

I just registered for an online course: now what?

ONLINE LEARNING AT MIDDLESEX COUNTY COLLEGE

Online learning: Myth vs Fact

- Myth: online courses are easier than face-to-face courses.
- Fact: online courses are as challenging as face-to-face courses, just a different way of taking the class.



When do we meet?

- You can access your course content any time, day or night, but there is not usually a set time to be online.



When do the classes start and end?



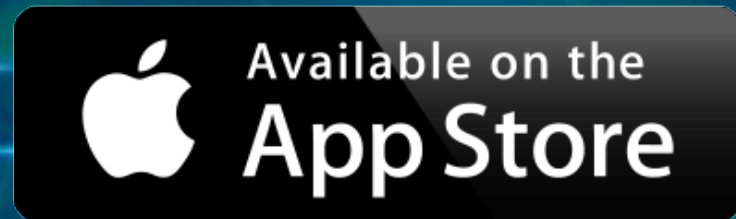
- Online course sections start and end according to the MCC academic calendar terms, same as the face-to-face classes.

What skills do I need in order to successfully take an online course?

- Technical competency: be comfortable navigating the learning management system (Canvas)
- Self-discipline: plan on spending 3 – 4 hours per week, per class, online.
- Good time management skills: manage your time effectively in order to meet your course-work deadlines.
- Proficient reading skills: most of your content will be online, so it's important to read over your instructions carefully.

Is there a Canvas app for mobile devices?

- Yes! The free Canvas Student app is available for iOS and Android.



What are the technical requirements to participate in an online course?

Operating Systems	Mobile Operating System Native App Support	Computer Speed and Processor	Internet Speed
Windows 7 and newer	iOS 7 and newer (versions vary by device)	Use a computer 5 years old or newer when possible.	Along with compatibility and web standards, Canvas has been carefully crafted to accommodate low bandwidth environments
Mac OSX 10.6 and newer	Android 4.2 and newer	1 GB of RAM	Minimum of 512kbps
Linux – chromeOS		2GHz processor	

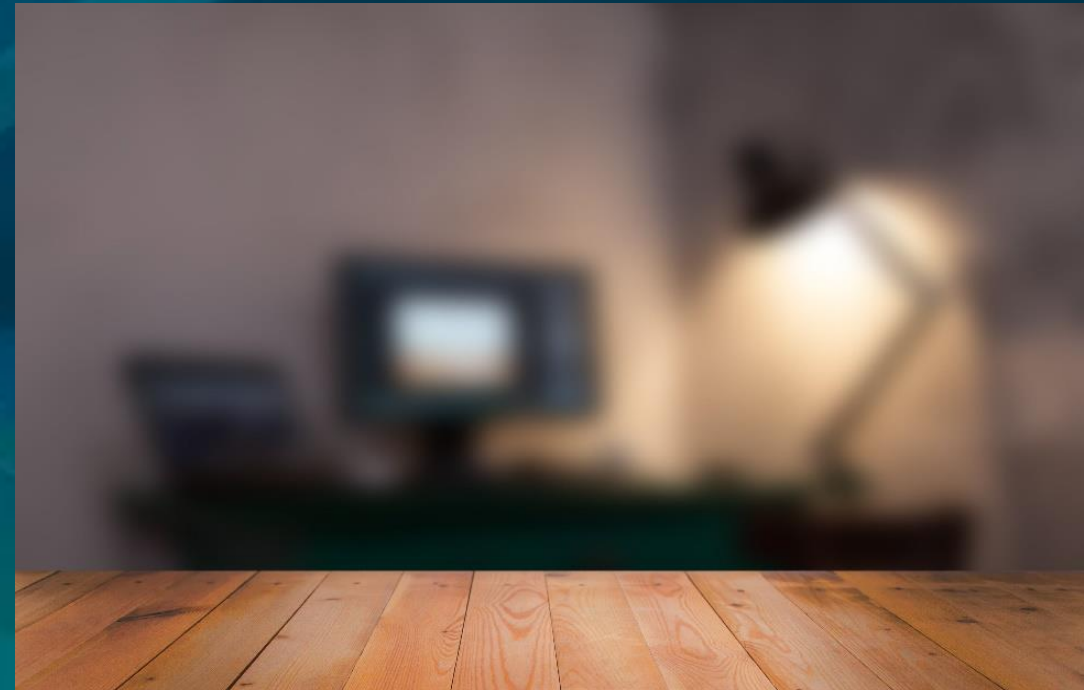
How do I protect my work?

- To avoid mishaps that could affect your ability to complete your online course work:
- Backup your work regularly using cloud storage, like MS Office 365 and One Drive.



Where should I do my course work?

- Decide in advance where you will conduct your online course work.
- Choose a quiet, clutter-free location that is always available to you, with reliable Wi-Fi/Internet access.
- Consider turning off cell phones and logging off social networks during study time.



How do I plan my time to complete assignments and tests?



- Take the time at the start of the term, to get to know all of your course due dates.
- Do not wait until the day before an assignment to start working on it.
- Do not wait until the last minute to take an online exam.

How do we talk to each other?

- Online discussion forums provide a way for you to interact and share course-related ideas with your classmates (and instructor).
- The Canvas messaging tool lets you communicate with your instructor and classmates in your course, at any time.
- Be respectful, even when you disagree. Always write in complete and clear sentences.



How do I get help when I need it?



- For questions about **course content**, please email your instructor directly, through MCC Outlook email, or send a message through Canvas messaging.
- For questions about using Canvas, please email lmshelp@middlesexcc.edu.

Department of eLearning

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