybrid classes, you can log in and view the class two weeks before the start of class to preview the course. You may be able to complete the Canvas Orientation Module prior to the first day of class. To log on, click on the Canvas link on the college's home page. You should be able to log on with the same user name and password that you used to register for the class, your LOLA information. If you continue to have difficulty, email your instructor. All campus faculty emails are found in the [SLCC directory](#).