TeenLife®

GUIDE TO
ONLINE
LEARNING

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW IF YOU'RE LEARNING ONLINE

PLUS
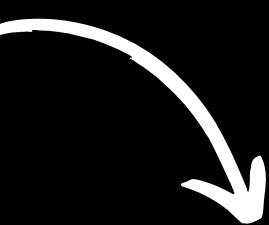Over 20 amazing online summer opportunities

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PRESENTING THE SUMMER 2021
GUIDE TO ONLINE LEARNING

COVID-19 has ushered in dramatic and permanent changes in how students are educated. Out-of-school learning is no exception. We at TeenLife have seen a huge growth in online programs among summer, gap, and after-school enrichment programs. While it's been a challenging year for young people, the silver lining is increased access to gifted teachers and inspiring content at a lower cost than attending a program in person.

The online summer programs in this guide represent the wide range of options available today. Choices range from one-on-one classes at your own pace to multi-week programs where students from all over the world work on projects together. The providers of these programs are educators who are committed to making the summer experience a positive one. Use this handy form to request information from one or more of these programs. If you need more ideas, feel free to browse the 500+ online summer programs listed on our site.

Our hope is that this 2021 Guide to Online Summer Programs may spark and nurture an interest that can become a lifelong passion!

Marie Schwartz

Marie Schwartz
CEO and Founder, TeenLife Media

GOT QUESTIONS OR SUGGESTIONS?

@

Email me at mschwartz@teenlife.com.

THREE THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW
IF YOU'RE LEARNING ONLINE

BY ULRICH BOSER

The debate over the benefits and limitations of online vs in-person learning has raged for decades. Past research has found that online learning can be just as effective a traditional classroom learning. Still, for some students, online classes are the last resort. For others, online learning offers exactly the type of flexible and self-guided learning they prefer.

Now, with the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic, virtual classes have become the norm for many students for the foreseeable future. Whatever side of the online vs offline learning debate you land on, the reality is that many of the skills and tools that help students succeed in face-to-face classes are equally useful online.

With discipline and preparation, even the most anti-online students can develop a learning process that is key to successfully learning online.

Here are three key tips to make learning online a rewarding and engaging experience. With practice, you might even find that you prefer it to in-person learning!

GET THE MOST OUT OF ONLINE LEARNING: MAKE GOALS

This might seem obvious but without the structure of in-person classes, it can be easy to let assignments and studying from online classes pile up. Setting clear, attainable goals before and during a course is absolutely vital to succeed when learning online (and in general). Start each online course knowing what you want to get out of it–and what you need to invest in it:

• What do you need to learn from this class?
• What is this class preparing you for?
• How do you hope to perform in this class?
• What is your plan if you fall behind? »

In addition to your learning and performance goals, throughout the course you should be setting measurable goals, such as "I will review course texts for X hours this week," *"I will come to class with 2 questions for the instructor," "I will be able to summarize concept X by the end of this unit."*

And, importantly, you have to hold yourself accountable for meeting your goals. Use of a calendar or project-managing application can help keep you on track. Make sure to write things down and don't rely too heavily on technology.

Keep frustrations and emotional reasoning in check. It's normal. After all, education technology can hinder learning without appropriate limitations. Similarly, try to limit distractions like cell phones especially for children, and social media which is similarly intrusive.

Students with individual education plans might have specific needs that are difficult to accommodate in online classrooms. Fortunately, the rapid increase in distance learning in the Spring semester corresponded with increased recognition of the need for virtual special accommodations.

HOW TO ENJOY ONLINE LEARNING: MAKE LEARNING ACTIVE

Online learning might seem unengaging at times because we often think of it as staring at a screen while someone talks at us.

Studies show that passive learning like listening to long lectures doesn't have as positive an effect on learning as active learning techniques like quizzes and simulations. This holds true whether you're face-to-face or online. Fortunately, many online learning spaces are interactive and offer opportunities for students to participate and learn actively.

Whether your online classroom is an active or passive learning space, you can also use these and other active learning strategies like retrieval practice to help keep yourself actively engaged and learning:

- Take time to think about how you think. Engaging in this type of metacognition improves learning.
- Participate in all class activities and ask questions.
- Use elaboration, or self-explaining, techniques to better understand new ideas and connect them to other concepts.
- Write summaries of concepts and lessons. Writing to learn is a highly effective learning strategy.
- Draw concept maps or flow charts to visualize what you're learning.

