

Online Course Student Assessment

How well would online courses fit your situation and lifestyle? Check the appropriate box to answer each question below.

(Adapted from "Are Telecourses for Me?" as printed in The Agenda, PBS-Adult Learning Service, Spring, 1994. This questionnaire was developed by the Northern Virginia Community College Extended Learning Institute.)

Student Name _____

1. My need to take this course now is:

- High – I need to take it immediately for a specific goal.
- Moderate – I could take it on campus later or substitute another course.
- Low – It could be postponed.

2. I would classify myself as someone who:

- Often gets things done ahead of time.
- Needs reminding to get things done on time.
- Puts things off until the last minute or doesn't complete them.

3. When an instructor hands out directions for an assignment, I prefer:

- Figuring out the instructions myself.
- Trying to follow the direction on my own, then asking for help as needed.
- Having the instructions explained to me.

4. Considering my professional and personal schedule, the amount of time I have to work on online courses is:

- More than enough for and on campus course.
- The same as for a course on campus.
- Less than for a course on campus.

5. Attending class on a regular schedule is:

- Extremely difficult for me – I have commitments (work, family, or personal) during times when courses are offered.
- A little difficult, but I can rearrange my priorities to allow for regular attendance.
- Easy for me.

6. As a reader, I would classify myself as:

- Good I usually understand the text without help.
- Average I sometimes need help to understand the text.
- Slower than average.

7. When I need help understanding the subject:

- I am comfortable approaching an instructor to ask for clarification.
- I am uncomfortable approaching an instructor, but do it anyway.
- I never approach an instructor to admit I don't understand something.

Student Signature/Date

Online Course Student Assessment

The student will need the following to take part in Online Courses (check each that applies):

- High speed Internet access 8MBS/SCC download minimum
- Web cam
- Headphone with microphone.

The student can perform the following skills (check each that applies):

- Print documents from their computers
- Know how to use the Internet
- Know how to use a web browser.
- Know how to use a search engine.
- Able to use email
- Know how to attach an attachment to an email
- Basic computer skills

Things to consider:

1. Online students sometimes neglect their courses because of personal or professional circumstances. Having a compelling reason for taking the course helps motivate the student to stick with the course.
2. Some students prefer the independence of online learning; others find the independence uncomfortable and miss being part of the classroom experience.
3. Online course gives students greater freedom of scheduling, but they can require more self-discipline than on campus courses.
4. Some people learn best by interacting with other students and instructors. Others learn better by listening, reading and reviewing on their own. Some online courses provide less opportunity for group interaction than most on-campus courses.
5. Online courses can require you to work from written directions.
6. Online courses require at least as much time as on-campus courses.
7. Some people who are successful with online find it difficult to attend class on campus because of their work/family/personal schedules.
8. Print materials are the primary source of directions and information in online courses.
9. Students who do well in online courses are usually comfortable contacting the instructor as soon as they need help with the course.
10. Students do not need to be technical experts in order to succeed in an online course, but a basic understanding of word processing, web browsing, and email are usually required.

Warning: Flexibility and convenience do not add up to easy courses and less work.

Before registering for any course, it is always best to speak with an advisor!

Student Signature/Date