COURSE SYLLABUS

AI Design Certificate Program Online

Build portfolio projects in Adobe Creative Cloud and Figma, explore modern AI creative workflows, and create live web applications that demonstrate your design and technical skills.

> Group classes (Live Online) and onsite training are available for this course. For more information, email partnerships@vdci.edu or visit: https://vdci.edu/certificates/ai-design-certificate-program



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Course Outline

This package includes these courses

- Adobe Photoshop Course Online (30 Hours)
- Adobe Illustrator Course Online (30 Hours)
- Adobe InDesign Course Online (30 Hours)
- Graphic Design Portfolio Course Online (30 Hours)
- Figma Course Online (12 Hours)
- Figma Advanced Course Online (6 Hours)
- UI Design Portfolio Bootcamp Online (30 Hours)
- UX Design Foundations Course Online (12 Hours)
- UX & UI Design Bootcamp Online (114 Hours)
- AI for Graphic Design Course Online (12 Hours)
- AI Coding Bootcamp with Claude Code Online (60 Hours)
- AI Design Portfolio Development Course Online (90 Hours)

Adobe Photoshop Course Online

Learn how to retouch and color correct photos, combine images, and create graphics in Photoshop. This course covers the basic and intermediate features of Photoshop such as color/contrast, photo retouching, layers, masks, filters, and saving files for web/video/print.

- Learn to retouch photos and design graphics
- Enhance images by adjusting color, brightness, and contrast
- Use selections to edit specific areas of an image
- Prepare images for digital, web, video, or print formats
- Simplify edits with adjustment layers
- Remove backgrounds using layer masks
- Sharpen and refine photos

- Apply visual effects with filters, shadows, blend modes, and more

Adobe Illustrator Course Online

Learn to create and edit vector graphics at your own pace using Adobe Illustrator. This course covers everything from basic shapes to advanced design techniques, including the Pen tool, effects, layers, masks, and more—ideal for designing logos, icons, patterns, and packaging.

- Design a variety of graphics, including logos, icons, patterns, packaging, and typography
- Master vector drawing with the Pen tool using tracing templates
- Work with shapes, brushes, and painting tools to enhance your designs
- Create vibrant vector graphics using gradients and blends
- Develop patterns for graphic and fashion design projects
- Design graphics for packaging
- Export and save files optimized for web or print

Adobe InDesign Course Online

Learn to design professional page layouts at your own pace using Adobe InDesign. Work with text, images, and multiple pages while mastering essential tools, styles, and advanced techniques to create books, magazines, and advertisements.

- Design layouts incorporating text, color, and graphics
- Import and format text and graphics for professional-quality designs
- Apply and manage colors throughout your documents
- Create short and long-form publications, including brochures, ads, magazines, and books
- Prepare files for final output, including printing and PDF export
- Create and edit paragraph and character styles for consistent text formatting
- Use parent pages to manage layouts across multi-page documents
- Work with anchored objects, tables, libraries, find/change functions, and other advanced tools

Graphic Design Portfolio Course Online

Build a strong foundation in graphic design while working on real-world projects to expand your portfolio. This course covers key design principles, typography, color theory, and layout techniques, preparing you to create logos, posters, book covers, and digital assets.

- Explore essential design concepts, including composition, typography, and color theory.
- Develop a creative workflow, from ideation and sketching to final digital execution.
- Create portfolio-worthy projects such as logos, book covers, event posters, and album artwork.
- Learn to use design hierarchy and grid systems to create visually engaging layouts.
- Incorporate industry-standard tools like Photoshop, Illustrator, and InDesign into your design process.
- Refine your work through critiques and upload your final projects to Adobe Portfolio.

Figma Course Online

Learn to design and prototype user interfaces using Figma, a leading platform for UI and UX design. This course teaches essential skills such as working with components, using auto layout, building interactive prototypes, and collaborating effectively

with team members.

- Create UI and UX layouts for mobile, tablet, and desktop using grids and frames
- Use components and variants to efficiently build and manage reusable design elements
- Develop interactive prototypes with clickable interactions, overlays, and smart animations
- Apply auto layout to manage spacing, alignment, and responsive design behavior
- Collaborate and share designs in real time using Figma's cloud-based collaboration tools
- Export assets for web, applications, and developers in formats such as SVG and PNG

Figma Advanced Course Online

Push your Figma skills further with this advanced prototyping course. You'll learn to work with variables, modes, and conditionals to bring more realistic interactivity to your prototypes.