HOW TO STAY CONNECTED: MAKE ONLINE LEARNING SOCIAL

Possibly the biggest difference between learning online and in a traditional classroom is the social aspect. Not surprisingly, socialization is an important component of learning. Previous studies have found that students have better outcomes in online courses that offer a social component and, in fact, blended online/in-person learning was found to have the most positive student outcome, when compared to in-person learning.

When it comes to online learning, remember that you're not in it alone. Millions of students are taking online classes this semester, many for the first time. There are many ways to connect to other students and improve the social aspects of online learning, including:

- Keep the camera on during class. It's much easier to be social when you can see your instructor and classmates' faces and they can see yours.
- Use the tools like groups that are available on the learning platform to interact with other students, the instructors, and teaching assistants.
- Make your learning experience social by sharing it with others. Social commitments are particularly useful. So for instance announce on social media that you're going to take a French class or that you plan to get a data science certificate.
- Consider using online tutors. Virtual tutoring is a great way to meet learning goals while also maintaining the social aspects of in-person learning and meeting the needs of diverse learners.

SUMMER ONLINE COURSES
OFFER UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN

BY LAURIE HIGGINS

There are many great reasons to take a course online over the summer. It can put you ahead in terms of credits. It also allows you to pursue subjects that might not be offered at your local high school that might help point the way to a future career. Online learning can also provide the opportunity to take a course at a prestigious college or university without the need for travel or relocation.

Each program has slightly different ways of offering online classes. It's important to think about your own personal learning style to choose the best option for you. Independent learners or those with a tight schedule might prefer asynchronous courses. These types of courses don't take place in real-time. You have a time frame to complete course work and all discussions or questions occur on discussion boards. This type of course works especially well for students who are balancing school with work or family obligations. »

Even though asynchronous courses work really well for those who have a tight schedule, they require a certain amount of self-discipline. To keep you on track, some of the courses will require that you log in on a regular basis, such as once a day. Other classes are more free-wheeling, but it is still a good idea to check in often. The more you put into the course, the more you will get out of it.

For those who prefer a set schedule or a bit more structure, synchronous online courses might be a better fit. These courses are similar to real-life classes. They take place at set times through computer programs that create video or audio chat rooms. These classes can feel more social if that is an important consideration for you.

Hybrid courses are a blend of the two. Most hybrid or blended courses have a couple of mandatory set times to meet online either with just the professor or with the whole class, and then the rest of the work is done independently. This style of course is especially prevalent in subjects that require more hands-on work such as learning a foreign language. Online courses can be a great way for high school students to earn college credits while still in high school, but if you are hoping for credits that transfer, be sure the college or university you choose is accredited. The amount of credit, if any, varies from school to school.

Earning credit isn't the only reason to take an online course. Some programs and courses are geared to teach specific technical skills such as computer coding or computer science. Other programs offer online camp experiences or private lessons in technology that build future skills.

Some online college programs offer both high school and college credit for the same course – a way to double your money, so to speak. Other programs offer just college credits. A lot of students use online courses to complete some of the general requirements of freshman year like English or math, so they can dive right into the classes they are most interested in when they begin college. This is especially useful for students who have already chosen their major.

Other online courses are designed to allow students to explore subject matter they find interesting such as premed, fashion or creative writing. These courses are not generally offered for credit, but they can help a student figure out a career path because they offer a deeper exploration of subjects that might be of interest. Many of them offer a certificate of completion that can be listed on college applications.

The classes that are offered for credit cost more than those that don't offer credit. The price range for credit classes tend to cost between $2,000 and $3,000 for a three-credit class. Courses that don't offer credit are less expensive. Prices average around $1,000 per course.

Most online courses that offer college credit are limited to rising juniors and seniors, but some of the non-credit courses are open to all high school students.

It's important to remember that on-line courses are not for everyone. They are not any easier than regular college courses and, in some cases, may be more difficult. Many students underestimate the amount of time they'll spend studying for a class. With online learning, you can expect to spend the same amount of time as you would in a traditional on-campus class.

Good time-management skills are crucial to success. Without set deadlines, it's easy to procrastinate. Online courses also require a personal computer, tablet and a reliable internet connection. Before you start, it's a good idea to familiarize yourself with the software platform such as Blackboard that the class will be using.

