

Harvard on the Couch

Mike Buhmann Reference Librarian



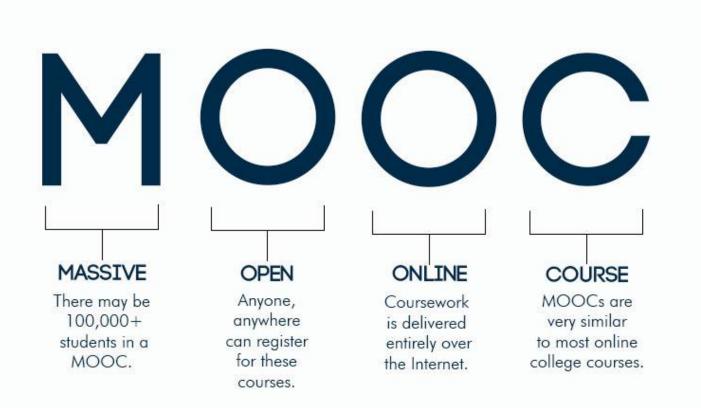
Agenda

- MOOCs
- Course Elements
- Credentials/Certification
- Finding Courses
- Non MOOC Courses
- Learning Tools provided by Skokie Public Library





What is a MOOC?





What is a MOOC?

Massive Open Online Course

MOOCs were first introduced in 2006 and emerged as a popular mode of learning in 2012 Consists of an array of courses of various levels offered to the public via the web.

Course materials can include filmed lectures, readings, and problem sets, and interactive user forums among students and teachers





What is a MOOC?

MOOC participation has grown steadily over the last four years A typical course has 7900 learners with 500 receiving certificates

Computer science courses make up most of the curriculum





Why take a Course?

Enhance Job Skills

Test-drive a new career or degree

Love of Learning





Course Elements

- Video lectures and online readings
- Interactive quizzes
- Peer-graded assessments
- Projects
- Discussion boards





Certification

Initially certification was free when taking a course

Currently the major MOOC platforms are charging fees for certifications of completion

Many of these "certifications" can be displayed on social media platforms such as LinkedIn

Beware of free/fake accreditations





Top Platforms



edx.org



coursera.org



futurelearn.com



UDACITY udacity.com



edX (edx.org)



Non-profit and opensource, EdX was founded in May 2012 by scientists from Harvard and MIT. In 2013 they partnered with Stanford and by December 2016 there were over 10 million users.

Partners with many leading universities such as Harvard, University of Chicago, and the Sorbonne

Contains instructor led and self-paced courses



edX (edx.org)



Several types of series of courses are also available including:

- XSeries programs, courses that offer a deep dive into popular topics
- MicroMasters programs, graduate level courses that offer a certificate or can lead to a Masters degree
- Professional Certificate programs
 courses to enhance professional work
 place skills



edX (edx.org)

Refine your search

Availability Current 649 Starting Soon 177 Upcoming 139 Self-Paced 692 Archived 668 Subjects Architecture 18 Art & Culture 99 Biology & Life Sciences 125 Business & Management 294 Chemistry 40 Communication 57 Computer Science 401 Data Analysis & Statistics 149 Design 27 Economics & Finance 148 Education & Teacher Training 81 Electronics 50 Energy & Earth Sciences 17 Engineering 239 **Environmental Studies** 68 Ethics 8 Food & Nutrition 18 Health & Safety 76

Featured Courses



HTML5 and CSS **Fundamentals**

Current Self-Paced



Learn to Program in Java

Current Self-Paced



UOX **IELTS Academic Test** Preparation

Current Self-Paced



Python for Data Science

Current Self-Paced MicroMasters



Robotics: Fundamentals

Current Self-Paced



Analyzing and Visualizing Data with Excel

Current Self-Paced

MicroMasters



Coursera (coursera.org)

Coursera was founded in 2012 by professors from Stanford. As of February 2017, Coursera had more than 24 million registered users and more than 2,000 courses

