

## Coursera courses in Life Sciences for credit points

Pilot program 2015-2016

Updated: March 20, 2016

<p>An Introduction to Interactive Programming in Python: I <b>Rice University</b> <a href="https://www.coursera.org/course/interactivepython1">https://www.coursera.org/course/interactivepython1</a> <b>April 9, 2016- May 21, 2016</b></p> <p>An Introduction to Interactive Programming in Python: II <b>Rice University</b> <a href="https://www.coursera.org/course/interactivepython2">https://www.coursera.org/course/interactivepython2</a> <b>Next session will be announced</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>2 credit points</b> (for both courses together)</li><li>• 9 weeks.</li><li>• Background: None. Slight easier for those who did MATLAB/PERL</li><li>• Assignments – weekly + checking other students code weekly + final project.</li><li>• Certificate = \$49</li></ul>
<p><del>Algorithms, Biology, and Programming for Beginners</del> <b>NEW NAME</b> <b>Biology Meets Programming: Bioinformatics for Beginners</b> <b>University of California, San Diego</b> <a href="https://www.coursera.org/course/algoebioprogramming">https://www.coursera.org/course/algoebioprogramming</a> <b>March 21, 2016 – April 24, 2016</b> <b>April 18, 2016 – May 22, 2016</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>1.5 credit points</b></li><li>• 8 weeks</li><li>• Background: not required but a tutorial about basic programming is advised for those with no experience at all.</li><li>• Certificate = \$49</li></ul>
<p>The Brain and Space <b>Duke University</b> <a href="https://www.coursera.org/course/brainspace">https://www.coursera.org/course/brainspace</a> <b>Next session will be announced (likely to be open in April)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>1 credit point</b></li><li>• 6 weeks</li><li>• Background: No background is required.</li><li>• 6 weekly quizzes no final exam.</li><li>• Certificate = price not available yet.</li></ul>
<p>Machine Learning <b>Stanford University</b> <a href="https://www.coursera.org/learn/machine-learning">https://www.coursera.org/learn/machine-learning</a> <b>March 21, 2016- June 2, 2016</b> <b>April 4, 2016- May 26, 2016</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>2 credit points</b></li><li>• 11 weeks.</li><li>• Background: Basic linear algebra</li><li>• Weekly assignments. “Pass all graded assignments to complete the course”.</li><li>• Certificate = \$49</li></ul>
<p>Engineering Life: Synbio, Bioethics &amp; Public Policy <b>John Hopkins</b>, Berman institute of bioethics <a href="https://www.coursera.org/course/synbioethics">https://www.coursera.org/course/synbioethics</a> <b>Next session will be announced</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>0.5 credit point</b></li><li>• 6 weeks</li><li>• Background: see details</li><li>• Final project + 1-3 integrated quiz and discussion questions in each lecture.</li><li>• Statement of accomplishment from the instructor.</li></ul>

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### **Online courses for credit points**

Upon student council's initiative and preliminary work, the Board of Studies in Life Sciences is launching a pilot program that offers PhD students in the Life Sciences an opportunity to take ONE online course from a short list of courses from the Coursera catalog.

### **List of approved courses**

Attached please find a PDF file containing a list of approved courses including basic information about each course and a link to its main page.

### **Registration**

Students interested in taking one of these courses should register to the course independently.

### **Course dates**

Courses run at different times. Many courses have more than one session per year. Information about future sessions is available in the courses main page. It is the students' responsibility to keep track on opening dates for courses they may be interested in. An easy way to keep track on dates is to open a Coursera user (free) and add courses of interest to the watch list. Please note that for some of the courses offered here, the next session is coming up very soon.

### **Course Fees and Certificate**

In order to get your FGS credit points you will have to provide the FGS with a formal recognition for your accomplishment called a Course Certificate. A Course Certificate is an official Coursera credential that demonstrates the learner's successful completion of a course on the Coursera platform. Certificates are provided as downloadable PDF files. Note that this is an official certificate that you may also add to your CV.

### **Purchasing an option for a Course Certificate**

You will have to purchase this option and pay for it on your own. Once you receive the course certificate you need to submit it to the FGS coordinator of courses. The coordinator will credit you for the course and will arrange for your reimbursement. Please note that submitting just a receipt of payment will NOT be enough for gaining credit points for the course and/or for reimbursement of cost. The FGS will reimburse students only for courses completed successfully.

### **What happens if I paid for a course but did not complete the assignments?**

FGS will provide you with reimbursement only if you complete the course and receive a certificate. Note that Coursera has its own refund policy. In principle, Coursera will offer you a complete full refund until two weeks after the course opens. Some courses offer even a longer refund period. Anyway, before starting any Coursera course for credit points, read its refund policy. [Click here to read more about the Coursera general refund policy.](#)

### **Would like to know more?**

For further information please contact one of the Student Council representatives:

**Adi Goldenzweig** (ext. 4967)

[adig@weizmann.ac.il](mailto:adig@weizmann.ac.il)

**Ido Biran**

[ido.biran@weizmann.ac.il](mailto:ido.biran@weizmann.ac.il)

