

Online Learning Opportunities



Online learning provides a convenient and flexible education option that offers affordable tuition costs.

Courses are available from a range of instructors, from nontraditional experts who provide their expertise without incurring university-level tuition costs, to traditional instructors offering their knowledge at lower costs than ever.

1. Udemy

Udemy is one of the world's leading course marketplaces, providing experts and instructors from around the globe with a platform for sharing courses that span various disciplines. Although its home page may focus on professional skills like web development and leadership, upon clicking into any top category you will see courses as diverse as "Cat Behavior" and "How to Sell Real Estate on Instagram." Course duration varies significantly; some may only take 45 minutes while others can go up to 17 hours of instruction! Depending on its topic instructors can use lectures, demonstrations, and slideshows as teaching tools while quizzes or other supplemental materials as needed - Udemy offers all this.

MOOCs aim to reach global learners and are becoming increasingly used by both students preparing for specific jobs or professionals looking to acquire or upgrade certain skills.

Udemy provides individual classes at various price points, with most offering lifetime access. Video lessons typically deliver content when it's convenient for you; courses also recommend themselves based on what they know about your interests.

Udemy may not offer as comprehensive a range of courses as other platforms on this list, but its independent instructors still make it an attractive option for anyone wanting to improve their skills. All instructors must present credentials on their course pages, with many having extensive expertise in their respective fields.

2. Skillshare

Skillshare is a platform designed to encourage creative learning. Classes offered on Skillshare cover areas like illustration, design, videography, photography, cooking, and freelancing - classes may focus on illustration or design or other creative pursuits such as video. Classes often end up project-based so by the end of a course there will be something tangible to show for your efforts! In addition, Skillshare features discussion boards that allow students to interact amongst themselves - useful when studying skills together in groups such as mixing paint.

Skillshare stands apart from similar platforms by featuring classes taught by various instructors from around the globe. While quality may differ slightly between teachers, Skillshare does provide good information about them all as individuals - for instance, an introduction video may be provided and reviews left by previous students before enrolling.

Skillshare also offers workshops and live classes, called Chroma Courses, taught directly by an expert teacher. While these can be excellent options, they may be more expensive than their online equivalent.

Although the website previously offered free membership with access to limited courses, they have since switched to offering a Premium subscription model that provides users with unlimited access.

3. FutureLearn



FutureLearn was established and owned by the UK Open University in 2012 and offers courses ranging from short courses to online degrees. Through partnerships with universities and other specialists, its courses enjoy high renown. Their course catalog can be divided into Short Courses, ExpertTracks, micro-credentials, and Online Degrees for easy searching.

FutureLearn not only partners with universities but also global companies and organizations - making it an excellent platform for individuals looking to advance their professional skills or develop something new and fascinating for themselves. You'll find online courses covering business, technology, and health topics.

FutureLearn provides an array of short courses for adults ages 21-40 that range in duration from two to 10 weeks and requires roughly three hours of learning each week, making them an excellent way to expand knowledge on specific subjects without investing more time in more extensive programs. There are hundreds of such short courses to choose from across leading universities and specialist organizations - making FutureLearn an excellent way for adults looking for additional professional development options to satisfy their craving for knowledge expansion!

FutureLearn stands out from other online learning platforms by not requiring upfront payments for its courses, yet still offering you a selection of short courses free. However, certificates may incur a small fee. FutureLearn partners with universities and global corporations such as Accenture and Raspberry Pi Foundation to ensure you learn from experts in your field - their courses cover genomics, healthy lifestyles, dementia care, and teaching among many other subjects.

4. LinkedIn Learning

LinkedIn Learning offers expert-led online learning experiences designed to develop business, tech, and creative skills. Students have access to a library of video courses - with new content added each week - which provide personalized course recommendations based on your interests and allow for personalized learning paths. Courses such as Financial Analysis for Beginners provide access to key skills like balance sheets, debit/credit reports, and company operating cycles.