Partners with 149 universities including: Stanford, University of Arizona, Rutgers, and Peking University





Coursera (coursera.org)

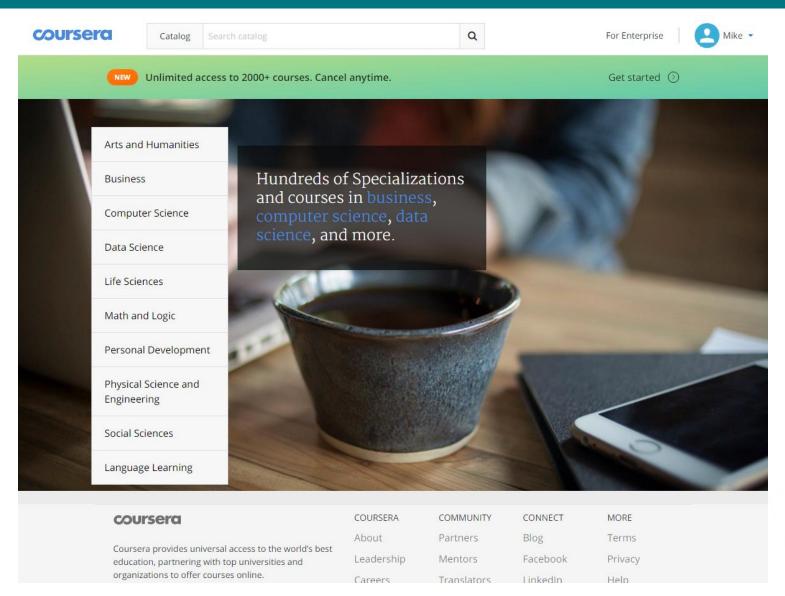
Offers 4 degree programs:

- iMBA from U of I
- Masters in Computer Science from U of I
- iMSA (Accounting) from U of I
- Masters in Entrepreneurship from HEC Paris





Coursera (coursera.org)





Udacity (udacity.org)

Udacity is a for-profit organization and is the outgrowth of free computer science classes offered in 2011 through <u>Stanford</u> <u>University</u> and has over 1.6 million users

While it originally focused on offering university-style courses, it now focuses more on vocational/tech courses for professionals





Udacity (udacity.org)

In 2015 Udacity started the Nanodegree program, it is a paid credential program.

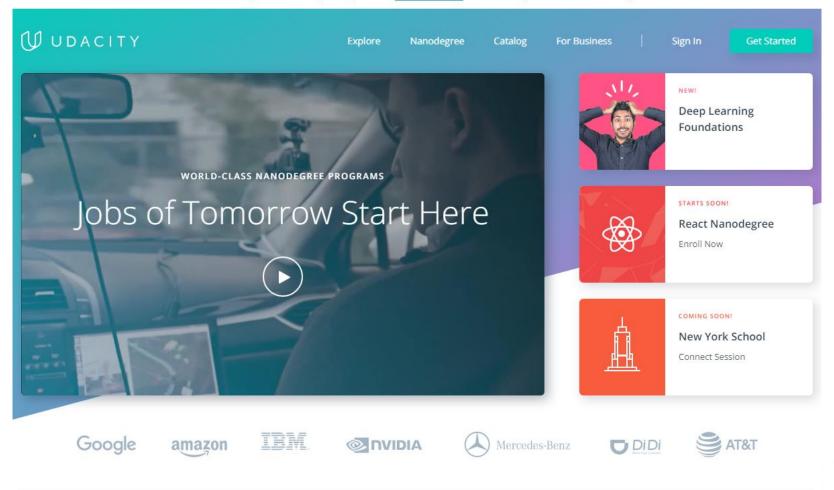
Udacity also offers Nanodegree Plus, which is a bit more expensive, but guarantees a job, if they fail to provide a job the course fee is returned





Udacity (udacity.org)

Get the edge over other job applicants. Learn directly from Udacity's Head of Recruiting!



