Edx Essential Concepts

If you're new to edX, you will see many new terms and concepts. Here we try to explain the most common ones to help you get started.

Pacing

If you're looking for a course, you'll see courses listed like this:

Some edX courses are instructor-paced. These courses follow a set schedule. The course team sets specific due dates for assignments and exams, and you complete the course within a defined time period, such as 8 to 12 weeks.

In contrast, self-paced courses do not follow a set schedule. All of the course materials are available as soon as the course starts. Assignments and exams do not have due dates, so you can progress through the course at your own speed. Self-paced courses are available to complete for usually 3 to 12 months after the date the course is opened to all learners. Course end dates are listed under Important Dates in the course

Audit track vs verified track

Course features differ based on whether you're enrolled in the audit (free) or verified (paid) track of a course. We encourage you to enrol in the audit track first. That way you can browse through the course already and find out if it's the right course for you. You can even start to learn already while you wait for your Remote Access Coupon code!

Verified vs. Audit Track on edX

	Verified Track	Audit Track
Verified Certificates	●	
Graded Assessments	●	
Unlimited Course Access*	●	
Discussion Forums	●	●
Videos	●	●
Readings	●	●
Practice (Ungraded) Problems	●	●
Track Your Progress	●	●

*Audit track learners will lose access to all course content after the expected course duration ends

Paid or Verified track: With this track, you will have access to all course materials including graded assignments. You will have full access to the course material until the course ends. After the course ends, you will still have access to the material, but you will no longer be able to submit graded assignments or earn a certificate.

Free or Audit track: With this track, you will have access to all course materials except graded assignments, and you will not earn a verified certificate the end of the course. You will be able to access the free content for the expected course length that you see on the course About Page (for example, 6 weeks). The time limit starts at the course start date or the learners enrollment date, whichever is second. After this duration, you will no longer be able to access that course material.

Edx Programs explained

Edx offers many types of programs. These programs all consist of multiple courses. You can always join a single course in a program, you don't have to take them all. Below you see an example of a course that is included in a MicroMasters program.

Courses that are part of a Professional Certificate Program, show that on the course about page (the page with all course details on it, before you enrol):

Exceptions to the Remote Access Program

There are two course types, that are NOT included in the edX Remote Access Program. These are Professional Courses and Master courses. Note that this is not the same as courses in a Professional Certificate Program and courses that are part of a MicroMasters program.

EdX only has a few courses that are excluded. This what they look like

Professional education course:
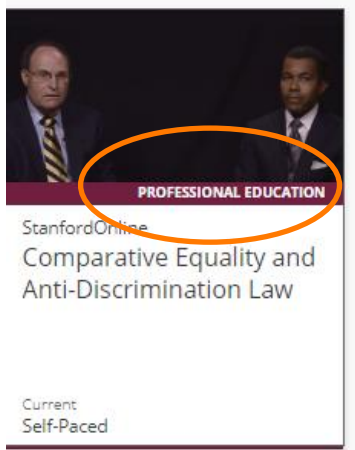
Master's degree:

The coupon codes simply do not work when you try to enter them in these course types. All other course types are included in the Remote Access Program.