
Module 23: Learning Paths, Courses and Communities

The best free and paid courses for Claude and AI tools in 2026, what each institute teaches, YouTube channels worth following, communities, a 90-day plan with weekly assignments, and portfolio projects.



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Product Management Master Handbook

v0.1 · 23 October 2026

Built from the 55-lecture course study guide and extended to the 12-module Product Core curriculum. Hypothetical examples are labelled; no real company results are invented.

Contents

23.1 How to choose a course	3
23.2 Claude: courses from every major provider	4
23.3 AI product management programmes (India and global)	6
23.4 Courses for the other AI tools	7
23.5 YouTube channels	7
23.6 Communities	8
23.7 A 12-week plan with one assignment a week	9
23.8 Portfolio projects that impress	10
23.9 Best practices for learning tools that change monthly	10
23.10 Key takeaways	10
23.11 Check your understanding	11
23.12 Recommended resources	11

MODULE 23

Learning Paths, Courses and Communities

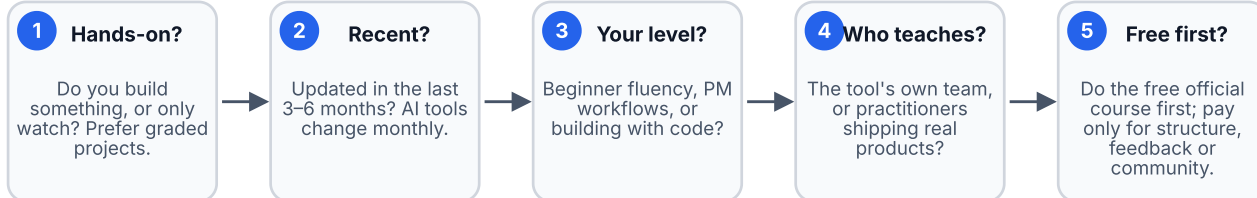
The best free and paid courses for Claude and AI tools in 2026, what each institute teaches, YouTube channels worth following, communities, a 90-day plan with weekly assignments, and portfolio projects.

≈ 3 h study

Course catalogues change

Course titles, prices, ratings and enrolment numbers below come from public listings and reviews found on **23 October 2026**. Catalogues change often, so check each course page before enrolling. Ratings with few reviews are a weak signal. Nothing here is a paid recommendation.

23.1 How to choose a course



Five questions before you pay for a course. The best learning loop is: short official course → build one small project → share it → get feedback → repeat.

23.2 Claude: courses from every major provider

Provider	Course	Level and length	Cost	Notes
Claude Academy	Claude 101	Beginner, about 2.5 h	Free	Everyday tasks and core features; the best starting point
Claude Academy	AI Fluency: Framework and Foundations	Beginner	Free	How to work with AI well; tracks for students, educators and nonprofits
Claude Academy	Claude Code in Action	Intermediate	Free	Using Claude Code in a real development workflow
Claude Academy	Building with the Claude API	Intermediate to advanced, 8+ h	Free	API, tools, RAG, agents
Claude Academy	Introduction to MCP; MCP Advanced Topics	Intermediate to advanced	Free	Building MCP servers and clients
DeepLearning.AI (with Anthropic)	Claude Code: A Highly Agentic Coding Assistant	Intermediate, about 1 h 50 min	Free	Three projects incl. building a web app from a Figma mockup with MCP
Coursera (Vanderbilt)	Claude Code: Software Engineering with Generative AI Agents	Beginner, about 5 h	Coursera Plus or paid	Strong ratings; some reviewers want more hands-on assignments
Coursera (Packt)	Claude AI for Product Managers: From Strategy to Execution	Beginner, about 5 h	Coursera Plus	PM-specific workflows

Provider	Course	Level and length	Cost	Notes
Udemy	Claude AI for Product Management (and similar PM titles)	Beginner to intermediate	Paid (frequent discounts)	Several new courses; few reviews yet, so preview lectures first
Udemy	Claude Code for Product Managers	Beginner to intermediate	Paid	Build and deploy a small product; custom Skills
LinkedIn Learning	Getting Started with Claude	Beginner, 36 min	Included with LinkedIn Learning	Quick overview with a certificate
Product Compass / cohort	Claude Code for PMs (cohort)	Intermediate	About \$2,000+	Live, structured, expensive; new
Frontend Masters	Claude Code	Intermediate (developers)	Subscription	Plan mode, skills, hooks

Claude courses (checked 23 Oct 2026). Anthropic's course site has reportedly been rebuilt as Claude Academy (academy.claude.com), with anthropic.com/learn redirecting there and a larger catalogue; check both addresses for new courses. Suggested order for PMs: Claude 101 → AI Fluency → the DeepLearning.AI Claude Code course → this handbook's Classes 14 and 15 → one paid PM-focused course only if you want structure or feedback.

