

UDACITY

Tech Entrepreneur Nanodegree program

Student Handbook & Syllabus

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I. Introduction

Welcome to Udacity's Tech Entrepreneur Nanodegree program! After reading this document, you should understand the requirements and policies of the Nanodegree program, where completing the program will take you, and how to get support when you need it.

Please read this whole document carefully before you begin, and if you still have questions at the end, feel free to contact us in the forum or at techent-support@udacity.com.

Once again, welcome, and we can't wait to see what you achieve!

Happy learning,
The Udacity Team

II. Anatomy of a Nanodegree program

It's one thing to build an amazing app, but it's quite another thing to monetize it and build a stable business around it. The Tech Entrepreneur Nanodegree program mixes theory and practice to help you materialize your app ideas into market-ready products at the center of sustainable, revenue-generating businesses. Through the coursework and projects, you will learn to:

- Validate your ideas using Google's Design Sprint process
- Make informed and strategic decisions by learning how to interpret and act on relevant data
- Evaluate and implement the most effective monetization strategies
- Apply design methodologies to build a high-fidelity prototype

As you progress through your Nanodegree program, you will participate in interactive team discussions with your fellow students, and receive detailed feedback from reviewers on your pitch deck and prototype.

Enrollment Requirements

This Nanodegree program will teach you everything you need to know to succeed as an innovative entrepreneur. We ask that students:

- are self-driven and motivated to learn as participation in this program requires consistently meeting deadlines and devoting at least 8 hours per week to your work.
- can communicate fluently and professionally in written and spoken English.
- and are committed to being a contributing participant of the community.

It is important to consider whether or not you can devote the 10 hours per week expected for students in the program. If you realize that you do not currently have the bandwidth to make this commitment and do not want to continue, please unsubscribe from the Nanodegree program *before* your 7-day free trial ends. You will be able to re-enroll at a later time if you find more time in your schedule. We cannot guarantee a refund for students as a result of the program not being a good fit for them.

Courses and Project Checkpoints

This Nanodegree program consists of **6 mini-projects** and **4 projects** that culminate with a **capstone project**. The 6 mini-projects are designed to jumpstart your progress and give you an introduction to the material you'll be covering throughout the program. Each of the 4 projects that follow are designed to help you expand on your original idea, helping you to refine your user interface designs, monetization strategies, and marketing plans. These will all add up to guide

you to complete the capstone project: a professional pitch deck for your idea that can then be presented to angel investors or other outlets.

More information is provided in **Section III: Nanodegree Program Roadmap**. You can see a list of these projects and courses in your **Udacity Home**.

Community

One of the biggest benefits of the Nanodegree program experience is being part of a **community** and completing the program with hundreds of other students from around the world. Though not all students may move through the curriculum at exactly the same pace, your Nanodegree program's community will be your strongest resource and support system. We expect you to be active in your community, as outlined in the **Honor Code**.

Deadlines

To help you pace yourself, each project has its own **deadline** -- a date by which the project must be submitted -- that you'll need to reach in order to make good progress in your Nanodegree program. You'll see your deadlines above each project in your Udacity Home.

Time Commitment

We designed this Nanodegree program so that you can graduate in **4-6 months**, assuming you devote at least **10 hours per week** to learning and working on the required projects. Students are welcome to finish the Nanodegree program in as little as two months (our minimum required commitment for eligibility to graduate) if they are able to commit more than the minimum time to learn the material and complete the projects.

Copyright and Ownership

All of your projects, research, and ideas are yours. Udacity does not claim ownership of any student work. For more information, please check out the "User Content" section in our Terms of Service.

III. Nanodegree Program Roadmap

Program Timeline and Project Portfolio

Graduating from the Nanodegree program requires that you submit work that meets Udacity's specifications for the four stages of your project and the final product you submit. **You can find the timeline, as well as a roadmap for what you'll work on in the program, in your Udacity Home.**

If you are not able to meet a deadline, you will automatically be assigned new deadlines based on your progress and activity in the Nanodegree program.

Students who enrolled prior to February 29, 2016 are **not required to submit Projects 0.1-0.6.*

Project Submission and Graduation

You will submit your projects at the end of each course to the Udacity Review Team for evaluation using your Udacity Home .

Once we've received and begun to process your submission, you will receive a confirmation email. Due to the high volume of submissions and the time it may take your project reviewer to give personalized feedback, the turnaround period for project evaluations may be **up to 7 business days.** While waiting for the evaluation to be returned, you are welcome to start working on the next stage of your Nanodegree program.

Once your work for a project stage has met the specifications of its rubric you may be required to do a verification interview with a Udacity Coach to verify that the submission in question represents your own work and/or correctly cites all sources. **For verification purposes, the name on your Udacity account must match the government-issued ID you show us during your verification interview.**

How do I maintain good standing in the program?

