



# Free education websites

For Scouts, Venturers, Rovers and Leaders who want to develop their knowledge of the world, there are a huge number of websites and organisations that can help you on your way. Below are a few that we have found and that have an international flair.

Find something you like the look of, have a click around and broaden your knowledge!

## **Duolingo - [www.duolingo.com](http://www.duolingo.com)**

Free Language learning site for Spanish, French, German, Italian, Portuguese, Russian, Dutch, Swedish, Irish, Turkish, Danish, Norwegian, Polish, Hebrew, Esperanto, Vietnamese, Ukrainian, Greek, Welsh, Hungarian, Swahili, Romanian, Czech, Japanese, Hindi, Korean, Indonesian and even Klingon!

## **Open2Study – [www.open2study.com](http://www.open2study.com)**

Study free online courses today. Open2Study provides free, specialised short courses, entirely online, across the world, in a range of subject areas. It is a platform of Open Universities Australia which is an online higher education organisation based in Australia.

- **Chinese Language and Culture**  
Explore the history of China's language and culture and its adjustment to an increasingly globalised world.  
[www.open2study.com/courses/chinese-language-culture](http://www.open2study.com/courses/chinese-language-culture)
- **Climate Change**  
Find out how climate change will affect us, why we should care about it, and what solutions we can employ.  
[www.open2study.com/courses/climate-change](http://www.open2study.com/courses/climate-change)
- **Contemporary Issues in Ocean Governance**  
Learn about how the world's oceans are regulated, protected and preserved.  
[www.open2study.com/courses/contemporary-issues-in-ocean-governance-090215-090215](http://www.open2study.com/courses/contemporary-issues-in-ocean-governance-090215-090215)
- **Introduction to Business in Asia**  
Discover business in Asia from the perspectives of culture, leadership, management and personal relationships.  
[www.open2study.com/courses/introduction-to-business-in-asia](http://www.open2study.com/courses/introduction-to-business-in-asia)
- **Latin American Music: Translating Cultural Sensibilities**  
How Latin American music reflects Latin American identity issues and historical, political and social influences.  
[www.open2study.com/course/latin-american-music](http://www.open2study.com/course/latin-american-music)

- **Sociology**  
Sociology examines individuals in their social contexts.  
[www.open2study.com/courses/sociology](http://www.open2study.com/courses/sociology)
- **Water in a Thirsty World**  
This course explores the world of water management on a drying planet.  
[www.open2study.com/courses/water-in-a-thirsty-world](http://www.open2study.com/courses/water-in-a-thirsty-world)
- **World Music**  
Discover a world of music exploring your community or family to learn how music represents cultural identity.  
[www.open2study.com/courses/world-music](http://www.open2study.com/courses/world-music)

## **Future Learn – [www.futurelearn.com](http://www.futurelearn.com)**

Enjoy free online courses from top universities and specialist organisations. The company is wholly owned by The Open University in Milton Keynes, England

- **Modern Korean History: Liberation, War and Nuclear Ambitions**  
Explore the unique and untold history of North and South Korea - from 1945 to the present with this free online course.  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/modern-korean-history](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/modern-korean-history)
- **Korea in a Global Context**  
Learn the international politics of Asia-Pacific with a focus on the United States, China, Japan, North Korea, and South Korea.  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/korea-global-context](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/korea-global-context)
- **Lips and Teeth: Korea and China in Modern Times**  
Explore the historical evolution of China and the Korean Peninsula and discover the implications for today.  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/korea-and-china](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/korea-and-china)
- **Introduction to Frisian**  
Learn to speak, write and understand the second official language of the Netherlands with this free introductory language course.  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/frisian](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/frisian)
- **Intercultural Communication**  
Learn to appreciate, adjust to, and work or study in different cultures, with this free online intercultural communication course.  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/intercultural-communication](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/intercultural-communication)
- **How to Succeed in the Global Workplace**  
Get off to a great start in your new job by learning the essential skills to succeed in a



