

**DETERMINANTS OF SUCCESS IN AN ONLINE MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS COURSE:  
THE SIGNIFICANCE OF GRADE POINT AVERAGE AS A PERFORMANCE PREDICTOR**

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**ABSTRACT**

As online courses become more predominant in higher education, there are increasing concerns by some that student learning will decline as a result of this change. One aspect of this trend has been studies that compare one mode of instruction such as a face-to-face class to another mode of presentation such as an online class or a mixed mode (hybrid) class. Often the results have been mixed, and that has led to a concern regarding the possibility that intervening factors might be clouding the results. The primary purpose of this study was to examine the influence of a likely intervening factor (i.e., a student's GPA) in an analysis of two modes of instruction (online versus face-to-face) that included two different instructors. GPA was expected to be an important indicator of overall performance and was indeed significant in the analysis. In this study, the mode of instruction was found to be the least significant predictor of overall student performance in a class.

Keywords: *Online education, grade point average, mode of instruction, regression, Web-based, GPA.*