LinkedIn Learning is a massively open online course (MOOC) platform owned and managed by the professional networking site LinkedIn. Through a subscription-based model, students from any background gain access to educational material produced by specialists in various fields - not macrame classes unfortunately but plenty of useful stuff nonetheless! The content may be career-focused rather than artistic though that doesn't make it any less comprehensive and informative!

Many courses include a Q&A section where learners can ask instructors or other students questions and get answers directly. This feature can be invaluable when struggling with certain topics; many even sport a 'Best Seller' badge to identify which topics are more popular. Plus, language settings allow you to customize how the content appears within an app or website!

5. Microsoft Learn



Students have access to a variety of learning opportunities through Microsoft Learn, including instructor-led training sessions and hands-on laboratories. Students can select lessons specifically designed to meet the needs of administrators, business analysts, users, developers, and solution architects to build practical job skills and attain certifications. Furthermore, this platform also features free resources and courses such as step-by-step guides and framework tools which help develop in-demand skills among its users.

Microsoft provides both free and paid training programs for educators. Their professional development offerings aim to assist educators with improving their teaching practices while learning about Microsoft technologies and classroom innovations. Furthermore, Microsoft in Education also offers resources and tools that support remote teaching and student skill-building such as STEM lessons, teacher-tested projects, and remote learning resources - plus much more!

Microsoft Learn provides free access to an extensive library of eLearning experiences, including modules, learning pathways, self-paced courses, vendor-specific technical certifications, and cloud technology courses such as Azure and Office. The platform's purpose is to give learners flexibility in their studies while helping them meet career goals and advance in their respective fields.

Teachers can use the Microsoft Learn portal to effectively manage and assess their student's learning experiences and gain insight into student performance. Record course details, download content, request lab seats, and more - educators can even sign up for free Microsoft Azure credits that they can apply toward certification exams for their students!

Teachers and educators can join the Microsoft Learn for Educators Teams community to connect with fellow educators and Microsoft experts, get questions answered quickly, and discover best practices. In addition, this forum can serve as an ideal venue to announce special announcements and opportunities that come their way.

6. Thinkful

Thinkful is an online learning platform offering career-focused coding courses. Their curriculum covers data science, UX/UI design, and digital marketing as well as offering technical project management boot camps to build your project management or engineering expertise.

Thinkful's courses can be taken online and completed full-time or part-time. Some programs feature daily live lessons while others may be more self-paced. Flexible payment options and deferred tuition help make its programs more cost-effective for students, while its job guarantee program helps ensure employment as soon as they graduate from their course.

Thinkful courses provide job placement services, though it should be noted that they should not be confused with boot camps, which offer intensive programs designed to advance careers or break into tech industries. Though these Thinkful programs may provide job placement services, boot camps remain an effective means of expanding knowledge or breaking into tech industries for students looking for career advancement or entry.

Thinkful offers many outstanding benefits for students, such as providing mentors to assist in writing code and finding jobs after graduation. Mentors can even conduct mock interviews to prepare students for job searches.

However, some students have reported that Thinkful does not provide sufficient support. Users have reported being unhappy with virtual assistants being unhelpful while having difficulty reaching the live chat option and office hours being taken off the student portal after it was rebranded from Bloc. These issues should be taken into consideration before enrolling in Thinkful courses - research their programs thoroughly to determine if any issues may hamper your ability to learn or progress in them.

7. OpenLearning



Open learning is a movement to democratize education by offering access to courses from top universities online. Learners take control over their education journey and can continue lifelong learning without investing in expensive formal degrees.

Open Learning provides a range of educational resources, from short courses and micro-credentials to online degrees and degrees developed by top academics and professionals, that are freely available for anyone to take advantage of. This initiative represents an immense step forward for global education; empowering learners while helping teachers deliver content more meaningfully for all parties involved.

OpenLearning stands out from traditional LMSs by providing content through lecture notes and quizzes in an end-to-end social learning platform that emphasizes student empowerment and connectivity. Gamification features like Kudos, Likes, Badges are designed to increase learner engagement while fostering collaboration in the classroom. Furthermore, OpenLearning includes tools designed specifically to assist educators in curating meaningful learning experiences for their students - a built-in chat feature, discussion forums, and a personalized dashboard.

