[LIBRARY NAME] PATRONS CAN TAKE ONLINE COURSES FROM “UNIVERSAL CLASS” ANYWHERE, AT ANY TIME, AND AT THEIR OWN PACE FREE WITH THEIR LIBRARY CARD

Attention all library patrons: Have you been thinking about going back to school, but don’t have the time or tuition required? Would you like to catch up on your knowledge of technology and computer software, but don’t know where to start? Would you like to learn a new skill for your career or personal growth, but want to work at your own pace?

[Library Name] is now offering Universal Class, with more than 500 lifelong learning and Continuing Education (CE) classes. All classes are designed and led by professional instructors. Universal Class includes videos, assignments, quizzes, tests, and options for social media interaction with other learners. Patrons can take multiple classes and receive Continuing Education Units (CEUs).

Anyone with a library card from one of the Ulster County public libraries can create an account and use Universal Class, completely tuition-free.

To create a free account on Universal Class, visit [Library Website] and click on the “Take an Online Class” link.

These courses are great for job-seekers or people looking to advance professionally, who can enroll in Continuing Education classes in all kinds of subjects, from software programs such as Microsoft Excel, to writing classes, to typing and keyboarding, or creating websites, as well as homeschooling families who wish to take advantage of the wide variety of classes that are all self-paced and involve online interaction with a teacher.

Universal Class has been accredited as an Authorized Provider by the International Association for Continuing Education and Training (IACET). Universal Class subject areas include: Accounting, Business, Entrepreneurship, Office Skills, Alternative Medicine, Parenting and Family, Career Training, Personal Development, Pet and Animal Care, Computers and Technology, Psychology, Crafts and Hobbies, Real Estate, Financial Management, Spiritual Studies, Science, Self-Help, Homeschooling, Test Preparation, Mathematics, Language Arts, Medical Billing, and more. Popular courses include Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Word, Typing and Keyboarding, How to Draw, Investing, Basic Math, Anxiety Therapy, and Yoga.

FACTS ABOUT ONLINE LEARNING

* Online learning offers all types of learners more flexibility, where one can fit in coursework around a work schedule. It allows students to choose an environment that works best for them, whether it’s home, a library, a café, or another location, while also eliminating the cost, time, and environmental impacts of commuting.
* Online learning helps build self-discipline and time-management skills.
* Online learning usually offers students a wider range of topics and courses than would otherwise be available in a traditional continuing education program.
* According to a Brandon-Hall Study, learning online typically requires 40% to 60% less time than learning the same material in a traditional classroom setting.
* The Research Institute of America found that online learning increases retention rates 25% to 60% while retention rates of face-to-face training are very low in comparison: 8% to 10%, because with online learning, students have more control over the learning process and can revisit the instructional material as needed.