

Student Handbook & Syllabus

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Introduction

Welcome to Udacity's Front-End Nanodegree program! Please read this document carefully for terms, conditions, and an overview of what to expect in the program.

This Student Handbook is subject to revisions, at the sole discretion of Udacity.

How do I maintain good standing in the program?

To stay in the program, students are expected to meet the following criteria to maintain good standing:

- Participate meaningfully in forums and actively engage with fellow students and Udacity coaches;
- Submit projects by the deadlines outlined for your cohort (general timeline below);
- If asked, resubmit projects within seven days of feedback;
- If asked, schedule an exit interview within 7 days to have the projects verified over video chat.
- Complete projects that meet specifications;
- Abide by the [Udacity Honor Code](#), the [Terms of Service](#), and the terms outlined in this Nanodegree Student Handbook.

The requirements above are designed to help students graduate from the Front-End Web Development Nanodegree Program within eight months (week 32) or earlier of enrollment.

Program Timeline

Project:	Deadline (by end of):
Sign up	Week 1
P1: Mockup to Website P2: Interactive Resume	Week 10
P3: Classic Arcade Game Clone P4: Website Optimization	Week 16
P5: Neighborhood Map Project P6: Contribute to Open Source P7: Javascript Testing	Week 32

What happens if I don't maintain good standing?

Students who don't meet the stated project goal dates will be asked to join a cohort operating on a different timeline. Students who violate the Honor Code will be asked to leave the program.

How do I enroll?

Enrollment in the nanodegree program will be opened up for the first seven days of each month with a limited capacity. Once enrollment closes, you can sign up to be on the notification list to receive an email when the class opens up at the beginning of the next month.

What is the payment policy?

Students are required to enter their credit card information at the time of enrollment; however, students will not be charged for the first week (the Free Trial window) of their subscription. After the first week, students will automatically be charged a fee of **\$200 per month** for the Udacity nanodegree subscription.

What happens after I enroll?

Readiness Assessment

After enrolling in the nanodegree program, students will complete a short Readiness Assessment to help them determine whether or not they are prepared for the nanodegree.

If a student's responses indicate that they are not prepared for the nanodegree, they will be encouraged to enroll in a supporting course and/or view the course materials for free. The student can always come back during the first seven days of a month and enroll when ready.

Path to Completion and the Project Portfolio

The nanodegree is driven by a Project Portfolio, a collection of 7 projects (number varies per nanodegree) that showcases the student's work. Udacity coaches will be active in Piazza forums as well as offer Office Hours over WebEx to answer questions and provide guidance around the projects. Appointments with Coaches will also be available periodically for sign ups.

Each project will be assessed within two weeks of submission. Once a student's project has met the specifications of its rubric, the student may be required to do a verification interview with a Udacity Coach to verify that the project in question represents their own work and/or correctly cites all sources and reasons for using others' code in any part of their submission.

To earn a Verified Nanodegree Certificate, the student must:

- Successfully complete all projects in the Project Portfolio for the nanodegree, earning a "Meets Specification" or above for all projects;
- Schedule and pass any requested verification interviews;
- Update their LinkedIn and Github profiles with projects and career goals;
- Maintain good standing for the duration of the program;
- Stay in the program past the Free Trial window

Participating in the Nanodegree Community

Each nanodegree cohort will have its own Piazza page to serve as a forum where students can ask and answer each other's questions about the projects, program logistics, and course material. Udacity Coaches will moderate and contribute to this forum as well.

Students are encouraged to form smaller study groups with other members of their cohort. Udacity will provide suggestions for how to organize these groups, but students will have the freedom to experiment with

What is the cancellation/refund policy?

If a student opts to cancel their enrollment within the one-week Free Trial window, they will not be charged, regardless of how far they have come in the program. **We strongly recommend that students complete the Readiness Assessment within the one-week Free Trial window to make sure that the nanodegree is a good fit for them.**

Students who cancel will no longer be charged the monthly subscription fee, effective the next billing cycle from the date of cancellation. Students who wish to cancel after the Free Trial expires will not be granted a refund for past months' subscription fees.

Honor Code

Nanodegree Program

- I will abide by the [Terms of Service](#), Student Handbook guidelines, and all components of the Honor Code set for Udacity Nanodegree participants.
- I will conduct myself with honor as part of the Udacity community.
- I understand that all decisions regarding participation, graduation, and awarding of verified certificates will be made by Udacity at its sole discretion.

