

Can ALP Work Online?

Yes, for some people!

- ALP Online suits adult students who successfully manage complex family and work responsibilities, high school students who are still embedded in their family and academic support systems, but not students who lack self-management or online navigation skills.
- ALP Online suits detail-oriented and empathic instructors who can skillfully navigate online and competently communicate through text or audio-visual technology.

Online ALP Teaching Tips

- *Have fun:* to engage students, and to keep yourself motivated, create a well-organized, interesting, and appropriately challenging course.
- *Give yourself time:* preparing new courses—researching resources and writing out or recording every lecture and assignment for a semester—takes many hours.
- *Develop ways to meet objectives:* your educational technology and academic departments will provide the guidelines and requirements your new course must meet. Develop these through *a variety of learning activities* (reading and writing journals, skills practices, quizzes, and class discussions—comparable to lectures, activities, and interactions in a face-to-face class) *and assessment activities* (essays).
- *Scaffold assignments:* background, experience, and confidence create momentum for success.
- *Create community:* use discussion boards for sharing experiences and knowledge, for practicing academic and affective skills, and for establishing connection and support.
- *Enliven your course:* use graphics, photos, videos—your lectures and other resources, games, discussion boards, audio comments, or video conferencing. “Active learning” engages social, physical, and emotional, as well as intellectual skills and energies. Adapt AVID and ALP “face-to-face” resources and strategies to suit your online course.
- *Convey clear grading guidelines:* Create points and rubrics for each activity and assignment (not only for your students, but also for whoever grades your assignments). Grade assignments as soon as possible after the due date. Notice when students do not understand instructions or expectations. Be willing to revise or intervene. Accept late work.
- *Stay in contact with your students and with yourself:* Let students know that you are open to questions, and how to contact you. Respond as quickly and kindly as possible to students’ questions and concerns. However, also preserve your personal life: let students know when you will and will not be available.