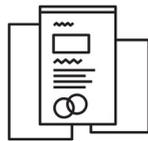




UX Academy Application Pack

TL;DR: How to Apply



If you've worked as a digital designer before:

Show us recent design work that includes both wireframes and high resolution images of landing pages or digital applications you've designed.

[Apply to UX Academy](#)

Please note that we can't accept print, illustration, or architecture portfolios.



If you're new to digital design:

Take our 4-week design foundation course, and showcase your skills in the final project.

[Enroll in Design 101](#)

What is UX Academy?

UX Academy is a career accelerator—an intensive educational program to help you develop the skills you need to get your first job as a UX/UI designer (aka product designer).

The course is around 480 hours in total, which includes lessons, projects, and 1-on-1 calls with your mentor. It's divided into two phases.

- **Phase 1** focuses on learning UX design skills for the first time. You'll build a strong foundation in design theory, and apply it through hands-on exercises and projects.
- **Phase 2** is about working on three further “capstone” projects—in-depth case studies—which you'll feature alongside Phase 1 work in your portfolio.

Read on for full details of the course format and content, as well as the 6 months of career support we offer to all graduates after course completion—and how to apply!



Harish Venkatesan

Designlab CEO and Co-Founder

The UX Academy Journey

You can skip Step 1 if you have digital design experience.
See page 1 for details.

1 Complete Design 101 *4 weeks, 10-15 hours per week*

Design 101 is a foundation course that prepares you for the main UX Academy curriculum. You'll be paired with an expert design mentor, who will help you learn visual and UI design basics. If you move ahead to Step 2, you will receive a \$400 credit towards your UX Academy tuition, to offset the initial cost of Design 101.

Design 101 Tuition: \$399

[Enroll today](#)

2 Apply to UX Academy *15 weeks full-time, 28 weeks part-time*

Applying to UX Academy only takes 3 minutes, and requires no payment details.

- If you've previously worked as a digital designer, you'll link to your recent work in the application.
- If you're new to digital design and you've taken Design 101, you'll link to your final project from the course.

Once you're accepted, you can choose to complete this rigorous 480-hour program either full-time (40 hours a week) or part-time (20 hours a week).

UX Academy Tuition: \$6,349 (after Design 101 credit applied)

[Apply now](#)



Enter Career Services

Up to 24 weeks of support to help you land a job

Once you've graduated UX Academy with your professional design portfolio, it's time to begin your job hunt. You'll be paired with an expert Career Coach with hiring experience in the industry and location you plan to work in. You'll work together to identify the right job opportunities, polish your portfolio, perfect interview technique, and more—all so that you land your first UX/UI design job as soon as possible.

What You'll Work On in UX Academy

Phase 1

Module 1

Let's Get Started!

- Set your goals and plan your schedule
- Learn how to evaluate designs and offer feedback

10 Hours • 5 Lessons • 7 Projects • 1 Mentor Session

Module 2

Introduction to UX Design

- The history, evolution, and future of UX design
- Design thinking and other UX design methods

16 Hours • 17 Lessons • 5 Projects • 1 Mentor Session • 1 Group Crit

Module 3

UX Research

- Different research methods and how to use them
- How to synthesize and use research insights to define a product

29 Hours • 17 Lessons • 9 Projects • 2 Mentor Sessions • 2 Group Crits

Module 4

Information Architecture

- How to organize information and navigation systems in a product
- Usability and accessibility principles

15 Hours • 15 Lessons • 5 Projects • 1 Mentor Session • 1 Group Crit

Module 5

Interaction Design

- How to develop “task flows” and “user flows” for a product
- Design patterns and how to create wireframes and prototypes

32 Hours • 16 Lessons • 7 Projects • 3 Mentor Sessions • 3 Group Crits

Module 6

User Interface Design

- How to choose color, typography, icons, and interaction patterns
- Responsive design for multiple devices

33 Hours • 13 Lessons • 7 Projects • 2 Mentor Sessions • 2 Group Crits

Module 7

Iteration and Implementation

- How to conduct user tests and utilize feedback
- Creating new versions of a design, and handing off a project

