

The 5 Best Online Project Management Courses

 blog.capterra.com/the-5-best-online-project-management-courses/

Rachel Burger

Capterra Project Management Blog

Find and learn about the right software to simplify your project management

Update 7/18/16: This post has been updated with additional online project management courses that have proved themselves worthy over the past nine months. We've updated the piece to have ten options instead of the original five.



When it comes to project management, education matters.

When looking at [salary trends](#), the better-educated and higher-certified project managers make far more than those who rely on their experience alone. And the difference is substantial, totaling tens of thousands of dollars between otherwise equal PMs.



Luckily, project managers interested in furthering their careers through education have tons of online options. These are the ten best online project management courses available, when taking cost, benefits, time commitment, and final certification into consideration.

Online Project Management Certifications

While PMP and CAPM are the two main go-tos for certification, Coursera and ALISON offer alternatives.

[Coursera: Project Management Specialization Courses](#)



Coursera, a [MOOC platform](#), offers a specialization in project management. Students can pick-and-choose individual project management courses (like [Budgeting and Scheduling Projects](#) and [Managing Project Risks and Changes](#)) for \$49 for each course, or do the entire specialization for \$196. Coursera only offers a certification for those who have completed the entire program. For those interested in free coursework, they can take the first three classes without paying a dime.

The program isn't a cakewalk. It's hosted through University of California-Irvine and taught by Margaret Meloni, MBA, PMP. Students are expected to put in 2-4 hours a week for each four-week course and demonstrate their overall understanding of project management in the capstone class.

ALISON: Diploma in Project Management

A course card for "Diploma in Project Management" on ALISON. It features a thumbnail image of project management charts and a Gantt chart. The text says: "Diploma in Project Management Increase your project management skills and learn excellent techniques for managing a project". Below this, it shows "Students: 109,966" and a 4.5-star rating. A green button says "Start This Course".

This free, highly-rated diploma in project management is offered through ALISON, another MOOC dedicated to bringing free education to the world. Most students finish the course in 10-15 hours. While this course is best for project managers with work experience, it covers all the basics of project management, from different methodology to case study analysis.

In order to complete the course, students must maintain an 80% average on all exams. With hundreds of positive reviews, this ALISON course is largely respected in the project management field.

The Best Online PMP Prep Courses

Wondering what the value of a PMP certification is?

We asked real PMPs for their opinion! Find out what they said:

Brain Sensei: Complete PMP® Exam Prep Course

If nothing else, Brain Sensei has the best promotional video online. Period. Take a minute to watch it above.

The idea behind Brain Sensei is that most project management certification training is *boring* (and I can't disagree). It takes a fun, modern approach to PMP exam prep, where project managers learn from animated stories and examples about what project management is and how to implement it effectively.

In spite of how fun Brain Sensei's course is, it doesn't skimp on exam prep. The courses offer over 900 test prep questions with 35 hours of prep material. For \$399 CAD (about \$305 USD), this course is one of the most affordable, enjoyable options available online.



Colorado State University: Online Project Management Certificate

Online Project Management Certificate

[Certificate Overview](#)
[Certificate Modules](#)
[Frequently Asked Questions](#)
[Faculty](#)

Certificate at a Glance

Delivery
Online

Tuition
Early Bird by July 1, 2015 – \$3,295
After July 1, 2015 – \$3,395
You may be eligible for funding through the Colorado Workforce Development Center—call us at (303) 376-2607 to find out more.

Certificate awarded
Certificate of completion reflecting 48 contact hours in a PMI-approved course

Prepares you for
The Project Management Professional

Certificate Modules

The seven-module program follows the guidelines from the Project Management Institute (PMI), which also awards designations for Project Management Professionals (PMP®).

Module 1 – Framework and Integration
Get the skills necessary to integrate and apply the concepts presented in this series, using a customized case study.