OUR AMAZING COMMUNITY

"Before Udacity, I was a high school math teacher with no CS background.



FutureLearn (futurelearn.com)

Online learning site based in the UK with close to 6 million users.

Partners with over 80 universities mostly in the UK including: King's College, University of Kent, University of Basel and Colorado State University





FutureLearn (futurelearn.com)

In Depth programs are offered for detailed learning in a particular subject. After a final assessment a certificate is awarded

Offering 7 online degree programs through Deakin University in Cyber Security, Property & Real Estate, Information Technology & more.





FutureLearn (futurelearn.com)



Categories

Courses

Programs

Degrees





Online course categories

Find your interests by browsing our online course categories. Start learning with top universities and specialist organisations.



























MOOC Updates

The term MOOC will probably disappear, MOOCs are just one variation of the varying array of online courses

Emphasis shifting from emphasizing "lifelong" learners to "professional" learners

Free features are disappearing

Catering more to corporate market, partnering with businesses

Universities are increasingly starting to offer college credit for online classes, for a fee





Other Online Learning Sites

Beyond MOOCs there are a number of other top notch learning sites. Many of these teach skills or basic knowledge. Some of the best include:

- Khan Academy
- DuoLingo
- Codecademy
- W3schools

khanacademy.org

<u>duolingo.com</u>

codecademy.com

w3schools.com











Khan Academy (khanacademy.org)

A self structured, free web site that offers basic K-college courses and more.



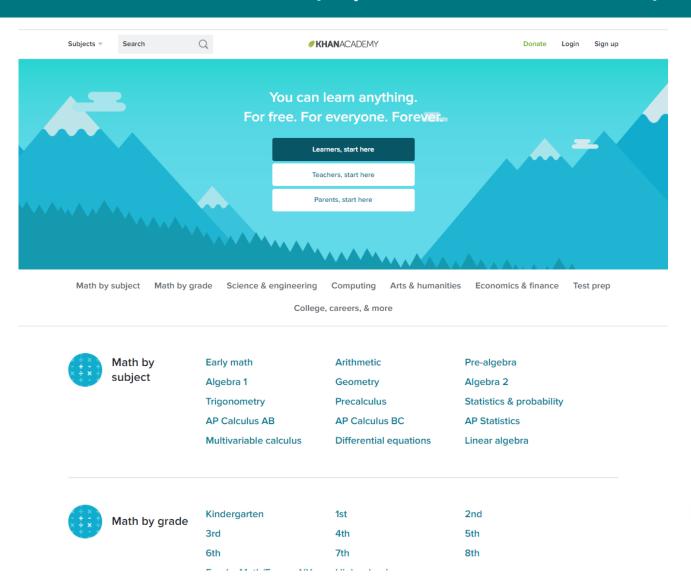
Create an account and take a course on:

- Math
- Art history
- Computer Science
- Cryptography
- Healthcare and medicine

Provides free online badges showing progress and to provide motivation



Khan Academy (khanacademy.org)





DuoLingo (duoLingo.com)

A free (with advertising) language learning site covering 23 different languages. Easy to use.