- Explore Figma's advanced prototyping features
- Work with variables and variable modes to enhance your designs
- Use conditionals to add advanced interactivity to your prototypes
- Create light and dark modes using variable collections
- Apply primitive and semantic layers when building a design system

UI Design Portfolio Bootcamp Online

- Learn core UI design concepts, best practices, and design conventions for modern websites and apps
- Build strong visual design skills in color, typography, layout, spacing, hierarchy, and responsive design
- Design webpages, mobile app screens, components, and interactive prototypes using Figma
- Apply UI patterns and usability principles to create interfaces that are clear, intuitive, and user-friendly
- Get 1-on-1 feedback on your design work so you can refine your projects and improve your creative decision-making
- Develop polished portfolio projects that showcase your skills as a UI designer to potential employers

UX Design Foundations Course Online

- Understand what user experience design is and how it goes beyond visual design
- Learn how UX Designers work with teams to research, plan, test, and improve digital experiences
- Explore the overall UX design process, from discovery and research to concepts and presentation
- Practice UX research methods, including user interviews, observations, heuristics, and competitive analysis
- Learn common UX terminology and deliverables, such as personas, journey maps, scenarios, and user flows
- Use sketching and iteration to develop, refine, and improve design ideas
- Learn how to document your process and present UX work clearly and professionally

UX & UI Design Bootcamp Online

- Conduct user research through interviews, surveys, competitive analysis, and usability testing
- Create personas, journey maps, user flows, and information architecture to guide design decisions
- Design wireframes, responsive layouts, and polished UI projects for web and mobile interfaces
- Apply usability principles, accessibility standards, and common UI patterns to improve user experiences
- Build interactive prototypes and iterate on designs based on feedback, usability findings, and project goals

- Document your process in a portfolio-ready UX case study that demonstrates user-centered design thinking

AI for Graphic Design Course Online

Explore how artificial intelligence is transforming graphic design with hands-on projects that integrate tools like Adobe Firefly, Midjourney, and ChatGPT. Learn to streamline creative workflows, enhance visual assets, and build cohesive brand packages using leading AI platforms.

- Generate vector illustrations, photo edits, and layouts using AI tools in Illustrator, Photoshop, and InDesign.
- Create original visuals through prompt-based image generation with Midjourney, Leonardo AI, and DALL·E 3.
- Enhance and restore images with AI-powered sharpening, upscaling, and de-noising techniques.
- Use ChatGPT and Notion AI to develop creative briefs, brand names, and design directions.
- Build mood boards, style guides, and concept sets with free and paid AI design tools.
- Assemble a complete brand identity using multiple AI platforms in a simulated design workflow

AI Coding Bootcamp with Claude Code Online

Learn Claude Code on your own schedule while building full-stack web apps from the ground up.

- Use Claude Code as a practical coding assistant for planning, editing, debugging, and shipping apps
- Build confidence with Git, GitHub, and collaborative development workflows
- Understand how modern web apps fit together across frontend, backend, APIs, and deployment
- Create full-stack projects using Next.js, Supabase, authentication, and third-party APIs
- Strengthen app quality through responsive design, accessibility, testing, and security practices
- Deploy a finished application with environment variables, a custom domain, and launch-ready polish

AI Design Portfolio Development Course Online

- Plan and scope portfolio-ready design applications based on your creative and career goals, with instructor guidance on selecting three projects from seven options
- Build a custom portfolio website with project galleries, case studies, contact forms, asset uploads, hosting, and custom domains
- Create interactive design tools, such as design systems with editable tokens, component previews, and exportable design variables
- Develop AI-powered creative tools, including brand studios, social ad generators, pitch deck designers, and brand identity starter kits
- Build motion and microinteraction tools with live previews, developer-ready handoff specs, and polished user interactions
- Integrate databases, authentication, APIs, file uploads, responsive design, accessibility, and production polish into live portfolio applications