



Is Online Learning Right For Me?

We at the Washington School of World Studies are committed to the success of all students. We will do whatever we can to help you, but the main responsibility for your learning is yours. Our distance education approach requires a great deal of effort and commitment on your part.

Online learning is a new way of pursuing education for most students. Even if a student is comfortable with chat rooms, discussion boards, and building relationships online, using internet tools for rigorous academic work comes with new challenges for many students.

If you haven't taken it already, the self-assessment below will help you determine if online learning is right for you. Feel free to discuss these questions with your parent(s) or guardian(s) too!

Assessment

Answer the following questions to assess your aptitude for success in online learning. Pick one answer for each question, and score as directed following question 15.

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 statement best describes your interest in taking an online course from the Washington School of World Studies?
 - a. I'm very interested in taking a distance-learning course online.
 - b. I'm somewhat interested in taking a distance-learning course online.
 - c. I could be satisfied taking a similar course offline.

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. How often do you submit your assignments on time?
 - a. I always complete assignments thoroughly and on time.
 - b. I usually complete assignments on time.
 - c. Rarely. I have a problem starting tasks and often do not complete them.

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7. Considering your academic, work, and personal schedule, the amount of time you have to devote to an online class is:
 - a. More than for an offline course.
 - b. The same as for an offline course.
 - c. Less than for an offline course.

 8. 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.

 9. 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.

 10. 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 am either a novice computer user or I really don't like using a computer.

 11. When an instructor gives an assignment, you prefer:
 - a. Figuring out the instructions yourself.
 - b. Trying to follow the instructions on your own, then asking for help if needed.
 - c. Having the instructions explained to you.

 12. Which of the following methods of instructor feedback do you prefer?
 - a. Written explanation.
 - b. Both written and oral explanation.
 - c. Oral explanation.

 13. Verbal interaction in the classroom is:
 - a. not important to me.
 - b. somewhat important to me.
 - c. very important to me.

 14. 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.

 15. Which of the following statements best describes your preferred learning style?
 - a. I prefer working with and learning from my classmates.
 - b. I prefer working one on one with my teacher.
 - c. I prefer working alone.

Self-Evaluation

To determine your results, add up the results of each answer following these scoring terms:

A = 3

B = 2

C = 1

If survey total is greater than 35:

You and the Washington School of World Studies distance-learning courses are a good match! You understand the level of commitment that will be required to succeed in an online learning environment.

If survey total is greater than 25 but less than 35:

It sounds like you could make a go of the Washington School of World Studies distance-learning courses. Be sure to select a course that interests you, as online learning requires a high degree of commitment.

If you scored under 25:

Our Washington School of World Studies online courses may not be the best option for you. Discuss your alternatives with your guidance counselor.

This survey form was developed by Virtual High School Global Consortium.