Introduction to ClassTFX

Notes taken by: techlover10 TeX 100B, Spring 2016 Lecture Date: 2 February 2016

1 Intro

Welcome to ClassTEX! ClassTEX is a LATEX template designed to facilitate fast, clean, and organized note-taking. LATEX has many organizational features that allow users to quickly format text in elegant ways, but often these require verbose commands in order to achieve properly. The ClassTEX template provides a clean and organized layout for notes, as well as some predefined commands for making key points stand out easily.

2 Setting up the document

2.1 Required Commands

The following instructions are required by the template (the document will not compile without them).

- \notetaker Specifies the author of the notes.
- \classnum In college, this is intended for the course number. The way the template is designed, it can be used for any sort of short class ID.
- \classname Full name of the course.
- \lecdate Date of the lecture.

2.2 Optional Commands

ClassT_EX is optimized for taking notes during college courses. The following instructions are not required for compilation, but the template is optimized for their use.

- \semester Left blank if not specified.
- \lectopic Useful if a lecture has a meaningful title. Defaults to "Lecture Notes" if left unspecified.

3 Note Boxes

3.1 Examples and Usage

Minor Note Left

\minornoteleft is useful for important pointers. The first argument is the title of the note, in bold, and the second argument is the note itself.

Note boxes are the main feature of ClassT_EX. During lectures, there are often remarks made in passing that a student might wish to take note of and remember – small concepts, tips, and other things that might be helpful in the future. ClassT_EX includes commands to allow for the easy addition of these blurbs into any set of notes.

To use the note boxes, simply use the command before the section relative to which you are aligning the note box. Although this is a planned fix in a future update, the current template requires note boxes to be written prior to the text which is to be wrapped around them. See the note on the next page, or check out the source for more info.

Minor Note Right

\minornoteright Identical formatting but on the right side.

Important Note

\importantnote Takes the same arguments as the minor notes, but these are boxes which take up the whole page – this command is designed for more important main points that need to be remembered.

3.2 Known Issues

Box Placement

Boxes are "inserted" with text wrap based on where you write the box in the source code, so you might need to add or remove line breaks to clean up the appearance. Note boxes **do not** automatically avoid each other. If you find that a note box overlaps with another, simply add line breaks until they no longer overlap. (This might potentially be fixed in a future update).

The minornoteright command does not align to the right unless there is text to the left of it. This is a consequence of the design of the template, but may also be modified in a future update and is listed as a known issue for this reason.

ClassTEX note blocks do not interact well with environments that create huge blocks of space, such as itemize or enumerate. If you wish to insert a note block near one of these environment, you will need to insert it before or after the environment is created.

Box Properties, Box Titles

The width of the box is limited by design. Titles can be made multi-line to avoid this!

4 Additional Info

Want to improve the template?

The template has a lot left to play around with. Fork it and contribute!

A generic demo of ClassTEX is also available on GitHub and in the source for the project. The source for this document and for the Lorem Ipsum demo might be useful if you run into trouble with the layout of note boxes.