Online Readiness Assessment
Cleveland University-Kansas City

Online learning in an 8-week format requires a weekly time commitment of approximately 18 hours. You should expect to spend an average of 12 hours per week for preparation and six hours per week to understand lectures and readings. Do not expect online courses to be easier than face-to-face classes.

Online learning requires that you work independently and motivate yourself to meet deadlines and stay current with reading and course assignments. You must log in to your course several times a week, which requires reliable access to the internet and a reliable computer. Time management, good reading, writing and organizational skills will also be required. Online students should be detail oriented and carefully review course information. Skimming over syllabi or assignment information is a sure way to miss important information and is not recommended.

Online courses are not self-paced and students will need to remain organized, plan ahead and manage multiple demands to be successful. To determine if online learning is right for you, check the list below and see how many you can answer with "yes."

    – I have reliable access to a computer and the internet.
    – I can spend 18 hours per week on each class.
    – I enjoy writing and participating in online discussion forums.
    – I frequently browse the web, use word processing software and email regularly.
    – I am detail oriented and can follow directions.
    – I enjoy working independently.
    – I can organize my time well, even when managing multiple demands.
    – I have good reading and writing skills.

If you answered yes to most of these statements, then online learning may be a good option for you. For those statements you could not answer yes to, you should consider how you may need to adjust to accommodate that aspect of online learning before you enroll in an online course.