Are Your Students Prepared for Distance Learning?

Student Attrition in Distance Learning

Student attrition in distance learning stems from deficiencies in:

• Intrinsic motivation and persistence

• Engagement with classmates and/or the instructor

• Study skills and ability to process written material

• Time management skills

• Access to or familiarity with technology

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Early and Accurate Self-Assessment Can Help Students:

- Determine if they're ready for distance learning

- Focus on needed changes to achieve success

- Be aware of the unique challenges of distance learning

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Self-Assessment of Readiness for Distance Learning Addresses:

- Attitudes and beliefs about online learning

- Favored learning style

- Study habits

- Accessibility of learning tools and resources

- Technology experience

SORT (Student Online Readiness Tool)

- Developed by University System of Georgia

- Quizzes students on 6 topics related to success in online learning

- [Available online](#)

SORT: Technology Experience

This section evaluates the student on their ability to:

• Use, maintain, and troubleshoot a personal computer

• Navigate the Internet

• Work with document files

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SORT:
Access to Tools

This section evaluates if the student has access to the proper tools:

- Personal computer with sound and basic software

- Stable Internet connection

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SORT:
Study Habits

This section evaluates the student in areas such as:

- Self-direction

- Time management

SORT: Lifestyle

This section evaluates

if the student has:

- Adequate time for coursework

- A suitable environment for study

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SORT:
Goals and Purposes

This section evaluates the student's:

• Motivation for taking an online course

• Ability to stay on task

SORT:
Learning Preference

This section evaluates the student's:

• Organizational skills

• Problem-solving abilities

• Aptitude for working independently

MERLOT
(Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching)

Additional assessment tools curated on merlot.org

- View the collection

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