OpenLearn has experienced rapid expansion over time and now employs over 75 people at its offices in Sydney and Kuala Lumpur as well as remote workers worldwide. Through partnerships with leading education providers and an enthusiastic user base of lifelong learners, this free and open platform has reached millions of learners around the world, giving many individuals the confidence to begin formal study for themselves. Millions have found OpenLearn immensely helpful.

8. Treehouse

Treehouse provides an intuitive learning platform, with user-friendly navigation and comprehensive course offerings, that makes learning to code straightforward. However, at \$25 per month, it's not suitable for everyone; those pursuing programming as a profession will likely find it worthwhile those interested only in dabbling may prefer complementary platforms like SoloLearn instead.

Treehouse courses are taught by subject matter experts with extensive tech experience. These teachers also produce videos, quizzes, and coding challenges for their students as well as create downloadable assets for them to access during their 7-day free trial to determine whether or not their curriculum and quality meet expectations.

The website's learning process is tailored to those seeking to expand their coding abilities for career purposes, offering on-demand video lessons, workshops, quizzes, and challenges designed to get learners closer to reaching their goals. Students also have access to a dedicated Slack community for guidance from instructors as well as members of their online learning community.

When selecting a course on Treehouse, users first answer a series of questions designed to ascertain their learning goal and determine which topics and courses would be most pertinent based on these answers. Based on their answers, beginner courses like Introduction to HTML and CSS typically take 14 hours while advanced subjects such as Front End Web Development take 60 hours to completion. Treehouse also provides Learning Tracks tailored specifically towards certain skill sets or jobs - in other words, mini-programs tailored just for them!

9. edX

EdX is a massive open online course platform offering courses from some of the world's premier universities. Some classes even provide university credits and verified certificates upon successful completion of classes. Established by Harvard and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 2012,

edX aims to transform higher education while equipping learners to address real-world problems through real learning experiences.

edX is one of the world's leading learning platforms with over 4 million registered learners worldwide. Most classes on edX are free for most classes; paid options can also provide micro-credentials or certification. You can search courses by subject area or degree program.

Courses on edX are interactive, engaging students through multiple media formats such as video, audio, text, and visuals. Some programs on edX provide hands-on practice in fields like coding or data science while others present more advanced material - some even offer boot camps and labs so participants can delve deeply into specific subjects.

edX's primary shortcoming is that it does not provide instructors or classmates to offer support to its students, which may present an issue if taking challenging courses that require extensive reading and self-directed work.

EdX is an excellent way for anyone seeking to expand their knowledge, update their professional skills, or gain an edge for their career path. 89% of those who complete one of edX's MicroMasters programs or professional certificates report an improved job performance or promotion as a result! So what are you waiting for? Get studying!

10. Thinkific.

Thinkific is a hosted course creation platform offering users numerous solutions for creating and selling online courses and memberships. Users can create a single payment or subscription-based offerings, offer free trials or discounts, and use a drag-and-drop website builder to set up a marketplace.

The software is intended for experts looking to share their knowledge and monetize it through YouTube channels or blogs, subject matter experts ranging from guitar tuition to drone flying classes, or thought leaders wanting to broaden their reach by providing online learning experiences.

Thinkific provides learners with a platform to take courses individually or as bundles, assign assignments within lessons, and provide grading feedback from instructors; students can submit answers for these assignments while instructors can grade, provide feedback and offer course completion certificates. Furthermore, Thinkific's built-in quizzes and surveys support multiple question types ranging from rating scale, and free text to multiple choice.

Thinkific's unique feature lies in its ability to drip-feed lessons, providing instructors with an efficient means of delivering longer courses while keeping students engaged throughout. Drip feeding also allows instructors to create more flexible course structures by setting any lesson as a prerequisite, preventing students from moving on to subsequent sections until having completed prior sections.

The platform boasts an impressive list of features and is user-friendly for newcomers to online learning. However, some limitations do apply; for instance, if you plan on teaching private clients or students directly using this software you'll require an external solution instead.