Learning Resources

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▼ Table of Contents

▼ Related pages

CODE's Digital Library

🧠 Alexandria Library

🌐 Knowledgebase Writing/Research/Reading/Presentation

📚 Zotero

✅ This page was updated @May 16, 2023.
The next update is due
@May 31, 2023.

On this page, you will discover various learning resources offered by CODE or other sources, primarily online and for free.
Look through our Digital Library Hub, and find open-access books, journals, or any other kind of external online resource.

We also have an On-Campus Library for physical books, which we call lovingly "Treedome Library."

If you require a resource you can't find here - reach out to @Alex Maurer on Slack.

CODE Library Services

▼ CODE's Digital Library

At our CODE's Digital Library CODE provides access to renowned digital libraries such as Springer Nature, Wiley, IEEE, ACM, Web of Science, and EBSCO. Here you will find all you need for your research paper (probably).

▼ 🌳 Alexandria Library

Find physical books at the 🌳 Alexandria Library, which relies on our On-Demand approach of acquiring books suggested by faculty, staff, and students. You can find our ever-growing shelf of books in 💥 Hive.

Learning Resources from CODE

▼ 📚 **Learning Platform**

It is recommended to visit the Modules on the 📚 Learning Platform and click on a Module that you are interested in, here you will find all the information you need.
There is also a tab on each Module called "Learning Resources" that provides deeper information about the subject.

▼ 👩‍🏫 **Teaching Space**

All relevant Notion pages to your study programs can be found at the 👩‍🏫 Teaching Space, including Wikis.

▼ 💾 Bachelor Thesis / Capstone Project Archive

This 💾 Bachelor Thesis / Capstone Project Archive serves as a repository of Bachelor Theses by graduates. Updated monthly.

▼ 🌐 Knowledgebase Writing/Research/Reading/Presentation

The 🌐 Knowledgebase Writing/Research/Reading/Presentation is a compilation of writings by our very own faculty, providing information and advice on each of the disciplines. With pages written by Fabian, Carla, Uli, and more!
Read this when you need help on your research paper.

▼ 📚 **Zotero (needs an update)**

A lot of additional learning resources are in the CODE 📚 Zotero account. On the left navigation in Zotero, you will find subfolders for the study programs and the modules. These Zotero folders are not up-to-date, for the most part! We are working on an updated version.

📚 [Zotero](#)

External Learning Resources

▼ 📖 **Open Access resources**

For further research, discover Open Access books and journals, available for free for everyone:

International:

- [The Open University](#)

- [Directory of Open Access Books](#)

- [Directory of Open Access Journals](#)

- [Open Access at the MIT Press](#)

- [CiteSeerX](#)

- [ScienceOpen](#)

- [Global Digital Heritage](#) (multimedia, 3D models of historical and archaeological sites)

- [Internet Archive](#) (multimedia)

- [Hathi Trust Digital Library](#)

- [The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine](#)

- [Project Gutenberg](#) (eBooks)

- [Amazon 'Free Popular Classics'](#) (eBooks)

