Online Learning Readiness
Are You Ready for Online Learning?

Taking an online course requires possibly more self-discipline, technology skills, and communication skills than taking a traditional face-to-face course.

Your success in an online course depends on *your* reading comprehension, *your* technology skills, *your* ability to communicate in an electronic environment, and *your* ability to manage your time well.

Check the box for each question to answer Yes; answer honestly to determine if *you* are ready for online learning.

Technology

Yes   Do you have daily access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection (other than computers at your college)?

Yes   Does your computer meet or exceed the requirements listed on the RPCC Canvas Help Page?

Yes   Do you know whom to contact if you have problems with Canvas or your RPCC Student Email account?

Yes   Does your computer have all the programs and software required for the course(s) you want to take?

Yes   Do you have computing skills that will enable you to function efficiently in an online course (downloading and saving files, creating folders, changing settings on your computer, typing and word processing, sending email with attachments, etc.)?

Yes   Do you have Internet skills that will enable you to navigate and access specific URLs, use the online RPCC Library resources, and login to secure web pages?

Yes   Do you have an email account and the ability to create and send email messages with attachments?

Yes   Will you be able to access and navigate your online course(s) as often as required (at least four times a week) in order to interact with the instructor(s) and/or other students in your course(s)?

Communication

Yes   Are you able to communicate with others effectively using online technologies, such as email programs, chat rooms, blogs, and discussion boards?

Yes   Can you express yourself clearly and concisely in written messages and assignments?

Yes   Will you schedule time to access your course(s) regularly in order to provide timely responses to your instructor(s) and/or other students?

Yes   Will you ask questions when you don't understand assignments or instructions from your instructor(s)?

Yes   Do you have good reading comprehension skills so that you can effectively read and understand directions, reading assignments, and information in your textbook?

Motivation

Yes   Are you self-motivated with good time-management skills (not needing to be reminded of due dates, etc.)?

Yes   Can you ignore online distractions (social networking, games, instant messaging, etc.) while working on your online course work?

Yes   Can you take time away from distractions at home (television, family, etc.) in order to complete your online course work?

Participation

Yes   Will you meet the online course requirements listed in your course's syllabus (frequent assignments, frequent communication, group assignments, and a significant amount of reading)?

Yes   Do you understand that frequent participation will be required in each of your online courses and you will need to dedicate at least five hours per online course per week in order to be successful?

Yes   Do you have access to an alternative computer that meets all requirements in case something happens to your computer, so that your participation will not be affected?

If you cannot answer "yes" to all of these questions, you may not be ready to enroll in an online course.

This doesn't mean that you *should not* take an online course, however. Please consider these questions before deciding to enroll in an online course.

All RPCC students are enrolled in a Canvas and eLearning Orientation for Students course with helpful tips on online etiquette, time management, technology and how to be successful in an online course.