5 courses · £0 to start

5 Free Courses Course Sellers Will Hate Me For Sharing.

AI, cybersecurity, video editing, supply chain and Google Ads. Every link, what each one teaches you and which certificate you actually get for free.

Try the free version of a skill before you pay anyone to teach it to you.

Fadé Adeniyi

WHY THIS GUIDE EXISTS

Why should you start with a free course before paying for one?

I've coached over 1,000 people into tech over the last eight years and the first question is nearly always the same: which course should I buy? My answer is usually none of them yet. The skill you want almost always has a free route that's good enough to tell you whether you actually like the work.

That's the whole point of a first course. It isn't meant to make you an expert. It's meant to answer one question cheaply: do I want to keep going? A free course answers that question just as well as a £500 one does and it doesn't cost you anything if the answer turns out to be no.

Every course in this guide is free to start. Where a certificate or an exam costs money, I've said so plainly on the page, so nothing catches you out halfway through.

THE TRAP

The trap is buying the course before you've done a single free lesson. Paying feels like commitment, so it feels like progress, but the money's spent before you know whether you even enjoy the work. **Finish one free course first. Pay only for the next step, once you know you want it.**

Where can you learn AI and cybersecurity for free?

01 · AI

FreeAcademy.ai

Free | No code | Certificate on completion | No sign-up for lesson 1

Short, practical AI courses: Prompt Engineering, AI Essentials, AI Automations with Make and Zapier, plus AI for your job (finance, healthcare) and creating with AI (video, images, social content). Over 43,000 people are learning on it. You can start the first lesson without signing up, which is the quickest way to find out if the teaching style suits you.

freeacademy.ai

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02 · CYBERSECURITY

Cisco Networking Academy: Junior Cybersecurity Analyst

Free | Beginner | About 120 hours | Digital badge

A full career path from Cisco covering threat hunting, risk management and network firewalls. It's built for entry-level roles like Cybersecurity Technician, Junior Cybersecurity Analyst and Tier 1 Help Desk Support. You earn a digital badge for finishing the path and it prepares you for the Cisco Certified Support Technician (CCST) Cybersecurity exam. **The exam is booked separately through Cisco and isn't part of the free path.**

netacad.com/career-paths/cybersecurity

COURSE 03

How do you learn video editing without buying an editing course?

Skip the endless YouTube tutorials and skip the creators selling you their editing course. The faster route now is to let AI do the editing and learn by directing it.

03 · VIDEO EDITING

Matt Paige's open-source AI editing studio

Free · open source | Works with Claude Code or Codex | Out now

Matt Paige has open-sourced his full AI video editing studio. It's out now, and it works with Claude Code or Codex. One prompt sets it up on your computer, and you give it your raw footage. His setup guide is free. The full walkthrough video is a paid Substack extra.

mattpaigeai.com/studio · **Setup guide on Substack** · **github.com/mattp68/ai-video-studio** · **@mpaige13**

PLUS · MY OWN FREE CLAUDE EDITING GUIDES

Learn to edit with Claude, free

Edit Your Videos with Claude Code · Opus 5.5	Describe the edit in plain English and Claude Code writes the Remotion code that builds it. The four setup commands, a video editor skill and your first edit. **Read the guide**
The Storyboard-First Edit	The framework to paste into Claude Code to trim a raw take, set a look and approve real frames before anything renders. **Read the guide** · **Watch the reel**

Where can you learn supply chain and Google Ads for free?

04 · SUPPLY CHAIN

MITx MicroMasters in Supply Chain Management

Free to audit | 6 courses | 6 to 13 hours a week | Certificate track paid

MIT's graduate-level supply chain programme: supply chain analytics, fundamentals, design and more, taught by MIT. It's moved from edX to **MIT Learn**, where every course can be audited for free. If you want the MIT certificate, the paid certificate track for the full programme is listed at $1,524.60, so audit first and decide later.

learn.mit.edu/programs/program-v1:MITxT+SCM

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05 · ADS

Google Skillshop: Google Ads

Free | Self-paced | Free Google Ads certification

Google's own training for the tools it makes. The Google Ads courses teach you to advertise a business online and get Google Ads certified, built by Google's own product experts. Skillshop also covers Google Analytics, Google Marketing Platform and Google My Business if you want to keep going.

skillshop.withgoogle.com

MORE FREE COURSES FROM ME

Anthropic's free Claude Academy · **2,500+ free MIT courses** · **Microsoft's free 21-lesson AI course**

THE TAKEAWAY

Pick one course and finish it this week.

You now have five free routes into five different skills. Don't start all of them. Pick the one that matches what you actually want to do next, block out an hour and do the first lesson today.

Once you've finished it, you'll know two things no course seller can tell you: whether you like the work and what you'd want to learn next. That's the point where paying for something makes sense.

The free course tells you if you love it. Only then is it worth paying.

What this guide won't do. Free courses don't come with a coach or anyone checking in on you, so finishing is on you. Certificates vary: FreeAcademy.ai and Google Skillshop are free, Cisco's CCST exam and MIT's certificate track cost money. Matt Paige's studio is free, but his walkthrough video is paid. Every link and detail was checked on 31 October 2026 (Matt Paige's on 2 November) and may change.

Fadé Adeniyi

Fadé & The Machines

Building something of your own? The Audacity to Build is my community for people building alongside me, with the systems I actually run. It is opening soon. Join the waitlist at **fadeadeniyi.com/waitlist**.