- [PhilPapers](#) (philosophy)
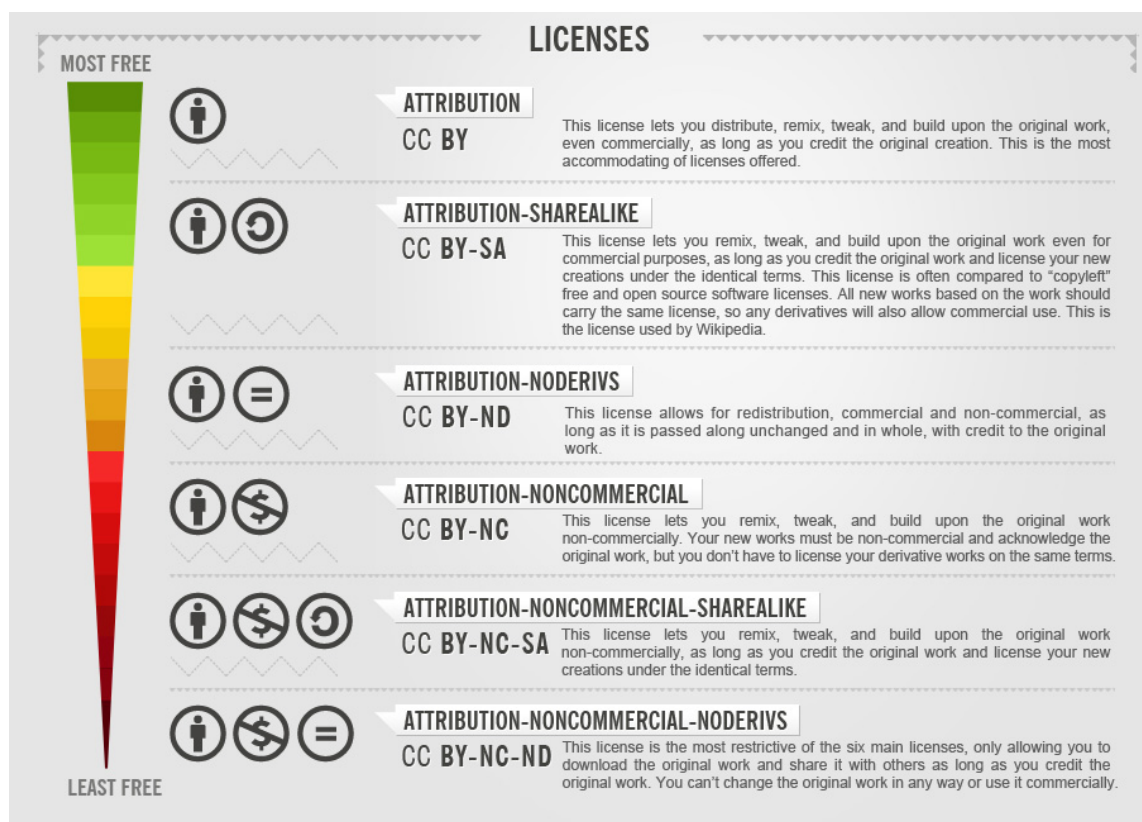
- [The Met Museum Collection](#) (art)

German:

- [OERhörnchen](#) (Open Educational Resources search engine)

- [Deutsche Digitale Bibliothek](#)

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LEAST FREE

▼ 🛠️ **CODE Tech Tools**

For all the licenses to online tools CODE has access to, including Learning Resources like **Statista**, visit the [Tech tools page](#) in [CODE Student Service](#)

▼ ✨ **Perks for CODE students**

As a CODE student, you'll have access to some free memberships or discounts, even for Learning Resources such as **Blinkist**, **Zetafonts**, **Icons8** and more.
For a full list, visit
[this doc](#).

▼ 𝒜 **Awesome Tables Collection**

Discover this compiled 𝒜 <u>Collection</u> of resources at Awesome Tables where you can search and filter through a variety of subjects.

Other

▼ **How to pass assessments with the help of Online Courses**

Online courses come in a variety of forms. They can range from small, specialized courses for a specific topic, to wide-ranging courses that teach you a complete programming language or let you achieve a micro-degree. On this page we want to elaborate on the relation between online courses and learning at CODE. We will do so from a module perspective (i.e., learning to get assessed in a module). Please note that this is not the only perspective. It is totally fine to look at online courses from a perspective of personal interest or because you want to achieve a certificate from that course in addition to your studies at CODE.

Online Courses as Learning Resources

Online Courses can make a great resource for you to learn the module content. Since many online courses also contain a practical side (tasks, accompanying projects, etc), they can also often give you some practical experience with the learned content. For this reason, several modules point out relevant online courses in their learning resources.

Here, it should be noted, that online courses differ wildly in terms of quality and scope. This means, not all online courses make good learning experiences. It also means, that the scope of the online course may differ from what is expected for a module. This can go in both directions. The course may be way more detailed than you would need for the module or the course may not give you knowledge on certain aspects that are expected for the module.

