COURSE SYLLABUS

Figma Course Online

Start learning Figma for UI and UX design by building a strong understanding of what the tool can do. Learn how to create and manage files, design using grids, work with text, images, and color systems, build reusable components, create interactive prototypes, export assets, share designs, create simple animations, and more.

> Group classes (Live Online) and onsite training are available for this course. For more information, email partnerships@vdci.edu or visit: https://vdci.edu/courses/figma-course-online



admissions@vdci.edu • (619) 758-9300

Course Outline

Section 1

Creating a New Figma File

- Creating a new file
- Setting up frames (other apps call these artboards)
- Setting up a Layout Guide

Designing on a Layout Guide (like the Bootstrap Grid)

- How to design on a Layout Guide
- Adding text
- Creating colored backgrounds for text columns

Importing & Cropping Photos

- Importing & cropping photos
- Rounding corners

Vector Graphics, Colors, Shadows, & More

- Importing vector graphics
- Aligning & distributing layers
- Layer opacity vs. fill opacity
- Reusing colors (color styles)
- Adding a drop shadow

Section 2

Components (Reusable Elements)

- Creating & editing components

- Overriding content in one instance vs. globally updating all components
- Setting Constraints
- Detaching from a component

Turning a Design into a Clickable Prototype

- Linking between frames (artboards)
- Previewing the prototype
- Creating an overlay
- Fixing the position of elements so they don’t scroll

Exporting Assets for Web: SVG, JPEG, & PNG

- Exporting individual assets
- Exporting frames (artboards)

Sharing Figma Files: Commenting, Testing, Developers, etc.

- Sharing a Figma file
- Sharing a Prototype
- Commenting on shared files
- Viewing a prototype for user testing
- Specs for developers

Section 3

Auto Layout: Introduction

- Using Tidy Up for Even Spacing
- Using Auto Layout
- Alignment Constraints
- Spacing, Rearranging, & Adding Items with Auto Layout

Auto Layout: Deeper Dive

- Nesting Auto Layouts
- Auto Layout Gap Spacing & Padding
- Auto Layout Sizing & Constraints
- Negative Spacing & Stacking Order
- Ignoring Auto Layout

Linking Up/Down a Page, Scrollable Areas, & Hyperlinks

- Making Links that Scroll Up/Down a Page
- Making the Navbar Fixed to the Screen
- Adjusting the Position & Speed of the Scroll
- Creating a Scrollable Area Within a Page
- Adding Hyperlinks

Text Styles

- Opening Sketch files in Figma
- Handling missing fonts
- Creating, editing, & organizing text styles

Section 4

Component Properties & Variants

- Component Properties (Text, Boolean, Instance Swap, & Variant)
- Creating & Using Component Variants

Hovers, Overlays, & Smart Animate

- Adding a Hover State to a Button (Using Variants)
- Opening a Pop-Up (Using an Overlay)
- Auto Animating the Hover with Smart Animate

Team Libraries (Shared Libraries)

- Publishing a Team Library
- Using Components in a Team Library
- Using Styles in a Team Library
- Swapping Team Libraries