Module 2 – Scope Management
This module reviews the basic project scope management processes:

- Scope planning
- Scope definition
- Project change control
- Work breakdown structure
- Project plan development
- Ethics and professionalism

Module 3 – Cost and Time Management
Find out how to develop and calculate schedules using PERT/CPM techniques. Also covered are techniques for estimating, budgeting, monitoring, and analyzing costs and the basics of earned-value.

Module 4 – Quality Management
Discover how quality planning, assurance, and control concepts integrate

Take the next step

First name

Last name

Email address

Phone number (optional)

Subscribe to email updates about this program

Connect with the Student Success team to get started

[Send](#) >

(303) 376-2607

Section 200

Date
Aug. 24 – Dec. 13, 2015
(16 wks.)

Online schooling has changed the way education is undertaken by brick and mortar schools, leading to an expansion in courses offered online. Colorado State University now offers the same project management certification class taught at the university in a condensed, 16-week instruction.

The class prepares you for the PMP exam for a tuition price of \$3,395, which leads to PMI certification as well as the Associate Project Manager certification. Possible funding of the course can be awarded through the Colorado Workforce Development Center to aid in mitigating costs.

The online format in no way detracts from the lessons, and those who complete Colorado's course will be well prepared for project management in a multitude of fields, from architecture to telecommunications.

Master of Project Academy: All Courses Bundle



Even though Master of Project Academy is relatively new to the PM field (it entered the marketplace in 2012), its courses cover everything you need in a direct, accessible manner.

I recommend looking at its project management All Courses Bundle. It includes 27 online project management courses, including:

- PMP certification training
- Agile Scrum certification training
- ITIL Foundation certification training
- CAPM certification training
- Cisco CCNA training (full course)
- [Microsoft Project](#) training

All the reviews of Master of Project Academy are overwhelmingly positive. Students call out their favorite teachers and rave about how easy passing the PMP exam is following Master of Project Academy's instruction.

Best of all? It only costs \$99 a month. The plan is self-paced, all online, and has a 100% money-back guarantee for 30 days.

[Simplilearn PMP® Certification Training Course Online Classroom Flexi-Pass](#)

32 Hours of
Instructor-led Training

29 Hours of High Quality
E-Learning Content

5 Industry Case studies and
20 Real world examples

83 End-of-Chapter Quizzes
& 5 Simulation Exams

35 PDUs required to take
the PMP Certification exam

98.6% Pass Rate with 100%
Money Back Guarantee

Simplilearn's Flexi-Pass classroom is great option for students who want to get their PMP outside of regular office hours. It allows PMP hopefuls to pace their own learning. It's also a great option for people who are already PMP certified and want to maintain their current certification, as it offers 35 PDUs.

The pro version offers 32 hours of instructor-led training, and students have said that access to their professors has seriously helped with their exam prep.

The course also comes with five full simulation exams, plenty of case studies, and well over 25 hours of online learning. Simplilearn's money-back guarantee leaves something to be desired; if you have completed more than 50% of the class or wait for longer than seven days, Simplilearn will not refund a penny.

Yet, from looking at reviews and course material, its stingy money-back "guarantee" isn't something to worry about. The course covers everything someone looking to get certified would want in a clear, accurate manner. For \$699, Simplilearn offers an outstanding PMP-certification course that easily makes our list.

Trainings 24x7 – PMP

FREE	STARTER	MEDIUM
\$00	\$61	\$76
No Simulated Tests Available 200 Questions, 4 Hours	4 Simulated Practice Tests 200 Questions, 4 Hours	4 Simulated Practice Tests 200 Questions, 4 Hours
Only for 4 Chapters Videos	Total 12 chapters Videos	Total 12 chapters Videos
Only for 4 Chapters Online study material (Study Guides, Chapter tests, Pod casts, Terms and Concepts)	Total 12 chapters Online study material (Study Guides, Chapter tests, Pod casts, Terms and Concepts)	Total 12 chapters Online study material (Study Guides, Chapter tests, Pod casts, Terms and Concepts)
Yes Mobile Applications	Yes Mobile Applications	Yes Mobile Applications
NO MoneyBackGuarantee*** (Terms and Cond. Apply)	NO MoneyBackGuarantee*** (Terms and Cond. Apply)	NO MoneyBackGuarantee*** (Terms and Cond. Apply)
10 PMI Contact Hours / PDU's Certificate	35 PMI Contact Hours / PDU's Certificate	35 PMI Contact Hours / PDU's Certificate
3 Days Access for days	14 Days Access for days	60 Days Access for days
\$00 Price	\$61 Price	\$76 Price
Price	Price	Price
No Interactive experience calculator	Yes Interactive experience calculator	Yes Interactive experience calculator
Try Free	Buy STARTER	Buy MEDIUM