- global workplace.  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/global-workplace](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/global-workplace)
- **European Culture and Politics**  
Learn about the link between identity, culture and politics in the construction of contemporary Europe.  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/european-culture](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/european-culture)
  - **Cooperation in the Contemporary World: Unlocking International Politics**  
Why do we cooperate? How can we achieve more lasting cooperation? This course explores the puzzle in international politics today.  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/cooperation-in-the-contemporary-world](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/cooperation-in-the-contemporary-world)
  - **Switzerland in Europe: Money, Migration and Other Difficult Matters**  
Learn about the position of Switzerland in Europe, in particular with respect to money, migration and other difficult matters.  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/switzerland-europe](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/switzerland-europe)
  - **World War 1: Lessons and Legacy of the Great War**  
Learn how the Allies defeat the Germans in World War 1, how the memory arose that the war was futile, and why this view is untrue.  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/ww1-lessons-legacy](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/ww1-lessons-legacy)
  - **Military Ethics: an Introduction**  
We explore the ethical responsibilities that weigh on military professionals, who are 'managers of violence'.  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/military-ethics](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/military-ethics)
  - **Ebola: Symptoms, History and Origins**  
Learn about Ebola, its symptoms, where it came from and what the current outbreak has taught us, with this free online course.  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/ebola](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/ebola)
  - **Causes of War**  
What causes armed conflict in the world today? Examine current thinking on this critical question with this free online course.  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/causes-of-war](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/causes-of-war)
  - **Superpowers of the Ancient World: the Near East**  
Experience the world's first international age, 3,500 years ago in the ancient Near East, with this free online course.  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/superpowers-near-east](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/superpowers-near-east)
  - **The Lottery of Birth**  
Birth is a lottery. Where, when and to whom you are born and the society into which you are born will influence your life chances.  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/lottery-of-birth](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/lottery-of-birth)
  - **The American South**  
Explore the fascinating history and culture of the American South from colonial times to the 21st century.  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/american-south](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/american-south)
  - **Introduction to the UK Parliament: People, Processes and Public Participation**  
Learn about the UK Parliament with this free online course - explore the work of Parliament and find out how it's evolving.  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/introduction-uk-parliament](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/introduction-uk-parliament)
  - **Africa: Sustainable Development for All?**  
Learn what progress Africa has made towards inclusive development and consider challenges post-2015 in this free online course.  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/africa-sustainable-development](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/africa-sustainable-development)
  - **Global Food Security: Addressing the Challenge**  
How will we feed an extra two billion people by the middle of this century?  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/food-security](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/food-security)
  - **Religion and Conflict**  
Understand and analyze the role of religion in conflicts and peacebuilding in present-day societies, with this free online course.  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/religion-and-conflict](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/religion-and-conflict)
  - **Why the European Union? A Brief History of European Integration**  
Learn about how and why the nations of the European Union (EU) cooperate in this free online course.  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/why-europe](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/why-europe)
  - **What Works: Promising Practices in International Development**  
Explore promising strategies in international aid related to agriculture, public health, governance, and poverty reduction.  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/what-works](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/what-works)
  - **An Introduction to Japanese Subcultures**  
Explore Japanese subcultures and learn about their history from the 1970s to today.  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/intro-to-japanese-subculture](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/intro-to-japanese-subculture)
  - **Japanese Culture Through Rare Books**  
Explore the important roles that books have played in the cultural history of Japan.  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/japanese-rare-books-culture](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/japanese-rare-books-culture)
  - **Empire: the Controversies of British Imperialism**  
The British Empire continues to cause enormous disagreement among historians.



Find out why and join the debate.

[www.futurelearn.com/courses/empire](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/empire)

- **The European Discovery of China**  
Explore Chinese history through the eyes of Western travellers, discoverers and missionaries, with this free online course.  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/european-discovery-china](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/european-discovery-china)
- **Sino-Japanese Interactions through Rare Books**  
Learn about the role of books in the relationship between the cultures of Japan and China, with this free online course.  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/japanese-rare-books-sino](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/japanese-rare-books-sino)
- **Hadrian's Wall: Life on the Roman Frontier**  
Explore the archaeology of the most heavily fortified frontier in the Roman Empire, its people and their lives.  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/hadrians-wall](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/hadrians-wall)
- **World War 1: A History in 100 Stories**  
Change the way you see World War 1 as you explore stories of hope, suffering and loss from newly released historical archives.  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/ww1-stories](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/ww1-stories)
- **Irish Lives in War and Revolution: Exploring Ireland's History 1912-1923**  
Explore the lives of men, women and children living through war and revolution and social changes that made modern Ireland.  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/irish-history](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/irish-history)
- **Taoism and Western Culture**  
Learn the fundamentals of Taoism and how to apply it with this free online course.  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/taoism-and-western-culture](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/taoism-and-western-culture)
- **Italian for Beginners 1: Meeting, Greeting and Eating**  
Learn how to order food and drink, greet people, and introduce yourself, in this first Italian for Beginners course.  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/italian-for-beginners-1](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/italian-for-beginners-1)
- **Spanish for Beginners 1: Meeting and Greeting**  
Learn how to greet people, and talk about where you live and what you do in the first of six Spanish for Beginners courses.  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/spanish-for-beginners-1](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/spanish-for-beginners-1)
- **Spanish for Beginners 2: People and Places**  
Learn how to describe people and what they wear, and talk about your family and home in the second Spanish for Beginners course.