31 Hours • 10 Lessons • 6 Projects • 2 Mentor Sessions • 2 Group Crits

Phase 2

Personal Brand and Portfolio Setup

- Register a domain name for your portfolio
- Create a first draft of your portfolio site

40 Hours • 2 Lessons • 7 Projects • 1 Mentor Session • 1 Group Crit

Capstone Project 1

Responsive Web Design

- Design a website with mobile, tablet, and desktop breakpoints
- Showcase your ability to use grids, and design for multiple devices

80 Hours • 4 Mentor Sessions • 4 Group Crits

Capstone Project 2

Adding a Feature

- Design a new feature for an existing digital product
- Work within brand guidelines, and integrate with existing features

80 Hours • 4 Mentor Sessions • 4 Group Crits

Capstone Project 3

End-to-End Application

- Design an iOS or Android mobile app experience from scratch
- Show off your new UX design skills, from research to handoff

80 Hours • 4 Mentor Sessions • 4 Group Crits

UX Academy Graduation

- Add the Capstone projects to your portfolio
- Submit your portfolio to our expert panel for review

Certificate of Completion

You'll receive this after passing portfolio review. It includes a summary of everything you learned. Showcase it on LinkedIn, with your resume, and during interviews!

What's the Format of UX Academy?



Online coursework

Lessons and reading organized by topic.



Projects

Short design briefs that allow you to apply your new skills. In Phase 1, the aim is to get some hands-on practice, not to perfect each submission.



Group Crits

These are community design critique sessions, facilitated by a UX Academy graduate or mentor. As well as giving you the opportunity to get extra feedback on work in progress, you'll also practice giving constructive feedback to others.



1-on-1 mentoring

You'll have regular calls with your mentor to discuss your work and ask any questions. Calls are booked via the student dashboard, which you'll have access to once your cohort launches.

- If you're on the part-time track (20h/week), you'll meet with your mentor once a week during the course.
- If you're on the full-time track (40h/week), you'll meet with your mentor twice a week during the course.



Slack community

Take part in the buzzing Designlab Slack community, where you can connect with fellow students.



Getting feedback

Your mentor will leave comments on all your project submissions, to help you “iterate”—create an improved version.



Weekly progress reports

These emails will summarize how much progress you made in the previous week, and let you know if you're falling behind. (Read on for time management tips!)

Part-Time and Full-Time Tracks

	Part-time 20h/week	Full-time 40h/week
Phase 1		
Module 1: Let's Get Started!	Week 1	Week 1
Module 2: Introduction to UX Design	Week 2	Week 1
Module 3: UX Research	Week 3-4	Week 2
Module 4: Information Architecture	Week 5	Week 3
Module 5: Interaction Design	Week 6-7	Week 4
Module 6: UI Design	Week 8-9	Week 5
Module 7: Iteration and Implementation	Week 10-11	Week 6
Phase 2		
Personal Brand and Portfolio Setup	Week 12-14	Week 7-8
Capstone Project 1: Responsive Web Design	Week 15-18	Week 9-10
Capstone Project 2: Adding a Feature	Week 19-22	Week 11-12
Capstone Project 3: End-to-End Application	Week 23-26	Week 13-14
UX Academy Graduation	Week 27-28	Week 15

How Career Services Works

Career Services is a follow-on program, included in the price of UX Academy, which provides you with extra help as you enter a competitive UX/UI design job market.

1-on-1 Career Coaching

We'll pair you with an expert Career Coach, in the same way that you're matched with a mentor for UX Academy, who has hiring experience in the industry and in your desired job location.

24 Weeks of Support

Career Services lasts up to 24 weeks, so that you are fully supported throughout the 6-month job hunting period after UX Academy.

18 Coaching Sessions

Coaching sessions provide an opportunity to go through project work, conduct mock interviews, and get feedback on job application drafts.

In-house Career Services Curriculum

This bonus coursework allows you to keep your skills sharp through regular design challenges and quizzes. It also teaches practical job-hunting skills, like crafting cover letters and perfecting resumes.

