

Online Course Evaluation Checklist

A quick, criteria-based way to judge any skill-building course before you commit your time.

Course Name: _____ Platform: _____ Date: _____

1. Curriculum Clarity

- ☐ Syllabus or module list is clearly laid out before you start
- ☐ Learning goals are specific, not vague marketing language
- ☐ Prerequisites (if any) are clearly stated

2. Practice vs Passive Content

- ☐ Includes hands-on practice, not just video lectures to watch
- ☐ Builds toward a concrete project, skill, or demonstrable outcome
- ☐ Offers some form of feedback, even if community-based

3. Time Commitment

- ☐ Weekly time commitment is realistic against my school schedule
- ☐ Course length (weeks/months) is clearly stated upfront
- ☐ I can complete it at my own pace if life gets busy

4. Free vs Paid Decision

- ☐ If paid, I've tried a free equivalent first to confirm genuine interest
- ☐ I know specifically what the paid version offers that free doesn't
- ☐ The certificate (if any) has real, checkable value

5. What Your Results Suggest

Result	What It Means
Most boxes checked	Worth starting — this course is likely to hold up over time
A few gaps	Proceed cautiously, or look for a better-structured alternative
Many boxes unchecked	Likely to be abandoned early — keep looking