Is Web-Based Distance Learning for Me?
Will I be successful in Online Learning?

Web-based distance learning is far different from taking a traditional, face-to-face class. Being a successful online learning student requires certain skills, characteristics, and attitudes. This unique learning environment is not for everyone, but it could be the right one for you.

The following self-assessment will help you determine whether or not Web-based distance learning is right for you at this time. Circle your choices for the following questions in Part I and II:

**Part I: Is Online Learning for Me?**

Part I allows you to access your learning style, an important consideration in online learning.

1) Having face-to-face interaction with my instructors and classmates is:
   a) not particularly important to me
   b) somewhat important to me
   c) very important to me

2) My organizational skills are:
   a) strong: I am very organized and get all of my assignments done on time and with quality
   b) average: I sometimes need reminding about assignments and I tend to procrastinate
   c) weak: I have poor organizational skills and sometimes I forget to complete my assignments

3) When an instructor hands out directions for an assignment, I prefer:
   a) working independently and figuring out the directions for myself
   b) trying to follow the directions and then asking for help as needed
   c) having the written instructions verbally explained to me

4) My need to take a Web-based, distance learning class is:
   a) high
   b) moderate
   c) low

5) My motivation to take a Web-based distance learning class is:
   a) high
   b) moderate
   c) low

6) I consider myself a very self-motivated, self-propelled individual:
   a) strongly agree
   b) agree
   c) strongly disagree

7) Taking into consideration my personal and professional schedule, the amount of time I have to work on a distance learning course is:
   a) 8 ½-9 hours per week
   b) 4-6 hours per week
   c) 1-3 hours per week
8) If I were to describe my dominant learning style, it would be:
   a) visual: I learn best when I can read the course materials and view any graphics, multimedia presentations, and video
   b) auditory: I learn best when I can listen to my instructor explain concepts and other course content
   c) kinesthetic: I learn best when I can learn by “doing” and have immediate feedback from the instructor during the process

9) My reading skills are:
   a) very good-excellent: I have sustained attention to detail and am able to easily follow directions and comprehend course materials on my own
   b) average – I do not read very carefully and sometimes I miss certain details that are important
   c) poor – I do not pay much attention to details and I often miss details that are important

10) My writing skills are:
    a) very good-excellent: I express myself clearly, with a mastery of grammar, punctuation, and spelling
    b) average – My writing skills could stand some improvement; I make mistakes in spelling, punctuation, and grammar
    c) poor – I do not express myself well in writing and make many mistakes in spelling, punctuation, and grammar

11) My time management skills are:
    a) excellent: I manage my time well and can oversee my study time most effectively during the semester
    b) average: I do well sometimes in managing my time, but often, I experience conflicts and find myself skipping my studies
    c) poor: I am not good in time management and find that I am frequently behind in not only my studies, but other responsibilities and duties as well

12) When I am asked to learn and use software or technologies that I am not familiar with, my reaction is:
    a) Positive: I really look forward to learning new software and new technologies
    b) Neutral: I really don’t care one way or the other about learning new software or technologies
    c) Negative: I panic and get very anxious when I am asked to learn and use new software or new technologies

How to Score Yourself:
Give yourself 3 points for each “a” answer, 2 points for each “b” answer, and 1 point for each “c” answer.

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<tr>
<th>Total Score Between 33-36</th>
<th>Total Score Between 26-32</th>
<th>Total Score 25 and Below</th>
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<td>Online learning is a suitable option for you! If you scored less than 36 points, however, carefully examine the items for which you selected an answer other than “a”. This will give you valuable insights into your actual success quotient for distance learning.</td>
<td>Online learning may be a possibility for you. However, you will need to be willing to put in a great deal of effort and make some modifications to your behaviors and attitudes. Study all of the items for which you selected an answer other than an “a” to get the valuable insights you need.</td>
<td>Online learning may not be the best option for you at this time. Take a careful look at all of the items for which you answered less than an “a” and this will give you insights into areas that you may wish to pursue in order to take distance learning classes in the future.</td>
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Part II: Is Online Learning for Me?

Part II allows you to access your comfort level with computer technology, another important consideration in online learning.

1) I am comfortable with the operating system of my computer.
   a) Yes, very comfortable
   b) Yes, somewhat comfortable
   c) No, not comfortable

2) I am comfortable with computer file management.
   a) Yes, very comfortable
   b) Yes, somewhat comfortable
   c) No, not comfortable

3) I am comfortable with installing new programs into my computer.
   a) Yes, very comfortable
   b) Yes, somewhat comfortable
   c) No, not comfortable

4) I am comfortable with downloading programs from the Internet and installing them into my computer.
   a) Yes, very comfortable
   b) Yes, somewhat comfortable
   c) No, not comfortable

5) I am comfortable using a word-processing program.
   a) Yes, very comfortable
   b) Yes, somewhat comfortable
   c) No, not comfortable

6) I am comfortable sending and receiving e-mail.
   a) Yes, very comfortable
   b) Yes, somewhat comfortable
   c) No, not comfortable

7) I am comfortable in sending and receiving attachments in e-mail.
   a) Yes, very comfortable
   b) Yes, somewhat comfortable
   c) No, not comfortable

8) I am comfortable with using a Web browser to surf the Web.
   a) Yes, very comfortable
   b) Yes, somewhat comfortable
   c) No, not comfortable
**How to Score Yourself:**

Give yourself 3 points for each “a” answer, 2 points for each “b” answer, and 1 point for each “c” answer.

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<th>Total Score Between 21-24</th>
<th>Total Score Between 14-20</th>
<th>Total Score 13 and Below</th>
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<td>You have the computer skills necessary to support your success with Web-based, online learning. Look at your score for Part I and see what your learning style indicates. Both your scores for Part I and Part II should be considered before you make a final decision regarding your suitability for Web-based online learning.</td>
<td>You have some computer skills to support your success in an online, Web-based course, but you will need to invest some extra time and energy into building these skills. Look at Part I and see what your learning style indicates. Your scores for Part I and Part II will give you a total picture of your suitability for Web-based online learning.</td>
<td>Your computer skills need to be strengthened before you take an online course. If you are still interested in taking a Web-based course in the future, invest your efforts in face-to-face traditional courses that will upgrade your computer skills. If you are considering a level 1 Project Inspire course, the skills above will be covered but you will need to be prepared to spend extra time to master the skills.</td>
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