

Is the Independent Study Option for Me?

Completing this questionnaire will help you decide whether Independent Study Option (ISO) is for you.

Yes	No	Respond yes or no for each statement and score as directed below.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1. I have a specific need to take this course.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2. I have work or family commitments that make it difficult to attend school therefore the ISO is right for me.
or		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I attend school and my school is unable to accommodate my course requirements.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3. I am comfortable working independently on my studies in order to learn and do not need the support of my classmates and class discussions.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4. I am comfortable emailing or phoning somebody with whom I am not familiar.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5. I have people who will be able to support me if I take an ISO course.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6. I am willing to make a commitment to spend the time required (approximately 110 hours) to complete this course in a maximum of 12 months.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	7. I am an organized and self-motivated individual, and I have good study skills (e.g., I set personal goals and meet the deadlines).
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	8. I can read and understand complicated text without help.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	9. I know how to support my learning with audio and video resources or other media formats.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	10. I am willing to do all the work required to prepare for the tests/exams.

Scoring

Add 1 point for each statement for which you responded with a “yes.”

If you scored 7 or higher, ISO courses are a real possibility for you.

If you scored 5 or 6, ISO courses may work for you, but you need to make a few adjustments in your schedule and study habits to succeed.

If you scored 4 or less, ISO courses may not currently be the best learning alternative

Explanations

1. ISO students who have an urgent reason for taking the course are more motivated to complete the course.
2. Students who find it difficult to go to school on a regular basis because of their work/family/personal schedules or students whose schools are unable to accommodate their course requirements, may find ISO to be a good alternative.
3. Because students taking ISO courses work independently, these courses may be challenging for those who require the support of a classroom.
4. ISO students will have access to a tutor/marker by email or phone. Students who do well in ISO courses are usually comfortable contacting the tutor/marker as soon as they need help with the course.
5. Students are encouraged to find a learning partner who can help and support them. This individual can be a parent, a teacher, another student, a sibling, or another community member.
6. Students who follow a regular weekly schedule are more likely to complete the 110-hour course within 12 months.
7. ISO courses give students greater freedom of scheduling, but they require more self-discipline, organization, and study skills.
8. ISO courses require students to read a lot of text since most of the learning material is in print.
9. Some ISO courses have resource materials (e.g., textbooks, CDs and/or DVDs). Students are expected to learn from these materials since test or exam questions may be derived from them.
10. When students have worked through the course material, they will be more prepared to write the supervised tests and exams.