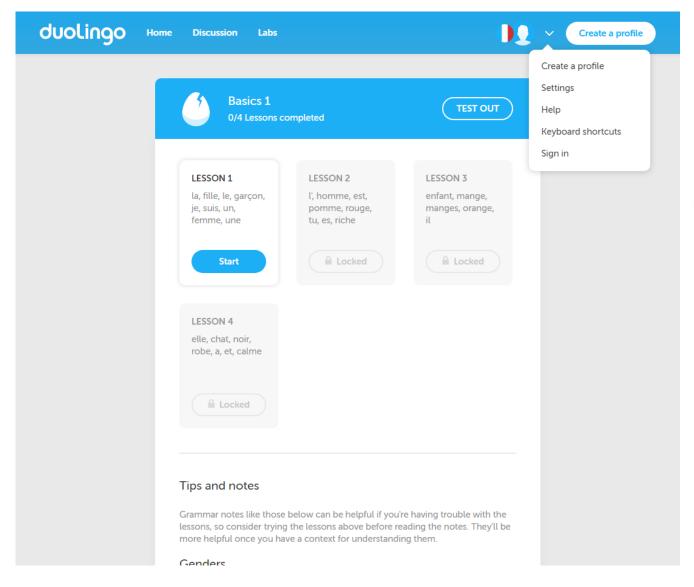


Contains:

- Speaking Practice Exercises
- Writing Exercises
- Quizzes
- Assessment Exams
- Encouragement & Reminders



DuoLingo (duoLingo.com)







Codecademy (codecademy.com)

Free coding classes with a paid option for more advanced learning. The free has only written tutorials and coding exercises, no videos

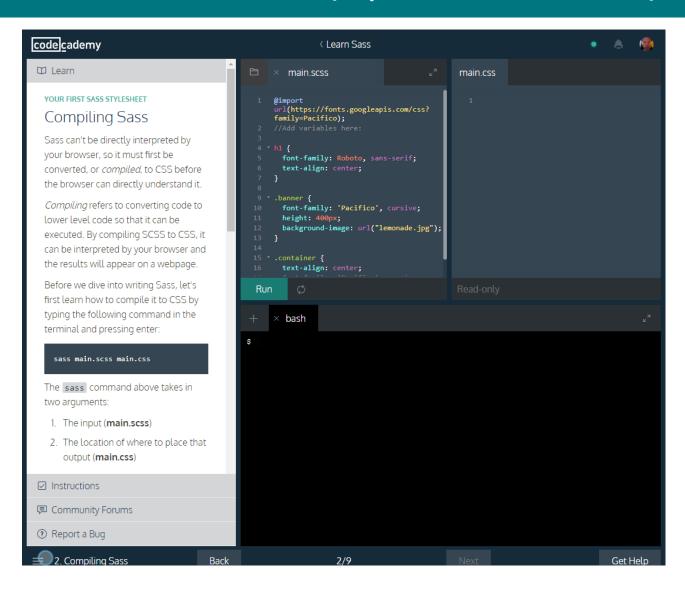
Groups can be joined to socialize with other learners and coders. There's a group for every coding language. In addition, every lesson has a Q&A forum

Each lesson is made up of a series of interactive coding exercises, which allow you to practice your coding right inside your web browser





Codecademy (codecademy.com)





W3Schools (w3schools.com)

W3Schools offers free web developer tutorials on web development languages such as HTML, CSS, JavaScript, PHP, SQL, W3.CSS, and Bootstrap

W3Schools has a focus on simplicity with thousands of code examples.



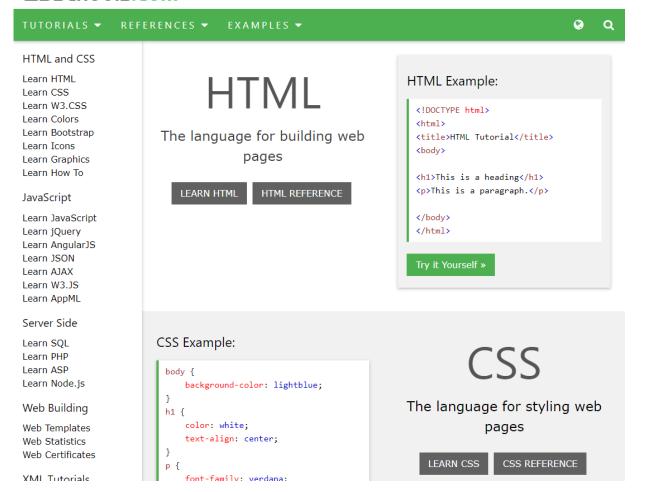
Contains an online editor called <u>Try it</u> <u>Yourself</u>. You can edit examples and execute computer code experimentally, to see what works and what does not.