Despite some of the obstacles, online courses work extremely well for a growing number of students. They allow you to work at your own pace and integrate your studies into your schedule at your convenience. They can also offer a glimpse into what is expected in college, which will make you more prepared when you do attend.

ONLINE PROGRAMS

ANDOVER SUMMER

STEM

- 5 Weeks
- $975 - $1970
- Grades: 7 - 12

Join Phillips Academy Andover for our 5-week eSummer academic program. eSummer is a rigorous online academy designed for rising 7-12 graders and developed to be accessible, personalized, and focused on skill development and mastery. We offer a mix of innovative and traditional courses developed and taught by Phillips Academy and Summer Session faculty. eSummer includes extensive interaction with faculty and peers through synchronous sessions, video discussions, daily office hours, and a final Exhibition of Learning. **Learn More »**

AS YOU LIKE IT SUMMER PROGRAMS FROM RUSSELL EDUCATION

Academic

- One-Two Weeks
- $550-$1500
- Grades: 7 - 12

As You Like It summer courses from Russell Education give your child a chance to explore an area of passion or academic need in short, concentrated form with live one-on-one or small-group instruction and conversation. Based on your child's interest, we will develop a 3-8 session course that takes 1-2 weeks to complete. Scheduling is highly flexible in order to accommodate your child's summer travel and activities. Name your topic--our experienced teachers can probably cover it! **Learn More »**

BOSTON ARCHITECTURAL COLLEGE SUMMER ACADEMY

Academic

- One Month
- $1000
- Grades: 9 - 12

For over 15 years, the BAC's Summer Academy has provided high school students with hands-on design and material exercises. Now offered virtually to include students around the world, you will receive class materials through the mail to follow the workshop simultaneously alongside your peers and BAC faculty member. You'll participate in daily discussions through synchronous webinars, virtual reality case study buildings and professional firm visits, and hands-on design and building in teams. Find out more today! **Learn More »**

BOSTON UNIVERSITY SUMMER TERM HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Academic

- One-, two-, three-, and six-week
- Varies
- Grades: 8 - 12

Illuminate your future—this summer at Boston University! Prepare for college with exciting remote summer programs for high school students. With four programs to choose from, you can earn college credit, discover new subject areas, or immerse yourself in project-based learning. Summer is a great time to push yourself academically while experiencing college life in this new normal, making new friends, and engaging in remote social activities. We invite you to join other motivated teens for a great introduction to college life and academics. **Learn More »**

BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY PRECOLLEGE ONLINE PROGRAM

Academic

- 2-4 Weeks
- $995
- Grades: 9 - 12

Brandeis University invites high school students like you to deepen your college and career preparation through our Precollege Online Program. Explore your interests and discover what fields you would like to pursue in college and beyond. Currently you can investigate fields such as law, with a course that shows you what happens in a civil lawsuit. Or, delve into medicine, with courses on women's health and global health. If the environment is your passion, you'll want to take our course on climate change and advocacy. **Learn More »**

CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY PRE-COLLEGE PROGRAM

Academic

- 2-4 Weeks
- $995
- Grades: 9 - 12

Case Western Reserve University invites you to participate in a rich learning experience created by one of the nation's premier research institutions. For nearly 200 years, Case Western Reserve has prepared ambitious students for futures in the arts, business, engineering, humanities, natural sciences, nursing and social sciences. We offer online courses in the sciences and business entrepreneurship, designed by renowned Case Western Reserve instructors who are experts in their field. **Learn More »**

CODEWIZARDSHQ SUMMER CODING CAMPS AND CLASSES

STEM

- One week camps or three week classes available
- $399
- Grades: 7 - 12

Learn to program from the experts this summer! CodeWizardsHQ has 5+ years of online programming education experience. Their proprietary tools, refined online teaching methods, and genuine educators make them the best online coding program around. Their extensive support network of students and teachers alike helps students feel connected, motivated, and supported throughout their journey. Three week summer courses or one week summer camps available. Students learn Python, Scratch, HTML/CSS, JavaScript & more. **Learn More »**

DWIGHT GLOBAL ONLINE SCHOOL

Academic

- June 14th-September 5th, 2021
- $3000 per course
- Grades: 8 - 12

Do you want to continue learning this summer? Dwight Global's academic summer classes for students in grades 8-12 are rigorous, full-credit courses. With a curriculum designed to engage and foster critical thinking, students learn from expert teachers who are both committed to supporting students' academic success and readily accessible. To accommodate busy summer schedules, all courses are asynchronous with weekly deadlines. At Dwight Global, you can supplement your transcript or pursue credit recovery. To learn more, contact us via summer@dwight.global or by phone at 212-724-5385. **Learn More »**

