

Online Learning Self-Assessment Summary

- Online courses connect students to each other and their instructor through online discussion, group projects, email, and chats. **As an online student you need to be comfortable communicating online.**
- Online courses put you in control of your learning. This means you have a greater responsibility to keep up with assignments and class participation. **Staying organized will help you to succeed.**
- Software and technology assistance is available through the University Help Desk however; it is important that you are familiar with the technical requirements of the course and test your equipment ahead of time. **Your willingness to try new learning environments is important.**
- Online courses contain significant amounts of reading. However, you will have opportunities to seek out support through communication with the instructor or other students. **Good reading skills will make it easier for you to succeed.**
- Online course material is most commonly presented visually but can use other various formats, such as PowerPoint presentation with audio narration, experiments or other activities to compliment your learning. **Willingness to accept a variety of content delivery formats is important for the online learner.**
- Most online courses include a discussion component. **Be prepared to be graded on the thoroughness and timeliness of your discussion content and participation.**
- Your instructor and classmates can help with clarification. **It is important for you to speak up and let your instructor know when something in the course is giving you problems.**
- Online instructors usually respond to inquiries within 48 hours and may even have phone-in or chat office hours. **Be aware that the feedback in an online course may not be as immediate as in a face-to-face course.**
- It is important to keep up with assignments because online courses take as much or even more time than a face-to-face course. **Make sure you leave enough time in your personal schedule for coursework.**