W3Schools (w3schools.com)

ш3schools.com

THE WORLD'S LARGEST WEB DEVELOPER SITE





Offered through Skokie Public Library

The library subscribes to a number of services that provide free classes

https://skokielibrary.info/resources/online-training-tutorials/



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ONLINE TRAINING & TUTORIALS

From learning software to mastering a language or polishing your career skills, our online resources offer training and tutorials that help you become the person you want to be.

MASTER TECHNOLOGY

Lynda.com Online Learning Library

Watch thousands of step-by-step online video tutorials on software, apps, media, marketing, business, and technology.

Download the Lynda.com app to use on mobile devices. Within the app, tap on Organization, select Web Portal, and type skokielibrary.info.

Treehouse.com

Learn from over 1.000 videos created by expert teachers on web design, coding.



The go-to resource for up-to-date, how-to videos on hundreds of topics — everything from learning the basics of Photoshop to Motivational Speaking.

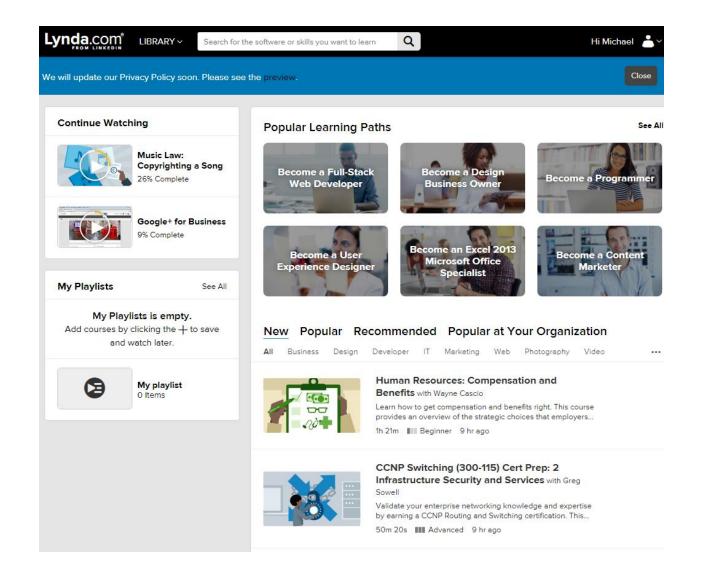
It features thousands of courses, with an average of 400 courses added every year and around 2 million members

Courses are offered via a series of brief videos, exercises usually included

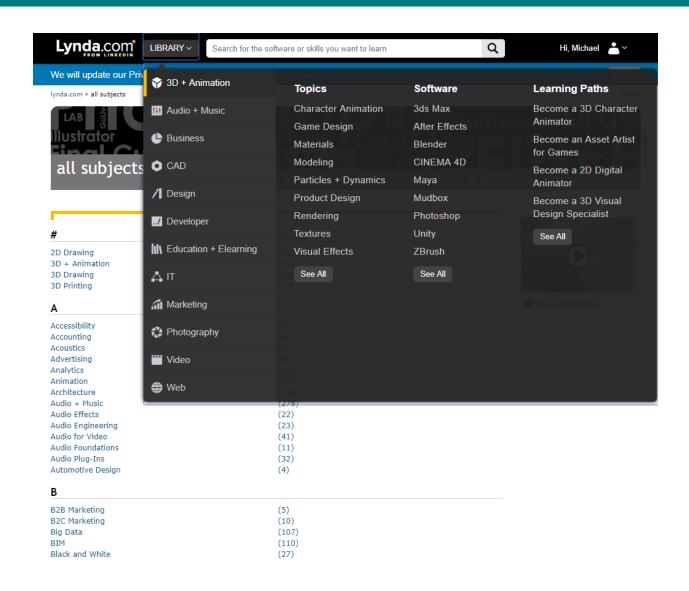
Offered via a monthly subscription or free with a Skokie Public Library card



