

What is Distance Education?

Distance learning also referred to as Online Learning and Blended Learning are all types of Distance Education. Distance Education allows students to study at home in their own time and at their own pace. This involves learning at a distance from the tutor by accessing lectures and class materials through technology such as the internet, videoconferencing and correspondence.

Distance Education FAQ

Who is it for?

- In short it is for anyone, for example:
- Students already doing a course who would like to boost their learning.
- Individuals who have recently become unemployed or had their hours reduced.
- Those wishing to upskill and reskill.

What type of courses are there?

Courses are offered under a wide range of career areas including:

- Agriculture, Animals & Food
- Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths, Environment & Construction
- Medical, Wellbeing & Sport
- Creative Arts, Fashion & Media
- Government, Law & Education
- Accountancy, Finance & Insurance
- Business, Sales & Tourism

What does it cost?

- Some courses are FREE others have FEES.

Are courses accredited?

- Some courses offer accreditation, some do not.

What level of courses are available?

- Courses range from beginners to advanced.

How do I find out more information and register for a course?

- Please contact the course provider directly.

Distance Education Courses

Please note this factsheet offers an example of distance education options, it is not intended to provide an exhaustive list of provision. Specific information on courses is available from the course provider directly.

Free Online Courses in Ireland

eCollegewww.ecollege.ie

ecollege

eCollege is a SOLAS-funded online training college that offers accredited and non-accredited courses in areas such as business, project management, information technology, graphic design, webs design, digital marketing, software develop and computer literacy.

**Springboard+**
www.springboardcourses.ie


Springboard+ offers free courses at certificate, degree and masters level leading to qualifications in areas where there are employment opportunities in the economy.

IT Sligo
<https://opencourses.itsligo.ie/>


IT Sligo are currently offering a few courses in areas such as Lean Sigma, Health and Safety and eInvoicing.

**Trinity College
Dublin**
<https://www.tcd.ie/OnlineEducation/free-online-course/>
Trinity College Dublin
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath
The University of Dublin

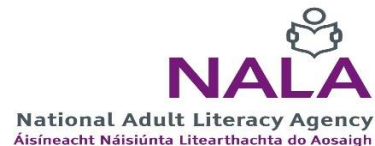
Trinity College Dublin have partnered with Futurelearn to provide a range of free online courses in a wide range of career areas. If you choose you can upgrade your membership to study more in depth.

Universal Class
www.universalclass.com


Universal Class gives library members access to over 500 free online courses.

NALA

<https://www.nala.ie/free-courses/>



The National Adult Literacy Agency (NALA) offers free reading, writing, maths and technology courses at QQI level 2 through online learning.

OpenLearn

<https://www.open.edu/openlearn/free-courses/full-catalogue#>



OpenLearn provides over 1000 free online learning courses from The Open University. You can choose an OpenLearn course from a wide range of subjects. Some are based on Open University course materials. Others are written specifically for OpenLearn.

Fee Paying Online Course Providers in Ireland

**The College of
 Progressive
 Education**

www.progressivecollege.ie



The College of Progressive Education provide QQI accredited courses in Childcare, Montessori, Healthcare, SNA and Business.



Hibernia College

www.hiberniacollege.com



HIBERNIA
COLLEGE

Hibernia College provides online courses for primary and post primary teacher education in Ireland.

Kilroy's College

www.kilroyscollege.ie



Kilroy's College delivers over 65 online courses from leaving certificate to psychology.

The Open College

www.theopencollege.com



The Open College provides a range of QQI Level 5 and 6 accredited courses in the areas of Law, Psychology, Business, Management, Journalism, Sports and Fitness, Training and Education among many more.

IT Sligo <https://www.itsligo.ie/onlinelearning/>



IT Sligo offer a range of courses in Business and Social Sciences, Engineering and Design and Science. IT Sligo invite prospective learners to attend a 30-minute webinar where you can find out more about their online programmes, and experience an online class for yourself.

NUI Galway

[https://www.nuigalway.ie/
onlinelearning/](https://www.nuigalway.ie/onlinelearning/)



OÉ Gaillimh
NUI Galway

NUI Galways offer a range of online and blended learning courses in a number of subject areas such as Archaeology, Computer Science, Languages, Medical Technology and many more.

DCU

<https://www.dcu.ie/connected/index.shtml>



DCU offer a range of online courses from single modules to Masters level in a wide range of disciplines such as Humanities, Information Technology, Management Information Systems and Social Sciences to name a few.

International Online Course Providers

Alison

www.alison.com



Alison offers free online courses and has over 14 million learners registered.

Edx

www.edx.org



Edx.org gives you access to 2500+ online courses from 140 Institutions, ranging from non-accredited to accredited courses.

**Coursera**www.coursera.org

Build skills with courses, certificates, and degrees online from world-class universities and companies with Coursera.

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

Discover thousands of free online courses from top universities around the world like MIT, Stanford, Yale, Brown and Harvard.

Udemywww.udemy.com

Udemy offers over 100,000 courses in a range of disciplines from Business, Design, Marketing, Personal Development, and IT and Software. Courses range from non-accredited to certified and while some have fees attached many are also free of charge.

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