

Is Online Learning for You?

The following are some questions to ask yourself to judge if online learning is a suitable environment for you. A final tabulation of your answers will help you decide if you are suited to the online environment.

Answer honestly, no one will see this but you. Circle the best response for you personally.

- 1.** I see myself as someone who: a) Likes to stay on top of things. b) Needs a reminder now and again. c) Puts things off until the last minute.
- 2.** Participating in discussions is: a) Very helpful in clarifying concepts and my own ideas. b) Sometimes worthwhile. c) Often an exercise in useless chatter.
- 3.** I read text material: a) Easily and with good comprehension. b) At a slow pace but have good comprehension. c) Multiple times before I can understand the context.
- 4.** I can make the following time commitment to a graduate course. a) 8 to 12 hours per week b) 6 to 10 hours per week c) Less than 6 hours per week
- 5.** I find using computers, email, or other online technologies: a) An exciting way to improve my skills. b) Makes me apprehensive but I am not afraid to try. c) Very intimidating and I am reluctant to learn.
- 6.** Being free to complete my work anytime in a 24 hour period during the week: a) Is very desirable and motivational. b) Is appealing but I might be tempted to put things off. c) Is too unstructured for me.
- 7.** I have access to a computer and the Internet: a) At home and at work. b) At home or at work but not both. c) Only if I go to a friend's house or the Library.
- 8.** I find working collaboratively. a) Stimulating b) Necessary but would prefer to work alone. c) The least desirable way to get tasks done.
- 9.** Having classmates in different states is: a) An exciting opportunity to network with others in my field. b) Could be more interesting than a same area student body. c) Confusing because we cannot chat face to face.
- 10.** I think Religious Education and technology: a) Can be integrated and will enhance Church ministry. b) Will have a small but important role in the future of Church ministry. c) Should not be combined because, unless ministry is face-to-face, it is not Church ministry.

Scoring: Give yourself 3 points for each (a) that you circled, 2 points for each (b) that you circled, and 1 point for each (c) that you circled. If you scored 20 points or more, an online course is a real possibility for you. If you scored between 11 and 19, online courses may work for you, but you may need to make some adjustments. If you scored 10 or below, online courses may not be a good educational alternative for you at this time.