

Online Learning

Opportunities and Challenges

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Some online learning vocab

Distance Learning

Any type of learning that does not require your physical presence. These days, distance learning is usually technology-based, but, in the past, it has been done through other avenues, such as the mail system.

Synchronous

Lectures, workshops, discussions, meetings, activities that take place at a specific time. Students access and view the materials at the same time.

Asynchronous

Resources, especially lectures and workshops, that are recorded and can be accessed by participants at any time.

Remote Class

Usually refers to classes that have been transferred from on campus to online.

Online Class

Usually refers to classes designed specifically for distance learning via computer

In-Person Class

Refers to class that takes place in physical classroom

Blended or Hybrid Class

Refers to class with online/remote and physical location

Blackboard

A virtual learning environment used by Trent University and many others

[Trent's Guide to Using Blackboard](#)

myTrent

Virtual work and study portal, where you can access a variety of online apps and forms to assist you with your academic and/or professional pursuits at Trent. It is a secure web-based service which can be accessed any time anywhere on the Internet by logging into www.trentu.ca/mytrent

Academic Skills

Instructors at Trent University who do not teach a specific class, but are available to all students for support with learning skills, including time management, organization, note-taking, critical reading, and writing, as well as support with math and science classes. Find us at <https://www.trentu.ca/academicskills/>

Opportunities...and Challenges

Opportunity #1
Less commuting = more time



Challenge #1
Time Management

What's the Purpose of Time Management?

- Achieving balance
 - Managing stress
 - Producing your best work
 - Owning your learning
 - Enabling your best efforts
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Pro Tip

Think of time as a resource

Resource

<https://www.trentu.ca/academicskills/how-guides/how-manage-your-time/time-management-tools>

Opportunity #2

Flexibility



Challenge #2

Distraction





















Pro Tip

Make sure your workspace is functional and comfortable. Establish a firm routine, and get your family or house mates on board.

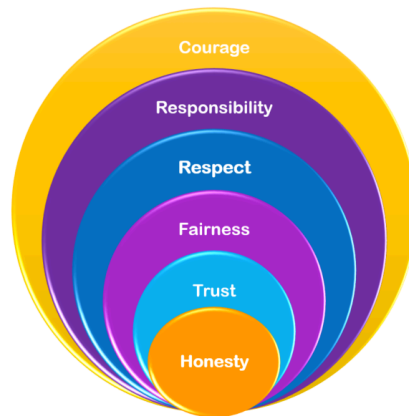
Resource

<https://www.trentu.ca/academicskills/how-guides/how-learn-online>

Opportunity #3 Self-management

APPROACHES TO LEARNING: SELF-MANAGEMENT					
ORGANIZATION SKILLS Managing time and tasks effectively					
Plan	Set goals, identify strategies, & take action	Manage Materials	Organize Files & Complex Information	Manage Time	Select & use technology effectively & productively
					
AFFECTIVE SKILLS Managing state of mind					
Be Mindful	Demonstrate perseverance	Manage emotions	Be self-motivated	Show Resilience	Think Positively
					
REFLECTIVE SKILLS (Re-) considering the process of learning, choosing and using ATL skills					
Develop new skills, techniques and strategies	Identify areas of growth and areas for improvement	Be flexible learner	Try and evaluate new ATL skills	Consider implications of choices	Use Multiple Techniques for Reflection
					

Challenge #3 Academic Integrity



Pro Tip

Invest in yourself

Resource

<https://www.trentu.ca/academicskills/how-guides/how-learn-online/academic-integrity-and-online-learning>

Opportunity #4 Communication



Challenge #4 Limits on Social Learning



Pro Tip

Use every avenue of communication and collaboration available to you.
Set concrete goals for interaction and participation.

Resource

1. <https://www.trentu.ca/academicskills/how-guides/how-study/transition-university>
2. <https://www.trentu.ca/durham/student-life/student-support-services/academic-mentoring-program>

Opportunity #5

Skill-building



Challenge #5

Tech Issues



Pro Tip

Stay in touch and know who to call

Resource

<https://www.trentu.ca/it/going-remote-students>

And finally...

**Make an appointment to work with an Academic Skills Instructor
and sign up for our workshops**

- Pam MacIsaac (that's me)
 - Time management, organization, note-taking, critical reading, writing
- Darren Nesbitt
 - Math and science

Visit our information page for instructions and a schedule of events (coming soon!)

<https://www.trentu.ca/durham/academics/academic-skills>