

A woman with long brown hair, wearing safety goggles and a green lab coat, is focused on a laboratory task. She is wearing blue nitrile gloves. In the foreground, she is pouring a yellow liquid from a test tube into a beaker that already contains red beads. On the granite countertop, there is a white paper towel with a pile of green beads and a clear plastic container filled with red beads. The background shows a typical laboratory setting with a sink and cabinets.

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

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

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

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

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



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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