Huntr Integration

You're provided with access to a job-tracking tool called Huntr. It helps you to track all the job opportunities you've found and applications you've submitted, and share progress with your Career Coach.

Monthly Checkpoints

These quick check-ins are embedded into the curriculum, and help us here at Designlab HQ know how you're doing, and offer extra support if you need it.

Career Services Slack Channel

We've created a dedicated #career-services channel in the UX Academy Slack community workspace, to facilitate peer support and discussion.

Testimonials



Thomas Lei
Eames Cohort Graduate

“Before transitioning to design, I had been practicing as an IP attorney for 4 years and while I was good at it, it was also sucking the creative soul out of me. While I know a good portion of designers are self-taught, Designlab not only provides the structure, it also supplies a support system to help get you through the trenches.”



Emily Ho
Disney Cohort Graduate

“I’d been working in retail and customer service for over 10 years and needed a change, but I still wanted to continue helping others. UXA is such a great program that provides the same benefits as other immersive programs, but allows you to do it remotely without the need to quit your job. Once you’re in, you get so much from a community that’s so open and supportive.”



Peter Javorkai
Carson Cohort Graduate

“It’s not ‘just’ an online course where you can learn at your own pace. By taking UX Academy you’re joining a community of students and mentors who help each other, even if you are thousands of miles apart. It also means that you’re one of those people helping others, so you can feel you are adding to the community too.”



Wendy Pei
First UX Academy Graduate

“There are a lot of different reasons I settled on UX Academy: being able to interact with multiple mentors, having a community of other students to work with, and the get-a-job guarantee they offered. The fact that UX Academy had a stake in my success gave me confidence that we both had the same goal: to get me a full-time product design role.”

Tuition and Financing

We offer three tuition options for UX Academy: upfront payment, an extended payment plan, and a 6-month payment plan. Read on for more details!



Choose one of the following payment options:

Upfront Payment

PayPal or Credit/Debit Card

Deposit.	\$399
Remaining Tuition.	\$6,350
Design 101 Discount . . .	-\$400 [‡]
Balance Due	\$5,950
Due on 1st day	\$5,950

[‡] Discount only granted for students who paid for and completed Design 101

Extended Payment Plan

Serviced by Climb Credit

Deposit.	\$399
Remaining Tuition.	\$6,350
Design 101 Discount. . .	-\$400 [†]
Balance Due	\$5,950 ^{††}
Due on 1st day	\$0

[†] Discount only granted for students who paid for and completed Design 101

^{††} Monthly payments vary.

[Find more details here](#)

6-Month Payment Plan

Serviced by Designlab

Deposit.	\$399
Remaining Tuition.	\$6,350
Service Fee	\$400
Design 101 Discount. . .	-\$400 [*]
Balance Due	\$6,350 ^{**}
Due on 1st day	\$1,075

^{*} Discount only granted for students who paid for and completed Design 101

^{**} Split across 6 monthly payments: 5 payments of \$1,075, and 1 payment of \$975.

Check out [this Help Center article](#) for full details of these payment options.

Tuition Reimbursement Policy

You stand an excellent chance of landing a fantastic new job in UX/UI design within 6 months of completion if you apply yourself during the UX Academy program. Check out our (extensive) library of [student success stories](#) for the evidence!

However, success can never be absolutely guaranteed, because local job markets are constantly shifting. For that reason, we have a Tuition Reimbursement Policy in place to give you some extra security.

Spoiler alert: The Tuition Reimbursement Policy isn't a get-out-of-jail-free card. You are responsible for your own success, and to be eligible for the refund, you must stay on track with the course and meet all the requirements set out.

But if you meet those requirements and still haven't landed a job after 6 months of looking, we'll give you your money back.

Read the full [Tuition Reimbursement Policy](#) here.



Want to Learn More?

For more information, check out our [UX Academy FAQ](#)

You're welcome to [schedule a call](#) with Emma, our admissions rep, to have a 1-to-1 chat about what the journey will look like for you!

We also have a [weekly Open House webinar](#) where you can take part in a Q&A

Check out full [UX Academy policies](#) in detail

Ready to Apply?

Here are your next steps.



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