



Blue Heron Academy Online Forum Rules and Regulations

NOTE: *We encourage you to print a copy of these rules now and also save this file to your home computer for future reference.*

Blue Heron Academy asks that all chat rooms students be respectful of others. Please do not use offensive or abusive language.

We retain the right to ban or eject (without notice) any users we feel are violating the rules of the chat room.

The Chat Room rules include:

1. Respect the teacher and everyone in the room.
2. Inappropriate language or behavior in the room will result in your being removed from the room and possibly the Academy training program.
3. The Academy code of ethics is fully in force in the chat room.
4. The chat room is only to be used for the purpose of the course curriculum and is not a forum for personal gripes and complaints.

Chat Room Etiquette:

Students often ask what are the "formal chat rules" and why do we use them. We hope this explanation helps.

It is actually simple and much like raising your hand in a classroom. Frequently there are 20 or more people in an online class chat, and when everyone has a comment or question, it could become difficult to follow conversations. Formal chat rules provide structure to the conversation.

If you have a question or comment, type an exclamation point ! and send it to the room (like raising your hand in class). The class teacher will call on people in turn. "GA" means "Go Ahead" ...so, when it's your turn to "speak", the moderator will type "GA and your name. Like GABrenda.

When you're done speaking, type GA again to let the teacher know that you are finished. This will let the teacher and the other students in the room know that someone else can signal ! for their turn.

When you type your question or comment, type a sentence at a time, then type ellipses (...) to let us know you have more to say. Don't compose/type whole paragraphs to send at one time that is called "flooding". Flooding tends to completely fill up people's screen and forces them to scroll back to re-read what was typed. It's hard for participants to read that way, and we never know if you're typing or just fell asleep! It's better to type small amounts and send each line in short bursts.

Thank You, and enjoy your online studies