



ONLINE LEARNING

Online learning is a term that includes a number of instructional environments and approaches.

At Reading Area Community College, students who have enrolled in a **REMOTE** course can expect the following:

- **Regularly scheduled Class Meeting Times** - Any RACC course that is identified as *Remote* will meet regularly. Meetings will occur via a web conference platform, such as Zoom. Students should expect to participate in those web conferences as if they were attending a face-to-face course. Assignments and other materials will be presented and collected electronically.

Students who have enrolled in a **HYBRID** course can expect the following:

- **Regular class meeting times and Online work** - *Hybrid* courses are a combination of in-class meetings held on campus and online coursework. Students can expect to meet regularly on campus with their class, although it could be less frequently. Other course content will be delivered online, and students are expected to regularly participate in both online and in-class activities and meetings.

Students who have enrolled in an **ONLINE** course can expect the following:

- **No Regularly Scheduled Class meeting times** - Any RACC course that is identified as *Online* will not have regularly scheduled class meeting times (in-person or virtual). Instructors will set a schedule for assignment due dates and each class will progress through the content together, just like in a face-to-face course. Students have the flexibility to access the content when it's convenient for them within the schedule set forth by the instructor. By moving through the course together as a class, instructors can rely on online discussions and other online tools to help build a sense of community in the online environment.

A strong instructor presence - Students don't "teach themselves" in a RACC online course. Each course has an instructor. That instructor will share documents, videos, and other learning materials. The instructor provides feedback on assignments, grades papers and quizzes, and is available for questions. Instructors will work hard to build a sense of community by engaging with students and keeping in contact with them so they don't feel disconnected.

Any student that enrolls in an Online, Remote, or Hybrid course should have a computer or laptop with reliable internet access. Smartphones and tablets are useful tools for communicating, even in an online course, but many courses require more than what a phone is capable of producing. Certain software used in these courses is not compatible with phones or tablets.

