

Online Courses Pre-enrollment Questionnaire

1. Who is most responsible for what and how much you learn?

- a. I am ultimately responsible for my own learning.
- b. The instructor and I share equal responsibility for what and how much I learn.
- c. The instructor is most responsible for what and how much I learn.

2. Which statement best describes your personal motivation and self-discipline?

- a. I take pride in my ability to motivate myself.
- b. I sometimes need others to encourage and motivate me.
- c. I often need supervision to complete my assigned tasks.

3. Which statement best describes your problem solving skills?

- a. I enjoy solving problems on my own.
- b. I enjoy solving problems but sometimes need assistance.
- c. I find problem solving difficult and often need assistance.

4. Which of the following describes the ways you communicate with family, friends, and others?

- a. I routinely use email, instant messenger, and/or discussion boards, in addition to talking with them on the phone or in person.
- b. I sometimes check my email, but prefer to talk with them on the phone or in person.
- c. I do not communicate with people unless I can meet with or talk to them.

5. Which statement best describes your ability to plan, prioritize tasks and organize assignments?

- a. I always plan ahead and stay organized.
- b. I try to plan ahead but have some difficulty staying on task.
- c. I always seem to be running behind.

6. I submit my assignments on time:

- a. Always. I always complete assignments thoroughly and on time.
- b. Usually. I usually complete assignments on time.
- c. Rarely. I have a problem starting tasks and often do not complete them.

7. My need to take this course is:

- a. High. I have a scheduling conflict, or this course is not offered at my school.
- b. Moderate. I could get this course at my school later, or I could substitute another course.
- c. Low. I could take this course face-to-face at my school.

8. Which statement best describes your interest in taking an online course?

- a. I'm very interested in taking an online course.
- b. I'm somewhat interested in taking an online course.
- c. I could be satisfied taking a similar course offline.

9. Which statement best describes your writing ability?

- a. I have strong writing skills.
- b. I am an average writer.
- c. Writing is not my strong point.

10. Which statement best describes your reading ability?

- a. I typically understand text without assistance.
- b. I sometimes need assistance to understand the text.
- c. I usually need assistance to understand the text.

11. Which statement best describes your computer skills?

- a. I am comfortable with electronic mail, web browsing, and word processing.
- b. I can get by if there is not too much typing or special software.
- c. I really don't like using a computer.

12. When an instructor gives an assignment, you prefer:

- a. Figuring out the instructions on your own.
- b. Trying to follow the instructions on your own, then asking for help when you need it.

c. Having the instructions explained to you.

13. Which of the following methods of instructor feedback do you prefer?

- a. Written explanation.
- b. Both written and oral explanation.
- c. Oral explanation.

14. Verbal interaction in the classroom is:

- a. Not important to me.
- b. Somewhat important to me.
- c. Very important to me.

15. When you have a question, how quickly do you feel you need a response from your instructor:

- a. Within a few days.
- b. Within a day.
- c. Immediately.

See rationale, p. 3, to assist with scoring. For each question, give yourself the following score:

A = 2 points

B = 1 point

C = 0 points

Scoring:

18-30 points: You are probably a good candidate for online learning. You have a high tolerance for written communication, and exhibit independence in your study habits. You seek to work with others, and have a moderate understanding of the tools necessary for online courses.

12-17 points: You may be successful in an online course with diligent work. You may struggle to keep up with the rigorous reading and writing schedule, given that you will be asked to learn in new and different ways, many of which may involve technology that is in some cases unfamiliar. You will need to make sure that you have support structures in place at your school, such as tutoring and a very involved site facilitator.

0-11 points: Online learning is not likely to be the most successful way for you to take a course. You are a strong face-to-face learner who values the ability to connect with a teacher on a one-to-one level.

Pre-Enrollment Questionnaire Rationale

1. Who is most responsible for what and how much you learn?

Taking personal responsibility for learning is important for success in online courses and you are responsible for meeting assignment deadlines and contacting the instructor if you need assistance.

2. Which statement best describes your personal motivation and self-discipline?

Motivation and self-discipline are required to succeed in online courses.

3. Which statement best describes your problem solving skills?

Online courses often require strong problem solving skills.

4. Which statement best describes the ways you communicate with family, friends, etc.?

Students who routinely communicate via email, instant messenger, discussion boards, etc., will feel more comfortable in an online course environment.

5. Which statement best describes your ability to plan, prioritize tasks and organize assignments?

Online courses require strong organization skills and excellent time management habits.

6. I submit my assignments on time:

Online course students must meet assignment deadlines. Online discussions require timely student participation.

7. My need to take this course is:

High. I have a scheduling conflict, or this course is not offered at my school.

8. Which statement best describes your interest in taking an online course?

I'm very interested in taking an online course.

9. Which statement best describes your writing ability?

Almost all communication in online courses is written.

10. Which statement best describes your reading ability?

Most of the content of online courses is text based.

11. Which statement best describes your computer skills?

I am comfortable with electronic mail, web browsing, and word processing.

12. When an instructor gives an assignment, you prefer:

Online courses require you to work from written instruction without face-to-face contact with your instructor.

13. Which of the following methods of instructor feedback do you prefer?

All feedback from online instructors will be in writing.

14. Verbal interaction in the classroom is:

Verbal interaction is not a part of most online courses.

15. When you have a question, how quickly do you feel you need a response from your instructor:

Responses from your online instructor will be timely but not immediate.

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