
Continuous Learning Resources

When MyNextSeason clients think about areas they would like to grow, learn, and improve, the list is often wide and deep. The resources listed here include online learning and university classes and present the many ways you can continue to stay intellectually engaged. Offering flexibility in pace, format, and cost, the online courses are a great way to stay informed and investigate areas of interest. Many of the online resources have been tested by MyNextSeason Advisors and staff and found to offer exceptional content.

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CODECADEMY

www.codecademy.com

Offering courses for multiple programming languages, Codecademy is an online education resource meant for individuals interested in coding or learning about computer languages. In addition to providing coding classes, Codecademy also offers courses in subjects such as web development, cybersecurity, and artificial intelligence (AI), as well as a free database of resources including cheat sheets, articles, and documents explaining various coding functions. The Codecademy community provides students and individuals with access to online forums, chats, and upcoming events.

Cost: Basic access is free. Monthly and annual subscriptions plans are available.

COURSERA

www.coursera.org

Coursera is an education platform that partners with top universities and organizations worldwide to bring affordable, job-relevant online learning to individuals. More than 4,000 courses are available from more than 300 top schools and companies such as Stanford, the University of Michigan, Duke, the University of Pennsylvania, Amazon Web Services, and Google. There is often an option to explore courses for free. This option provides full access to videos, discussions, and practice assignments as well as view-only access to graded assignments. If you'd like to submit and get feedback on required graded assignments and earn a course certificate, a minimal fee is required.

Cost: A variety of courses are offered at no cost. Specializations, certifications and even degree programs can be obtained at varying cost levels.

CREATIVELIVE

www.creativelive.com

CreativeLive is an online learning platform designed by creators, for creators. It offers more than 2,000 classes taught by more than 700 professional creators around the world. Courses are grouped into five categories: photo & video, art & design, music & audio, craft & maker, and money & life. CreativeLive also offers free live and on-air events on a daily basis.

Cost: Classes can be accessed for less than \$13/month.

EDX

www.edx.org

Founded by Harvard University and MIT, edX now operates as a part of 2U to connect people worldwide with more than 4,300 online courses across nearly every career discipline, including AI, robotics, sustainability, and public health. Partnering with universities and organizations at the forefront of their fields, edX offers a wide variety of job-relevant programs. Individuals can also obtain professional certifications and undergraduate and graduate degrees.

Cost: Varies based on the course or program.

FUTURELEARN

www.futurelearn.com

FutureLearn is an online learning community that offers hundreds of courses, credential programs, and degrees for interested learners. Based in London, FutureLearn offers courses from UK schools and companies, as well as various international institutions. Short and specialized courses, ExpertTracks programs, accreditations and online degrees are available. Courses cover a variety of subjects, including business and management, psychology and mental health, leadership and languages. Specialized courses, such as Life on Mars, Earth and Beyond, and Gardening for Beginners, are designed to advance skillsets in certain fields,

Cost: Unlimited learning is offered on a subscription basis, while degree programs and accreditation costs vary.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY ONLINE COURSES

pll.harvard.edu/

Harvard's Professional and Lifelong Learning offers a large selection of online courses for individuals interested in advancing their careers and pursuing their passions. More than 2,000 courses are available across different subject areas, including humanities, mathematics, science, art, and medicine. Courses can be filtered by subject area, price, start date, school, duration, and difficulty. Some courses are led by instructors, while others give learners the freedom to go through classes at their own pace.

Cost: More than 100 courses are offered for free; costs vary for other courses.

KHAN ACADEMY

www.khanacademy.org

A personalized learning resource for all ages, Khan Academy, a nonprofit organization, works to provide free, world-class education for anyone, anywhere. It offers practice exercises, instructional videos, and a learning dashboard that empowers learners to study at their own pace in and outside of the classroom. Instruction in math, science, computer programming, history, art history, and economics is offered. Providing a great resource for assistance on specific academic concepts, Khan Academy is extremely popular with K–12 students but also includes some university-level classes. Partnerships with institutions such as NASA, the Museum of Modern Art, the California Academy of Sciences, and MIT offer specialized content.

Cost: Courses are free, and the nonprofit organization operates on donations.

LINKEDIN LEARNING

www.linkedin.com/learning

For those interested in growing their skills and advancing their careers, LinkedIn provides an online education platform through LinkedIn Learning. With a subscription, LinkedIn users receive access to more than 16,000 career development resources, featuring courses and tutorials on subjects such as how to ask productive questions and how to use Adobe Creative Cloud. LinkedIn users also receive recommendations based on the information posted on their profiles, including skills and job experience.

Cost: Courses are free to LinkedIn Premium membership holders.

MASTERCLASS

www.masterclass.com

MasterClass is an award-winning online education subscription platform, offering more than 100 classes taught by experts in various fields. World-renowned athletes, chefs, filmmakers, scientists, and more share their expertise through pre-recorded tutorials and lectures that can be streamed on TVs, computers, tablets, or phones. A few of the most popular classes include Cooking with Gordon Ramsay, Science of Better Sleep with Matthew Walker, Science and Problem-Solving with Bill Nye, and Creativity and Leadership with Anna Wintour.