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY PRE-COLLEGE ONLINE PROGRAM

Academic

- 2-4 Weeks
- $1495
- Grades: 9 - 12

As an individual with unique talents, dreams, and passions, you deserve the opportunity to develop and refine what makes you you. If you are intrigued by a certain subject and would like to explore it in-depth before college, here is your chance. Georgetown University now offers pre-college online courses in law and medical research. Courses feature dynamic video lessons by renowned Georgetown faculty and live sessions with university mentors. The online format enables you to study anywhere, anytime, at your own pace. **Learn More »**

ID TECH: VIRTUAL TECH CAMPS

STEM

- One Week
- Varies
- Grades: 7 - 12

Teens can join over 50,000 students who are building in-demand skills, collaborating with friends online, and gaining confidence—all from the comfort of home. Structured, weeklong sessions available now (5 consecutive days, Monday-Friday) with the hottest curriculum in Python, Java, Minecraft, Roblox, Unity, Adobe, 3D modeling, and more. Average of 5 students per instructor, blending personalized learning and time to socialize with new friends, and a balanced schedule including 2 hours of live instruction and peer collaboration + 2 hours of self-paced project development per day. **Learn More »**

INTO PREP SUMMER CAMP

Academic

- 25 days
- $4500 - $7900
- Grades: 9 - 12

INTO PREP Summer Camp provides top-notch preparation for SAT/ACT with a specialized curriculum and the most up-to-date and comprehensive methods, enabling you to achieve your dream score. Committed students can achieve a score increase of 270/6 points for a total score of 1500+/33+ after the summer.

With lessons, 33+ mock tests, and guided reviews, you will gain the skills and confidence to reach your full potential. So when test day rolls around, there are no surprises. You can walk in with poise and confidence, ready to reach your goal. **Learn More »**

LOOP ABROAD VETS AROUND THE WORLD VIRTUAL VETERINARY INTERNSHIP

STEM

- Six Weeks
- $1495
- Grades: 9 - 12

Do you want to be a vet or work with animals? This virtual internship gives you great experience around the world with our veterinary partners and can be included in your vet school admissions application. Highlights of this live virtual program include learning from vets at the Elephant Nature Park in Thailand and live experiences with kangaroos, koalas, horses, elephants, toucans, sloths, crocodiles, raptors and more! **Learn More »**

OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY: JumpsART ONLINE

Arts

- One Week
- $300
- Grades: 8 - 12

TThe JumpstART Online! precollege program provides participants ages 14-18 with a week of accelerated instruction in art from the safety of their home. Our faculty is comprised of successful, working artists, who exhibit their work throughout the U.S. and beyond. Each day will include instruction, discussion, video links, time to make art and time to ask questions and receive feedback. **Learn More »**

OTIS COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN: SUMMER OF ART

Arts

⏣ **One Month**
💲 **$2800**
🌐 **Grades: 9 - 12**

From July 6 - July 30, build and develop your creative and artistic skills while exploring a specific medium or aspect of art and design. Our online program will provide students the opportunity to experience a collegiate-level, immersive, and challenging curriculum. Our new online model will focus on one-on-one instructor critique and culminate into potential work for college application portfolios through a combination of synchronous and asynchronous class meetings. **Learn More »**

PARSONS PARIS ONLINE COURSES FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Arts

⏣ **2-4 Weeks**
💲 **$1195**
🌐 **Grades: 9 - 12**

Want to delve into the world of fashion before you decide what you'll study in college? Parsons Paris has created online courses for students 13 and up to introduce you to this vibrant field. Taught by experts in Paris fashion through video lectures. Take a course in the business of fashion, fashion design, fashion sustainability, or building your own fashion brand. **Learn More »**

PARSONS SUMMER ACADEMY AT THE NEW SCHOOL

Arts

⏣ **Four Weeks**
💲 **$3250 per course**
🌐 **Grades: 7 - 12**

Parsons Academy at The New School brings together creative high school juniors and seniors for immersive online study in subjects such as fashion, graphic design & illustration, painting, photography, and animation. Students ages 16-18 enrolled in summer programs have the opportunity to learn under the direction of distinguished Parsons faculty, curate a portfolio for application into specialized high schools and universities, and earn college credit. See where a summer with Parsons can lead. Enroll today. **Learn More »**

