

## Free Online Learning with the Open University

If you're a furloughed worker, or have lost your job as a result of coronavirus (COVID-19) and want to develop your skills to help you look for work, free online training is available.

The Department for the Economy has partnered with the Open University to offer a range of free training to help you improve your skills and wellbeing.

The Open University offers a wide range of online courses. View [The Open University full catalogue](#) for ideas.

The following key areas of learning are particularly relevant and widely applicable at this time.

### Essential skills (English and maths)

- ❖ [get started with online learning](#)
- ❖ [everyday maths 1](#)
- ❖ [everyday English 1](#)
- ❖ [everyday English 2](#)

### Digital skills

- ❖ [digital literacy](#)
- ❖ [introduction to cybersecurity](#)
- ❖ [digital thinking tools](#)
- ❖ [preparing for your digital life](#)
- ❖ [virtual project teams](#)
- ❖ [assistive technologies and online learning](#)

### Employability

- ❖ [effective communication](#)
- ❖ [succeed in the workplace](#)
- ❖ [personal branding for career success](#)
- ❖ [entrepreneurship](#)
- ❖ [working in diverse teams](#)
- ❖ [exploring career mentoring and coaching](#)
- ❖ [understanding your sector](#)
- ❖ [integrated safety, health and environmental management](#)
- ❖ [leadership challenges in turbulent times](#)
- ❖ [creativity and innovation](#)
- ❖ [how to frame a business case](#)

## Other Free Online Learning Providers

### **Learn My Way** <https://www.learnmyway.com>

Learn My Way is a website of free online courses for beginners, helping you develop digital skills to make the most of the online world.

### **BBC Skillswise** <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/skillswise>

A collection of free videos and downloadable worksheets to help adult learners improve their reading, writing and numeracy skills.

### **Google Digital Garage** <https://learndigital.withgoogle.com/digitalgarage/courses>

Discover a range of free learning content designed to help grow your business or jump-start your career. You can learn by selecting individual modules, or dive right in and take an entire course end-to-end.

### **Alison** <https://alison.com/>

Alison is one of the world's largest free learning platforms for education and skills training. It is a social enterprise dedicated to making it possible for anyone, to study anything, anywhere, at any time, for free online, at any subject level. Alison has over 1000 high quality courses available, all absolutely free to complete.

### **OpenLearn** <https://www.open.edu/openlearn>

The Open University's OpenLearn offers in excess of 800 free courses in a wide range of different subjects with various courses lengths. Many courses are an introduction to a longer Open University course.

### **FutureLearn** <https://www.futurelearn.com>

Get access to high quality learning wherever you are, with online courses, programs and degrees created by leading universities, business schools and specialist organisations. You have the option to study for free or upgrade to receive a digital Certificate of Achievement.

**AbilityNet** <https://abilitynet.org.uk/free-resources>

Helps people of any age and with any disability to use technology to achieve their goals at home, at work and in education.

**BT Skills for Tomorrow** <https://www.bt.com/skillsfortomorrow/>

Offers a wide range of free resources, anyone can use to help them stay safe, connected and informed online.

**Khan Academy** <https://www.khanacademy.org>

Offers practice exercises, instructional videos, and a personalized learning dashboard that empower learners to study at their own pace in and outside of the classroom, offering mathematics, science, computer programming, history, art history, economics, and more.

**Class Central** <https://www.classcentral.com/>

Offers several thousand free online courses that have been developed by a number of top universities from across the globe, including in ICT and business.

**Coursera** <https://www.coursera.org/>

Coursera brings together courses provided online for free, by a variety of universities and companies. The main focus is on science, technology, engineering and mathematics, with additional material in other areas also available.

**Oxford Home Study** <https://www.oxfordhomestudy.com/free-online-courses-with-certificates>

**OHSC** is the UK's leading specialist provider of distance learning professional courses. The college is a renowned global distance learning institute dedicated to providing accredited home study courses across the world.