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

- Abide by the Udacity Honor Code, the Terms of Service, and the terms outlined in this Tech Entrepreneur Nanodegree program Student Handbook
- If asked, schedule an exit interview within 7 days to have the projects verified over video chat

The requirements above are designed to help students graduate from the Tech Entrepreneur Nanodegree program within 4 to 7 months of enrollment or earlier. Students who do not maintain good standing will be asked to leave the program.

To access all of your projects, please go here to read up on the project descriptions and to access the rubrics. The project rubrics can be accessed here:

New 6 Week introduction (**required for student who enrolled on or after February 29, 2016**): Project 0.1, Project 0.2, Project 0.3, Project 0.4, Project 0.5, and Project 0.6

Project 1

Project 2

Project 3

Project 4

Project 5

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 program 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. Acceptable sources consist of:
  - Un/modified code from the Udacity courses
  - A modest amount of un/modified code from third-party sources with attribution
  - NOT ACCEPTABLE: any part of another student's work, even with attribution
- I understand that Udacity will check my submission for plagiarism, and that failure to adhere to the Udacity Honor Code may result in the cancellation of my enrollment.
- 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.

IV. Setting Up For Success

Setting Appropriate Expectations

Creating a new idea, designing a new product, and building a successful start-up business requires a complicated set of talents and skills. This Nanodegree program will teach you everything you need to know to succeed as an innovative entrepreneur. You will gain the critical product design, monetization, prototyping, and marketing skills you need in order to build a successful business around your app idea.

During the Nanodegree program you will learn how to use leading business tools such as Google Adwords, Google Analytics, Invision, and others. While these tools are introduced in the courses it is up to you to implement them for your specific needs. Therefore, you will need to spend time to learn software interfaces and technical vocabulary to fully use the tools and communicate your results in the projects.

Study Tips

Below are four tips that one of our data scientists at Udacity have found that correlate with our most successful students:

1. Study for at least an hour everyday
2. Every bit counts - use the mobile app
3. Practice, practice, practice
4. Try hard, try often, and you'll succeed

For more details, please follow this Udacity blog post.

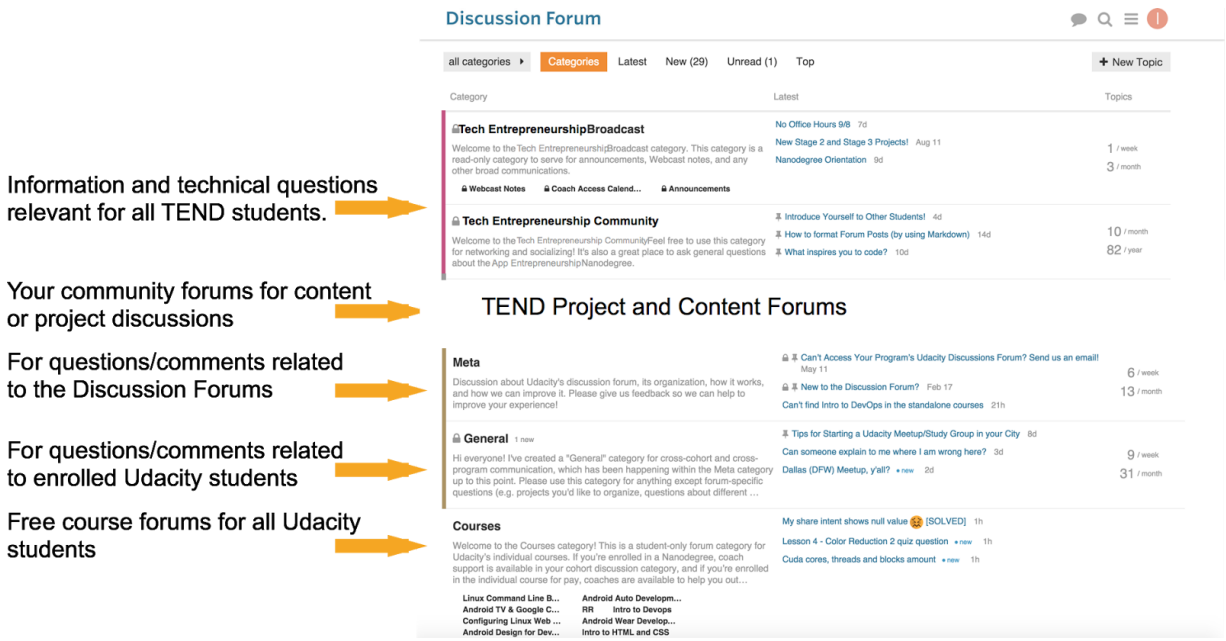
V. Nanodegree Program Support System

Community Forum

Each Nanodegree program has its own **Udacity Discussions forum** where students can ask and answer each other's questions about the projects, program logistics, and course material. Udacity Coaches also moderate posts, answer student questions, and publicize important program information in this forum. Coaches do their best to ensure all content-related questions have answers within twenty-four hours.