[www.futurelearn.com/courses/spanish-for-beginners-2](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/spanish-for-beginners-2)

- **Introduction to Norwegian**  
Learn to speak, write and understand basic Norwegian, with this free, four-week, introductory foreign language course.  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/norwegian](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/norwegian)
- **Muslims in Britain: Changes and Challenges**  
Develop your understanding of Muslims and their faith through an exploration of communities in Britain.  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/muslims-in-britain](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/muslims-in-britain)
- **Introduction to Dutch**  
Learn to speak, write and understand basic Dutch, with this free, three-week, introductory foreign language course.  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/dutch](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/dutch)
- **Cultural Studies and Modern Languages: an Introduction**  
Explore the culture, language and national identity of eight countries through their books, images, slogans and monuments  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/cultural-studies](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/cultural-studies)
- **Exploring English: Language and Culture**  
This course for learners of English looks at British culture and examines English in use to help you improve your language skills.  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/explore-english-language-culture](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/explore-english-language-culture)
- **Understanding Language: Learning and Teaching**  
An introduction to some key concepts in the effective teaching and learning of languages.  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/understanding-language](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/understanding-language)

**Coursera – [www.coursera.org](http://www.coursera.org) (search free courses)**

2000+ courses from schools like Stanford and Yale - no application required.

- **International Leadership and Organizational Behavior**  
Leaders in business and non-profit organizations increasingly work across national borders and in multi-cultural environments. You may work regularly with customers or suppliers abroad, or be part of a globally dispersed cross-functional team, or an expatriate manager on an international assignment. You may be a member of a global online community, or a development aid worker collaborating with an international network of partner organizations. In all of these contexts, your effectiveness as a leader depends on how well you understand and are able to manage individual and collective behaviors in an



intercultural context.

[www.coursera.org/learn/organizational-behavior](http://www.coursera.org/learn/organizational-behavior)

- **International and Cross-Cultural Negotiation**

This course is appropriate for anyone who wants to develop better cross-cultural understanding and to enhance their dialogue and negotiation capabilities. Intermediate level.

[www.coursera.org/learn/international-negotiation](http://www.coursera.org/learn/international-negotiation)

- **International Women's Health and Human Rights**

This course is directed toward undergraduate university students, but high school students and anyone else interested in the health and human rights of women will find it of interest.

[www.coursera.org/learn/womens-health-human-rights](http://www.coursera.org/learn/womens-health-human-rights)

- **International Travel Preparation, Safety, & Wellness**

This class is for anyone who travels or is preparing to travel internationally, especially those traveling to low- and middle-income countries for academic, professional, and healthcare-related reasons.

[www.coursera.org/learn/international-travel](http://www.coursera.org/learn/international-travel)

- **The Changing Global Order**

Whether you are a student of international relations, working in the field of foreign affairs or interested in understanding how the global order is subject to change, why conflict occurs and how it can be resolved, and how international peace and security can be maintained by international institutions, this course will provide you with the theory and practice you need.

[www.coursera.org/learn/changing-global-order](http://www.coursera.org/learn/changing-global-order)

- **Miracles of Human Language: An Introduction to Linguistics**

Everywhere, every day, everybody uses language. There is no human society, no matter how small or how isolated, which does not employ a language that is rich and diverse. This course introduces you to linguistics, featuring interviews with well-known linguists and with speakers of many different languages. Join us to explore the miracles of human language!

[www.coursera.org/learn/human-language](http://www.coursera.org/learn/human-language)

- **Geopolitics of Europe**

Geopolitics of Europe is intended for students attending a Bachelor as well as any web surfer who would want or even need to acquire the keys to understand Europe within the global space. Its interactive and inter-disciplinary format will particularly be appropriate for students preparing administration competitions, schools of journalism or international-looking trainings.

[www.coursera.org/learn/geopolitics-europe](http://www.coursera.org/learn/geopolitics-europe)

- **Global Diplomacy – Diplomacy in the Modern World**

The Global Diplomacy MOOC has a direct heritage in the University of London International Academy/SOAS Global Diplomacy MA Programme launched in April 2013 which have attracted hundreds of students from around the world

[www.coursera.org/learn/global-diplomacy](http://www.coursera.org/learn/global-diplomacy)

- **The Emergence of the Modern Middle East - Part I**

This course will discuss the emergence of the modern Middle East from the fall of the Ottoman Empire, at the end of the First World War to the present. It will discuss the Ottoman legacy in the region and the Western imperial impact on the creation of the Arab state system. The course will discuss the rise and retreat of Arab nationalism, the problems of internal cohesion of the Arab states, issues of religion and state, and the evolution of Islamist politics. It will also focus on the evolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict and its impact on the region and will conclude with an in depth analysis of the "Arab Spring" by placing these contemporary revolutionary events in their historical context.