Trainings 24x7 offers several options in project management certification courses, some more detailed and in-depth than others. The more detailed the course and greater the preparation, the higher the price.

Trainings 24x7 conducts live, online training courses and “do-it yourself” certification study courses, and gives you the option of different packages depending on the depth of training you require. Its offers range from a free starter training package to in-depth PMP courses that go as high as \$150 dollars.

The programs and prices are offered based on the number of chapters offered, timespans of availability, and feedback in the form of “experience calculators.” The materials and courses offered are all accredited by the Project Management Institute and even provide you with certificates of achievement which are relevant to the package that was chosen.

Online PMP and CAPM Courses

The [Project Management Institute](#) (PMI) offers the industry-standard in project management certification: Project Management Professional (PMP) and Certified Associate in Project Management (CAPM).

They have an impressive catalog of online PM courses to maintain your PMP certification (by earning PDUs) or to just improve your professional toolbox. You can take these courses with an instructor, which often costs several hundred dollars, or On Demand, which ranges in price from under \$50 to a few hundred dollars.

These are some of the Project Management Institute’s best courses.

[A/E’s, Owners, & Contractors: Managing Projects to Success](#)

This course costs \$325 for non-PMI members and \$225 for PMI members. It's meant specifically for construction managers looking to improve their [construction project management](#) skills. (But make sure you know [which construction certifications](#) work best in the industry first.)

This course offers resources on how to evaluate and plan construction projects from economic, political, physical, and social lenses. It provides resources on how to best manage everyone involved in the construction process, from owners to architects to engineers to contractors. The course is offered on demand and is worth five PDUs.

[Agile in the Program Management Office](#)

Interested in learning how to transition from a Waterfall to an Agile project management office? Jack Duggal, the Managing Principal of [Projectize Group](#), leads this week-long interactive course for experienced project managers. It costs \$625 for non-PMI members and \$500 for members. This course is recommended for more experienced project managers, including those hoping to become PMO Director.

This course is worth 10 PDUs and one CEU.

[Advanced Risk Management](#)

This class is designated for project managers with advanced knowledge of formal project-management practices. The purpose of the course is to decrease the number of negative events while maximizing the number of positive events.

Advanced Risk Management breaks down risk management both quantitatively and qualitatively, looking at confidence curves, math for risk management, and the human influence on risk. This course is taught for 14 PDUs and 1.4 CEUs, and costs \$875 for non-members and \$725 for members.

More?

Naturally, project management certifications are not the end-all of project management. Project managers looking to refine their skills should also invest in specializing within their respective industries, learn how to use [project management software](#), and demonstrate basic business skills, like communication and leadership.

I'm sure there are other great project management courses out there that I missed. What do you recommend? Leave your thoughts in the comments below!

Looking for Project Management software? Check out Capterra's list of the [best Project Management software](#) solutions.

About the Author

 E-LEARNING ON DEMAND	5 PDUs
INTERMEDIATE LEVEL	

 INSTRUCTOR-LED E-LEARNING	14 PDUs	1.4 CEUs
ADVANCED LEVEL		

Rachel Burger

Follow on

Rachel is a content manager for [Capterra](#), a free online resource that quickly matches businesses to their software needs. She specializes in [construction](#) and [project management](#) . She also runs her own blog on [content marketing](#). On the rare occasion Rachel isn't writing, she's reading, hiking, jogging, or spending time with her friends and family.