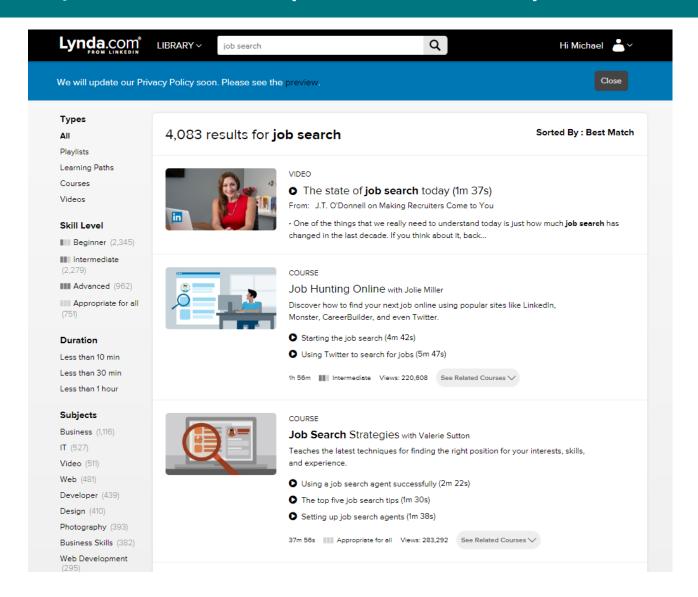














Treehouse offers beginner to advanced courses in web design, web development, mobile development and game development taught by a team of expert teachers.

Courses are aimed at beginners looking to learn coding skills for a career in the tech industry.

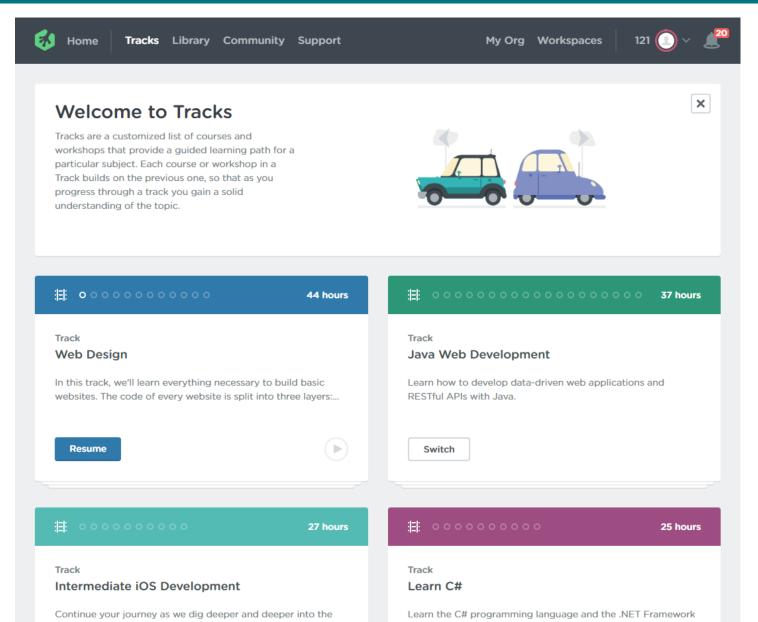




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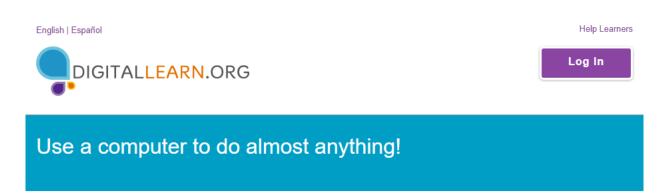






DigitalLearn.org (SPL offered)

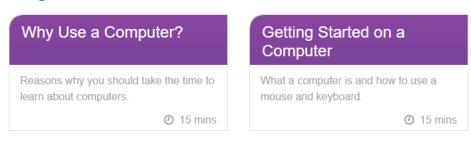
For people new to computers or who haven't used them for a while, DigitalLearn.org has tools to help tackle technology at a basic pace.