[www.coursera.org/learn/modern-middle-east-1](http://www.coursera.org/learn/modern-middle-east-1)

- **Climate Change Mitigation in Developing Countries**

This course challenges you to consider how one might lift societies out of poverty while also mitigating greenhouse gas emissions. We explore the inherent complexity of developing country governments wanting to grow their economies in a climate friendly way.

[www.coursera.org/learn/climate-change-mitigation](http://www.coursera.org/learn/climate-change-mitigation)

### **TED and TEDx Talks – [www.ted.com](http://www.ted.com)**

Influential videos from expert speakers on education, business, science, tech and creativity, with subtitles in 100+ languages.

- **An independent Diplomat**

After 15 years in the British diplomatic corps, Carne Ross became a "freelance diplomat," running a bold nonprofit that gives small, developing and yet-unrecognized nations a voice in international relations. At the BIF-5 conference, he calls for a new kind of diplomacy that gives voice to small countries, that works with changing boundaries and that welcomes innovation.

[www.ted.com/talks/carne\\_ross\\_an\\_independent\\_diplomat](http://www.ted.com/talks/carne_ross_an_independent_diplomat)



- **The path to ending ethnic conflicts**

Civil wars and ethnic conflicts have brought the world incredible suffering, but Stefan Wolff's figures show that, in the last 20 years, their number has steadily decreased. He extracts critical lessons from Northern Ireland, Liberia, Timor and more to show that leadership, diplomacy and institutional design are our three most effective weapons in waging peace."

[www.ted.com/talks/stefan\\_wolff\\_the\\_path\\_to\\_ending\\_ethnic\\_conflicts](http://www.ted.com/talks/stefan_wolff_the_path_to_ending_ethnic_conflicts)

- **Making peace is a marathon**

In Lebanon there is one gunshot a year that isn't part of a scene of routine violence: The opening sound of the Beirut International Marathon. In a moving talk, marathon founder May El-Khalil explains why she believed a 26.2-mile running event could bring together a country divided for decades by politics and religion, even if for one day a year.

[www.ted.com/talks/may\\_el\\_khalil\\_making\\_peace\\_is\\_a\\_marathon](http://www.ted.com/talks/may_el_khalil_making_peace_is_a_marathon)

- **How the US should use its superpower status**

Americanization and globalization have basically been the same thing for the last several generations. But the US's view of the world -- and the world's view of the US -- is changing. In a fast-paced tour of the current state of international politics, Ian Bremmer discusses the challenges of a world where no single country or alliance can meet the challenges of global leadership and asks if the US is ready to lead by example, not by force.

[www.ted.com/talks/ian\\_bremmer\\_how\\_the\\_us\\_should\\_use\\_its\\_superpower\\_status](http://www.ted.com/talks/ian_bremmer_how_the_us_should_use_its_superpower_status)

- **My escape from North Korea**

As a child growing up in North Korea, Hyeonseo Lee thought her country was "the best on the planet." It wasn't until the famine of the 90s that she began to wonder. She escaped the country at 14, to begin a life in hiding, as a refugee in China. Hers is a harrowing, personal tale of survival and hope -- and a powerful reminder of those who face constant danger, even when the border is far behind.

[www.ted.com/talks/hyeonseo\\_lee\\_my\\_escape\\_from\\_north\\_korea](http://www.ted.com/talks/hyeonseo_lee_my_escape_from_north_korea)

- **The global power shift**

Paddy Ashdown believes we are living in a moment in history where power is changing in ways it never has before. In a spellbinding talk he outlines the three major global shifts that he sees coming.

[www.ted.com/talks/paddy\\_ashdown\\_the\\_global\\_power\\_shift](http://www.ted.com/talks/paddy_ashdown_the_global_power_shift)

- **At last, Free**

Originally from Syria, brothers Omar and Saad Al Kassab reflect on their path into Australia as refugees. It's a story that features fear and violence, bravery and friendship, the global connection of the scouting movement, and a humble dictionary. Told with great courage, honesty and humour, they highlight the experiences they've shared with thousands of others fleeing war torn Syria, and their hopes for the future.

[www.youtu.be/IPJFhMsV8TU](http://www.youtu.be/IPJFhMsV8TU)