

Questions to Ask Yourself Before Committing to Online or Hybrid Courses



If you are interested in taking online or hybrid courses at Triton College, there are some questions you should ask yourself first. While you don't need to answer 'yes' to all questions to take an online course, having an idea of what is involved to be successful in an online or hybrid course will help you make the best decision for you.

- ☐ Am I self-motivated? Will I be able to keep up with the workload on my own without in-person reminders?
- ☐ Am I organized? Do I have a dedicated workspace and a plan for when I will study, complete assignments and manage due dates?
- ☐ Am I independent? Understanding I won't have instant access to my instructors like I do in a classroom, can I be proactive and try to find answers on my own?
- ☐ Can I handle an accelerated course or multiple courses remotely? Am I disciplined enough to work at a fast pace and still manage my other responsibilities and coursework?
- ☐ Do I have access to reliable technology and a stable internet connection?
- ☐ Do I have basic technology troubleshooting skills to manage technical difficulties? If not, do I know who to contact for help?
- ☐ Do I have a quiet space to work and potentially appear on camera if I need to attend virtual office hours or connect with classmates?
- ☐ Are my writing skills strong enough? Am I comfortable writing comprehensive discussion posts instead of holding an in-class conversation? Will I be able to use proper etiquette when writing emails or responding to classmates?
- ☐ Are my reading skills strong enough? Knowing online courses require access to materials that are online, will I be able to keep up with reading and comprehension?
- ☐ Do I have time to commit to an online course? Although online courses require the same time commitments as a same credit in-person course, I understand it might take me longer to engage with the content and classmates virtually.
- ☐ Do I have a strong understanding of how I like to learn? If I am faced with a learning style that is different than what I am used to in-person, can I successfully navigate this, or will I become distracted or disengaged?
- ☐ Am I prepared to navigate courses that might be designed differently? Each online course I take might look different, and have different due dates and expectations. While I can manage this in-person, can I manage this online?
- ☐ Am I comfortable learning new online tools and platforms beyond the LMS?
- ☐ Is my temperament right for an online course? Do I come across as polite and respectful in my writing? Do I feel comfortable asking for clarification before jumping to conclusions?
- ☐ Do I want to, or should I, carry the same course load online as my in-person course load?
- ☐ Am I able to focus when working on my own? Do I become easily distracted by my phone, my surroundings or by others while learning independently and not in a classroom?

Office of Distance Learning • ODL@triton.edu



Triton College is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution.

There's
a place
for you.



Triton College
triton.edu

2000 Fifth Ave.
River Grove, IL 60171
(708) 456-0300