Choose a course below to start learning or search courses.

If you are new to computers, haven't used them for a while, are a little unsure and uncomfortable, or just need a bit of a refresher, we have the tools to help you tackle technology at your own pace and gain the confidence you need to succeed.

Starting Out



Using a PC (Windows 10)

Navigating a Website



Gale Courses (SPL offered)

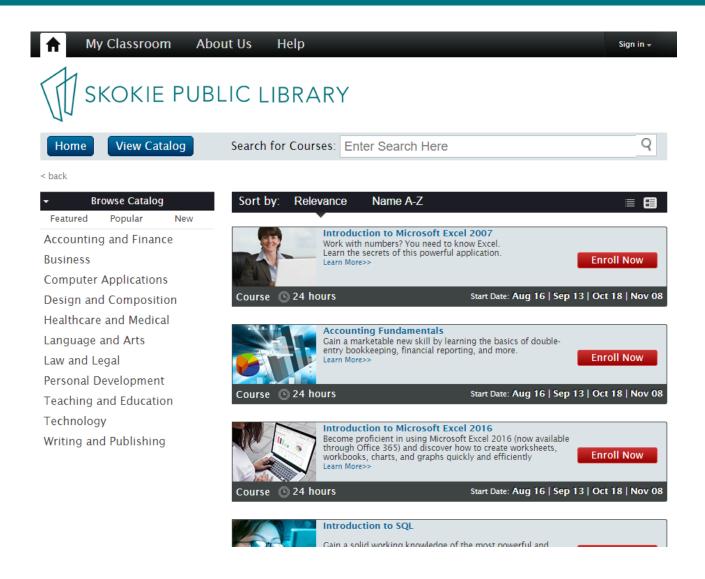
Gale Courses offers a wide range of highly interactive, instructor-led online courses. As a Skokie Public Library card holder in good standing, you can take these courses at no cost. Courses run for six weeks and new sessions begin every month

Online courses are offered in technology, business, health, wellness, education, parenting, and the arts.





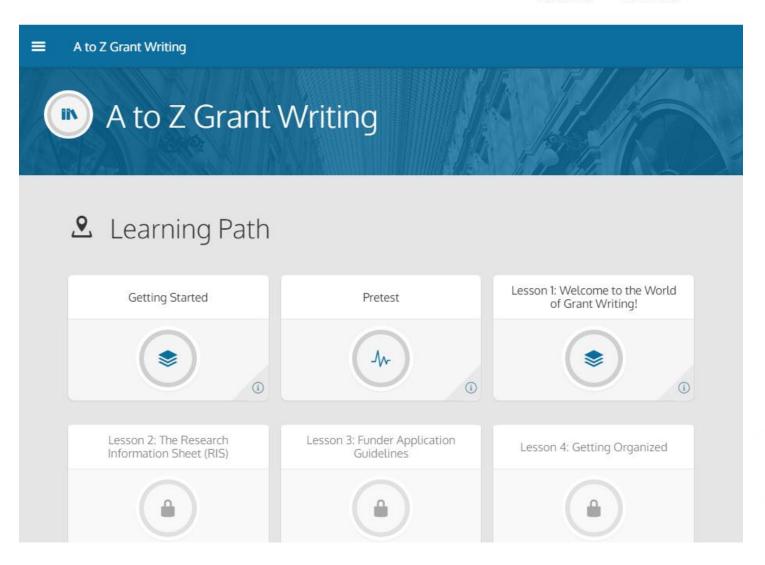
Gale Courses (SPL offered)





Gale Courses (SPL offered)

CONTACT ACCOUNT ▼





Mango Languages (SPL offered)

Lessons in 60-plus languages, including English. Includes specialty courses, such as medical Spanish, and full-length theatrical movies with subtitles and enhanced instruction. Download the Mango Languages app to use on mobile devices.