SALLY RIDE SCIENCE JUNIOR ACADEMY

STEM

- ⚲ One Week
- ⛁ $175
- ◔ Grades: 7 - 12

The Sally Ride Science Junior Academy offers fascinating and fun STEAM workshops for students entering grades 3 through 12. Our online workshops let students investigate coding, engineering, space science, marine biology and more, as they immerse themselves in hands-on projects. This year, students will earn 1.5 pre-college credits for each workshop. Top-notch STEAM instructors incorporate real-life stories of vibrant women conducting research in each field inspiring students and making STEAM careers more accessible. **Learn More »**

SUMMER AT RUTGERS COMMUNITY ARTS

Arts

- ⚲ Varies
- ⛁ Varies
- ◔ Grades: 7 - 12

Join the vibrant artistic community of Mason Gross School of the Arts this summer! Explore, create, and perform under the guidance of faculty from the state's premier arts conservatory. Expert Remote Instruction. Safe, Secure Online Experience. All RCA summer programs are conducted via Zoom with faculty who have spent a full year developing content and delivery methods specifically for online learning for both school-age learners and at the collegiate level. Programs are available in Art & Design, Dance, Film & Animation, Music, and Theater. **Learn More »**

TEACH ME WALL STREET: FINTECH, BITCOIN & CRYPTOCURRENCY

Academic

- ⚲ One Week
- ⛁ $500
- ◔ Grades: 7 - 12

Pave a path to your future with a 1-week Boot Camp to explore Fintech, Bitcoin & Cryptocurrency. Learn about Blockchain that is used to transfer units of cryptocurrency or other goods. Many Wall Street banks are beginning to offer cryptocurrency investment products and looking to hire new talent. Gain a clear understanding of these cutting edge technologies and new careers that are changing the world. Sessions are live, interactive and offered at multiple times to meet student scheduling needs. **Learn More »**

TERP YOUNG SCHOLARS - ONLINE

Academic

- ⚲ Three Weeks
- ⛁ $1475
- ◔ Grades: 9 - 12

In Terp Young Scholars-Online, high school students prepare for college through rigorous academics and dynamic instruction. Learn to navigate the UMD college experience and get a jump on college by earning three university credits.
Learn More »

UC SAN DIEGO EXTENSION: ACADEMIC CONNECTIONS

Academic

- ⚲ One Month
- ⛁ $1500
- ◔ Grades: 9 - 12

Dive into some of the most exciting fields of research and study at a top-five, internationally ranked public institution. Academic Connections provides an online summer experience that is academically enriching while learning from the brightest graduate students UC San Diego has to offer. Choose from a diverse group of challenging courses in physical and social sciences, engineering, and arts and humanities. Emphasis is placed on active learning and putting knowledge to use in independent and creative ways. Courses run from July 5 - July 30. **Learn More »**

THE UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER PRE-COLLEGE ONLINE PROGRAM FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

STEM

- 2-4 Weeks
- $995
- Grades: 9 - 12

The University of Rochester now offers a Pre-College Online Program that empowers you to explore subjects that fascinate you—before you go to college. This is a great way to see if an interest could turn into a major or even a future career. Our new program is launching with online courses in medicine, engineering and the U.S. healthcare system—with more choices on the way. **Learn More »**

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY ONLINE IMMERSION PROGRAMS FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Academic

- One Week
- $1,195-1,595
- Grades: 9 - 12

Wake Forest is a university where we foster a student's curiosity, provide mentors who invite discovery and engage in learning opportunities vibrant with possibility. Each year, we invite students like you to deepen your academic and college preparation through our programs for high school students. Our courses allow you to experience a career path or academic field of study designed by our renowned faculty from your own home. We offer online courses in medicine, sports medicine, psychology, bioscience, cancer medicine, and business. **Learn More »**

WORLD SCHOLARS ACADEMY ONLINE PROGRAMS

Academic

- Two Weeks
- $2495
- Grades: 7 - 12

Join our elite summer programs in Business, Medicine, Law, Engineering, Computer Science, and Career Exploration taught 100% live by world-leading professional scholars. Discover your career path and accelerate your success with one-to-one academic guidance, collaborations with other exceptional students, and high-level instruction from the world's most accomplished educators. Programs are available for aspiring learners 12-18 years old. **Learn More »**