To access the forum, click the Discussions link from any classroom page in your Nanodegree program. Then click the “Log In” button in the upper right hand corner to be automatically signed in.

Here is What the Discussion Forums Look Like



To see a bigger version of the picture, please click here.

How to Get the Most out of the Forums

1. The Udacity forum is a place to network, share, and connect for students. The forums will be a supportive environment to supplement each student’s learning. Since this is an entrepreneurship program it is heavily idea based. We understand if some students are not comfortable sharing his/her idea on a public forum. Those who do not wish to openly discuss his/her idea will not be adversely affected.
2. Udacity students are to be supportive of each other’s ideas and if one student finds another student’s idea interesting, please reach out and collaborate with one another. Maybe a wonderful business relationship will form! The forums are not a place for solely taking ideas and using them for your profit. You’ll learn that ideas are cheap and execution is what will separate your product from the competitions’ product.
3. If you are posting a question on the forum about a particular course or concept, please include a URL to the course video or provide context for your question. That way Udacity Coaches and other students can be most effective in helping you!
4. Discussing additional topics outside the scope of the Nanodegree program coursework, such as business news, the next big app, etc., is allowed and highly encouraged to begin engaging conversations.

Creating Polls

If you want to gather quick data on your idea and solutions, you can create polls in the forum by pasting this code in your forum post:

```
Give context and state the problem you're trying to solve here.
Then give people options to vote
[poll name=Problem]
- Yes, that's a good problem to solve
- No, I don't think that's a viable problem
- Maybe, needs more details
[/poll]

Offer solutions that you think might work
[poll name=Solution]
- Solution 1
- Solution 2
- Solution 3
[/poll]
```

One-on-one Appointments

The Udacity Coach team is available for 30-minute one-on-one appointments on a first come, first served basis. The purpose of these meetings is to help answer in-depth content-related questions that you cannot get answers to elsewhere. Below are instructions on how to setup an appointment:

1. Go to the Tech Entrepreneur Nanodegree program Appointment Calendar.
2. Fill out the mandatory form in the Description section of the appointment. Be as specific as you can so that coaches can prepare beforehand. Appointments without the form filled out will be cancelled.
3. Double-check to make sure that your timezone is consistent with our hours. Feel free to contact the coach conducting the appointment beforehand to confirm.
4. If you need to reschedule or cancel, please do so within 48 hours of your appointment. If you are unable to attend an appointment less than 48 hours in advance, it is your responsibility to email the coach and let them know. Otherwise, you may be prohibited from making an appointment for another two weeks.
5. Students can make appointments once every two weeks, and up to two weeks in advance. This is to ensure that we can give time to as many students as possible since we expect individual appointments to be in high demand.

Career Development

Career development, in addition to technical growth, is an important part of the Nanodegree program. Udacity's career development support includes:

- One-on-one feedback on your resume, LinkedIn, and GitHub profiles, and feedback as you prepare for behavioral and technical interviews.
- Career Development Workshops with industry experts touching on topics like salary negotiation.
- One-on-one career appointments and email support to help you work through any career questions you have.
- Introductions to employers and recruiters through Udacity Talent Source. To take part in this program, make sure you fill out your Udacity Profile fully to best show off your talents to Udacity partner employers.
- Access to Udacity's Career Resource Center and its library of helpful articles, videos, and workshops.

VI. Payment Policy and Cancellations

Free Trials

All Nanodegree programs start with a 7-day free trial (more precisely, seven 24-hour cycles), during which time you will have full access to all Nanodegree features.

You are required to enter your credit card information at the time of enrollment but will not be billed until after your free trial expires. After this, you will automatically be charged a fee of **$200 per month** for your Nanodegree subscription.

Cancellations and Refunds

If you opt to cancel your enrollment within the one-week Free Trial window, you will not be charged, regardless of how far you have come in the program.

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 the past month's subscription fees.

Pausing a Nanodegree program

If you need to take a break, you can pause your Nanodegree program for 7, 14, or 30 days by going to your account settings here. During your pause time, you will not have access to your learning path, mentor support services, code reviews, or the forum. You also will not be billed. Your progress will be saved and you can pick up where you left off after you un-pause.

Learn more about how pausing your Nanodegree program affects your billing and 50% back eligibility here.

More Questions?

If you have any unanswered questions, please email techent-support@udacity.com. We're glad to have you in the program!