To give an example: There are several courses on Mobile User Interface development. These courses usually teach you how a user interface on a mobile platform should look and behave. The may even go into detail on how to build these user interfaces with the respective editor of the platform. But they cannot be relied upon to give you in-depth experience with the programming mechanisms and design patterns of the respective platform. These parts of the native mobile development module are not covered by

such a course. This doesn't make the course bad, it's just not the tool for the job, if your goal is to learn for that module.

What can you do to make sure an online course makes a good learning experience and covers the content you need to learn?

- **Prioritize courses from the official learning resources** and read the descriptions of these courses. The module coordinators have done some of the content comparison for you with these courses to make your life easier.

- **Compare the module content against the learning goals** of the module. You can get these from the module description or by asking the module coordinator, if things are not clear.

    - Is the course significantly larger in scope than the module? This might be an indication that you will spend a lot more time on the course than you would if you used a different learning resource. In some cases, it is perfectly valid to only do parts of the course or to only do the course up to a certain point.

    - Is the course smaller in scope than the module? This might indicate that you need to complement it with other learning resources.

- **Ask other students** if they have experiences with this course and its teaching style. That's usually a good way to find out whether the course is good didactically.

- **Discuss the course with the module coordinator**. The best way to prepare such a discussion is to find an overview page of what the course will cover and discuss it with the module coordinator. Office hours are perfect for this!

Online Courses and Assessments

Online courses usually contain some assessment or automatic correction of tasks. Sometimes these features are locked behind a paywall or let you achieve a certificate. These activities do not constitute an official module assessment. They are not carried out by a person that is legally allowed to assess you for that module and cannot be guaranteed to be compatible with the standards and grading scheme applied at CODE. For this reason, you should see the assessments built into online courses as a way for you to confirm that you have learned the content of the online course.

This also means, we do not care if you don't have the assessment of a course. Consequently, **CODE does not need you to pay for the assessment of an online course.** Whether your course results in a payed certificate or not has no influence on CODE assessments. So, you should only pay, if what you are paying for is of interest to you personally.

But the fact that the assessment of an online course is not automatically transferred into a module assessment, does not mean that the course is not usable for a module assessment. Our module assessments usually require you to apply the module content in a practical way. So many of our assessments are based on a "project" where you apply the content practically. Online courses often provide you with such a practical project. Either directly, if they contain a final project that applies the learned content in a practical manner, or indirectly, if you set up your own project to apply the content you are learning in the course.

These practical projects display your ability to practically apply the learned concepts. This is a requirement for many module assessments, and you can use these projects for those assessments. Of course, as with any project, a few restrictions apply:

- **The project should be sufficiently complex:** Modules have specific requirements in terms of which concepts they want you to apply in praxis and how complex the tasks you apply them to should be.

- **You should clearly disclose, which parts of the project are your own work:** Since online courses sometimes set you up with half-finished projects that you then finish on your own, it needs to be clear in an assessment situation, what has been done by you and what has been provided for you.

- **You should be able to elaborate on design decisions taken in the project:** This can be harder, if some of the project has been provided for you either in structure or as guidelines on how to implement the project. This makes it harder for you to answer questions such as "why have you chosen this mechanism?". This is something to be aware of when writing the project and reflecting on it for the preparation of an assessment.

As with the previous point, discussions with the module coordinator are a good idea, if you have trouble judging any of these aspects on your own. And it helps immensely to prepare these instructions by bringing sufficient

information about the online course and its project. Remember: the module coordinator is probably not familiar with how the course is set up. And in some cases, the course is only available for signup at certain times or needs participants to pay to unlock certain features. In these cases, the module coordinator may not even have the ability to check out the course on their own.

Best Practices

Finally, a few best practices that derive from the above points and that should be followed when selecting an online course:

1. When selecting an online course, first reflect on what you want to achieve (pass a module, learn a topic in-depth, get a micro-degree certificate for your future employer) and evaluate the available courses in this light.

2. When learning for the specific goal of passing a module, prioritize the learning resources that are proposed by the module coordinator.

3. When in doubt about the relation between a course and a module/assessment you should discuss with the module coordinator. Prepare this discussion appropriately, if you want specific answers on the spot.