Cost: Annual memberships are available on individual, duo, or family plans.

ONE DAY UNIVERSITY

www.onedayu.com

One Day University provides an online library of more than 700 lectures and talks—live and pre-recorded—that users can stream at their convenience. For the past 14 years, One Day University has worked with more than 200 of the world’s top professors to curate a digital library of lectures on topics such as Frank Sinatra, the art of negotiation, and the world of whales. Lectures are streamed live daily and uploaded to the constantly growing digital library. With no homework, grading, or tests, One Day University is ideal for curious learners interested in listening to experienced professors speak on certain subjects.

Cost: Membership plans are available on a monthly, yearly or bi-yearly basis and can be canceled at any time.

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTES

www.osherfoundation.org/olli.html

Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes offer university level, noncredit courses and learning opportunities designed for people “50 and better.” Part of a college or university and funded in part by The Bernard Osher Foundation, each institute is unique and operates as an independent initiative of its host institution with offerings tailored to meet the needs and interests of its community. Many offer lectures and educational travel opportunities as well as study groups and events. Northwestern University hosts the National Resource Center for Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes. A map of Osher Institute locations can be found [here](#).

Cost: Membership fees vary by institution.

SKILLSHARE

www.skillshare.com

With more than 25,000 classes to offer, Skillshare is a content-rich resource for creatives, entrepreneurs, and individuals seeking inspiration from professionals in the industry and an active online community. Courses specialize in design, technology, photography, videography, freelancing, productivity, and more. Each class includes short video lessons followed by a hands-on project for students to work on individually and then submit for feedback and collaboration within their class. Students can take part in recommended online workshops and view the work of fellow Skillshare users, creating an engaging community of learners from around the world.

Cost: Membership may vary by region; free trials are regularly offered; US monthly membership is \$32/month and annual Premium membership is \$168/year.

SMITHSONIAN ASSOCIATES

www.smithsonianassociates.org

Smithsonian Associates offers online programs that provide insight into the Smithsonian Institute's repository of extensive knowledge. The expert-led programs are streamed and found on the website's calendar, which offers daily events including lectures, seminars, and multi-session courses. Almost 70 programs are offered each month, on subjects including history, science, culinary arts, politics, media, and travel. Viewers gain access to programs by purchasing "tickets," as if they were visiting an in-person museum event, and shortly afterward, they receive an email containing the link where they may stream the event. Smithsonian Associates offers a membership opportunity for those who want access to early ticket sales, discounts, and other benefits.

Cost: Each program has a minimal fee, ranging from \$20 for lectures to \$300 for multi-session courses.

THE GREAT COURSES

www.thegreatcourses.com

For more than 25 years, The Great Courses has been providing high-quality instruction from the top 1% of college professors in the world—selected entirely for their ability to teach. The Great Courses seeks to ignite a passion for lifelong learning by offering 10–30 high-quality, 30-minute lectures on a specific topic in science and mathematics, history, fine arts and music, literature, business and economics, better living, philosophy, and more. Course titles include Abraham Lincoln: In His Own Words, The Complete Guide to Smartphone Photography, London in the Time of Dickens, and World War II: A Military and Social History. More than 800 courses are offered utilizing a variety of formats: video, audio and apps. Learners can watch content on a television, laptop, phone, or tablet while taking notes in the free companion guidebook, or simply listen to content while on the go.

Cost: Most courses are \$150 or less.

TED TALKS

www.ted.com/talks

TED is a nonprofit devoted to spreading ideas, usually in the form of short (18 minutes or less), powerful TED Talks. More than 3,700 TED Talks are currently available online. TED began in 1984 as a conference where Technology, Entertainment, and Design converged, and today covers almost all topics—including science, business, and global issues—in more than 100 languages. In addition, TED offers TEDx events that help share ideas in communities around the world and TED-Ed videos that cover specific topics in an average of five minutes. TED.com seeks to provide a clearinghouse of free knowledge from the world's most inspired thinkers, and a community of curious souls to engage with ideas and each other, both online and at TED and TEDx events around the world.

Cost: All TED Talks are free.

UDEMY

www.udemy.com

Udemy provides a catalog of more than 155,000 online courses from a variety of providers. Courses are generally taught by college professors and technical experts and include standard academic courses as well as technical courses about subjects such as computer software (Excel, PowerPoint, etc.), hardware, photography, health and fitness, and personal development. Udemy provides a marketplace for instructors and multiple providers for each topic area.

Cost: Each course has a minimal fee, ranging from \$15–150.

STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Many institutions across the US offer discounted and free college courses for seniors (the eligible age varies from 55–62 and older). Many schools allow seniors to audit classes with no homework or exams, which gives them excellent opportunities to explore new interests and stay intellectually active. While no all-inclusive list has been compiled, these sources showcase a variety of colleges and universities. If not listed here, check out your local college or university for more information.

[Best Colleges](#)

[Kiplinger](#)

[The Penny Hoarder](#)

[World Population Review](#)

BEST COLLEGE REVIEWS

Best College Reviews routinely publishes a list of 50 Top Online Learning Sites found [here](#).