Project Submissions

- I hereby confirm that all project submissions consist of my own work. Accordingly, I will document and cite the origins of any part(s) of my project submissions that were taken from websites, books, forums, blog posts, github repositories, or any other source and explain why I used them for any part of my submission. I understand that I may be asked to explain my work in a video call with a Udacity Coach before my nanodegree is conferred.

Community Guidelines

- I will help cultivate a positive, supportive learning environment;
- I will communicate respectfully and considerately with all other nanodegree participants, Udacity Coaches, and Udacity representatives;
- I will not share any content that is obscene, illicit, threatening, or discriminatory;
- I will contribute constructively to discussions with fellow students;
- I will notify a Udacity Coach immediately if I become aware of cheating or plagiarism by any nanodegree student.

Why Take This Nanodegree?

The Front-End Web Developer nanodegree is designed to prepare you for a career in web development. As a Front-End Web Developer, you'll see the efforts of your work with each click of the browser's refresh button. With our industry partners, we've carefully crafted the most efficient set of projects and skills training to guide you along the way.

In this nanodegree you will learn the fundamentals of how the web works, and gain a working knowledge of the three foundational languages that power each and every website: HTML, CSS and JavaScript.

Prerequisites and Requirements

To make sure you're ready for this nanodegree, take the [Readiness Assessment](#) in the classroom. For more information about prerequisites, please read on.

Minimum Requirements:

1. You are self-driven and motivated to learn. Participation in this program requires consistently meeting the deadlines you set with your Coach and devoting at least 10 hours per week to your work.
2. You can communicate fluently and professionally in written and spoken English.
3. You have access to a computer with a broadband connection, on which you'll install a professional code/text editor (ie. [Sublime Text](#) or [Atom](#)).
4. You can independently solve and describe your solution to a math or programming problem.
5. You are willing to contribute to the success of the program, including collaborating with fellow students and giving us feedback on how we can improve.

Desirable Prior Experience:

You've completed an online programming course. You've explored the options for learning HTML, CSS, and JavaScript online and you want something more. You've tried to build web pages and you want to learn how to do it like a pro.

See the [Technology Requirements](#) for using Udacity.

Nanodegree Structure

These are the projects you'll build in the nanodegree and the classes that will prepare you to build each of the projects. The classes themselves are not part of the nanodegree, but you can access the course materials by clicking on the links below.

PROJECT Portfolio Mockup to HTML

You will be provided with a design mockup as a PDF-file and must replicate that design in HTML and CSS. You will develop a responsive website that will display images, descriptions and links to each of the portfolio projects you will complete throughout the course of the Front-End Web Developer Nanodegree.

Prepare for this project with: [Intro to HTML and CSS](#)

PROJECT Interactive Resume

You will develop an interactive resume application that reads your resume content from a JSON file and dynamically displays that content within a provided template. You will use objects, functions, conditionals, and control structures to compose the content that will display on the resume.

Prepare for this project with: [JavaScript Basics](#)

PROJECT Classic Arcade Game Clone

You will be provided with visual assets and a game loop engine; using these tools you must add a number of entities to the game including the player characters and enemies to recreate the classic arcade game Frogger.

Prepare for this project with: [Object-Oriented JavaScript](#)

PROJECT Website Optimization

You will optimize a provided website with a number of optimization- and performance-related issues so that it achieves a target PageSpeed score and runs at 60 frames per second.

Prepare for this project with: [Website Performance Optimization](#)

PROJECT Neighborhood Map

You will develop a single-page application featuring a map of your neighborhood or a neighborhood you would like to visit. You will then add additional functionality to this application, including: map markers to identify popular locations or places you'd like to visit, a search function to easily discover these locations, and a listview to support simple browsing of all locations. You will then research and implement third-party APIs that provide additional information about each of these locations (such as StreetView images, Wikipedia articles, Yelp reviews, etc).

Prepare for this project with: JavaScript Design Patterns (coming soon!)

Additional Projects

Approximately two additional projects will be added to this nanodegree. Details to be announced in November 2014.

Important Information

You'll host all your projects on GitHub and make regular commits. If you haven't learned version control yet, use our latest course on the topic: [How to Use Git and GitHub](#)

We will be periodically reviewing the Front-End Nanodegree curriculum--both classes and projects--and making adjustments based on student and industry feedback. We will notify active students working toward the nanodegree about effects this may have on the degree requirements.