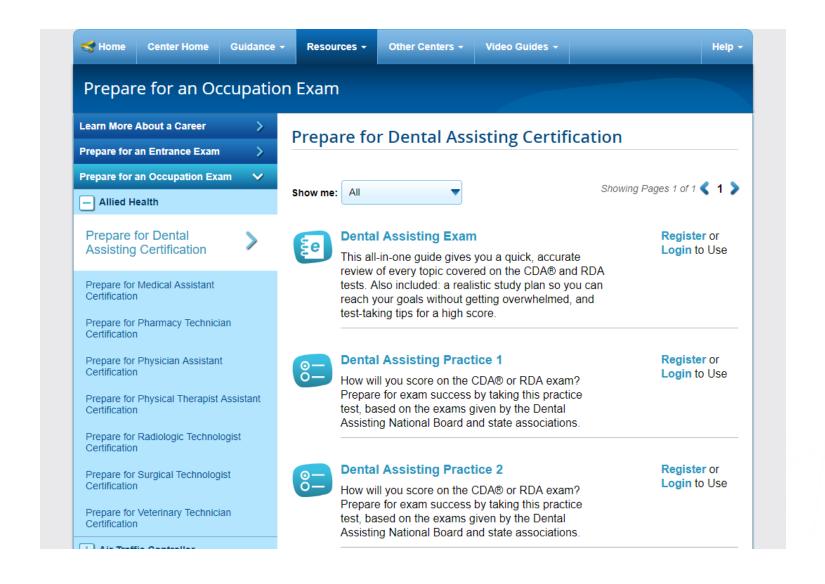
Learning Express (SPLoffered)

Ace the ACT, SAT, GED, ASVAB, and other tests by prepping with these interactive practice exams. There also are citizenship and career exam modules.





Learning Express (SPLoffered)



Thank You

Want a copy of this presentation? Visit www.skokielibrary.info/handouts where this presentation will be available for four weeks.







can be intimidating, and finding the right instructor is key to having a positive experience. Treehouse offers a variety of coding classes for beginners and advanced coders, and its built-in tools make it easy to follow along. The website couldn't be simpler to use: You can easily find courses, see your progress, and access the student forum right from your dashboard. The forum is a great resource for when you're struggling with a coding exercise and need a helping hand, especially if you've been staring at the same code snippet for a very long time.







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Why take a Course?

Pros:

- Most are free and open to anyone
- Tend to be self-paced & flexible
- Diverse subjects & students
- More & more colleges offering degree programs online

Cons:

- Free courses offer no credit or certification
- Lack of personalized teaching
- Easy to drop out
- Increasingly becoming monetized



Coursera (coursera.org)

Coursera has launched a monthly subscription payment option to entice in the hope that learners on its platform can be enticed into ongoing educational activity, rather than a more piecemeal pay-per-course-bundle option. subscriptions will be "typically priced from \$39 to \$89 per month" per Specialization

Accessing course materials for free is still an option on the platform (labelled 'audit'; and available for "most", though not all, courses).





Khan Academy (khanacademy.org)

tutorials are self-paced, without start or end dates. Assessments are not fixed, either; rather, users dip into a huge repository of computergraded problem questions and exercises. Exploring Khan Academy is as simple as following your nose. You do not need an account to search the site's catalog of skills, subjects, and videos. In fact, you do not even need to use the site to watch its tutorials, available on YouTube. That said, there are advantages to having an account: You can set your default language (English, Spanish, French, or Portuguese), track your progress, and participate in gamified features. It's also easy. You can sign up with your email address or sign in with a Facebook or Google+ account.