23.3 AI product management programmes (India and global)

Programme	What it emphasises (from public pages and alumni reviews)	Notes
NextLeap PM Fellowship	PM foundations, user research, PRDs and wireframes, AI applications, milestones, a capstone, interview prep	Strong alumni reviews; check the current syllabus for which AI tools are taught
Airtribe AI-First Product Management	Modules from fundamentals to LLMs, RAG, vibe coding and agentic AI; weekly assignments, capstone, leaderboard	The structure this handbook's 12 core modules follow
HelloPM	Cohort-based PM programmes with mentors and case studies	Compare cohort dates, mentors and AI coverage
Maven cohorts (various instructors)	Short, intensive AI PM and AI building courses	Quality varies by instructor; read reviews
Reforge	Senior PM and growth programmes, AI modules	Best for experienced PMs

23.4 Courses for the other AI tools

Tool	Free official learning	Other good options
Lovable	Lovable docs , official YouTube tutorials	Community Discord challenges; build-along videos
Replit	Replit docs and Replit's YouTube	Udemy Replit Agent courses (check recency)
Figma	Figma Learn and Help Center , Figma's YouTube	Coursera Google UX Design Certificate (uses Figma)
Notion	Notion Help and Academy	Template creators' tutorials
Zapier	Zapier Learn	Zapier's own courses and webinars
Make	Make Academy (free, with badges)	
n8n	n8n docs and courses (Level 1 and 2, free)	YouTube creators below
Voice agents	Vapi, Retell AI and ElevenLabs docs and YouTube channels	Build-along videos for receptionist agents
WhatsApp bots	Meta's WhatsApp Business Platform docs	Your BSP's academy (Interakt, WATI, Gupshup)

23.5 YouTube channels

OFFICIAL CHANNELS

- Anthropic
- n8n
- Lovable
- Replit
- Figma
- Notion
- Zapier
- Make
- Vapi and Retell AI

CLAUDE CODE AND AI BUILDING

- Nick Saraev (Claude Code, automation)
- Riley Brown (vibe coding)
- Official 'Claude Code best practices' talks

N8N AND AUTOMATION

- Nate Herk (n8n AI agents)
- Nick Saraev
- Channels tracked as fast-growing in 2026, e.g. Emma Explains AI, Jimi Barkway

PRODUCT MANAGEMENT AND AI

- Lenny's Podcast
- Peter Yang (Behind the Craft)
- Aakash Gupta (Product Growth)

STARTUP IDEAS AND AI TOOLS

- Greg Isenberg
- Matt Wolfe (AI tool news)

HOW TO WATCH

- Code along, pause often
- Prefer videos from the last 3 months
- Check the tool's docs when a video looks outdated

Channels worth following (check recency before you binge). Creator channels are a mix of tutorials and promotion. Use them for ideas and walkthroughs, and the official docs for the facts.

23.6 Communities

- **Anthropic / Claude:** the official Claude Discord and r/ClaudeAI for tips and help.
- **n8n:** the [n8n community forum](#) (very active, with shared workflows) and r/n8n.
- **Lovable and Replit:** official Discord servers with build challenges.
- **Product management:** Lenny's community, Mind the Product, local PM meetups, and your course cohort's Slack or Discord.

23.7 A 12-week plan with one assignment a week

We ek	Learn	Assignment (portfolio-ready)
1	Class 13 + Claude 101	Set up all accounts; write a one-page AI tools policy for yourself
2	Class 14 Level 1–2	Project for a product you know; interview synthesis artifact
3	Class 14 Level 3	Gmail + Calendar morning brief; Slack weekly update
4	Class 15 Level 1–2 + DeepLearning.AI course	Landing page in Claude Code, pushed to GitHub, deployed
5	Class 18	Three-screen Figma prototype tested with two users
6	Class 16	Lovable MVP with database and login; RLS tested
7	Class 19	Notion product hub; one PRD with critique and tickets
8	Class 20 Level 1–2	Zapier Gmail → Slack; Make form router
9	Class 20 Level 3	n8n AI email triage; MCP tool Claude can call
10	Class 21	Telegram bot, then WhatsApp test-number bot with handoff
11	Class 22	Voice receptionist with booking tool (browser test)
12	Capstone	Clinic AI front desk (Class 13) end to end; case study write-up and demo video

12-week AI tools plan for PMs (about 5 hours a week). Post each assignment publicly (LinkedIn, GitHub, your portfolio site) with a short write-up: problem, what you built, what you learned, what you'd do next.

23.8 Portfolio projects that impress

1. **AI front desk for a small business** (capstone): WhatsApp bot + voice agent + booking app + automation.
2. **Inbox triage agent** for a team: n8n + Claude + Slack, with measured time saved.
3. **PRD-to-prototype in a day**: Notion PRD → Figma → Lovable or Claude Code → usability test.
4. **Feedback intelligence dashboard**: Replit or Lovable app that tags feedback with AI and charts themes.
5. **Your own MCP tool** that Claude uses at work (for example "create a Jira ticket from this chat").

For each, include the problem, users, metrics, architecture picture, costs, risks and guardrails, and what you'd do with an engineering team.

23.9 Best practices for learning tools that change monthly

- **Learn concepts, not buttons**: triggers, tools, memory, evaluation, permissions. Buttons move; concepts last.
- **Read release notes** of your main tools monthly.
- **Keep a build log**: a Notion page listing what you built, prompts that worked, and mistakes.
- **Teach it**: a 5-minute Loom or LinkedIn post locks in what you learned.
- **Respect costs and privacy** from day one: spend limits, test data, approved tools only for work data.

23.10 Key takeaways

- Start with **free official courses** (Claude Academy, DeepLearning.AI, tool academies), then build.
- Pay for a course only for **structure, feedback or community**, and check how recent it is.
- Follow a **weekly assignment** rhythm and publish what you build.
- Combine **official docs** for facts with **creators** for walkthroughs and ideas.

23.11 Check your understanding

CHECK YOUR UNDERSTANDING

What's the best first Claude course for most PMs?

- A. An expensive cohort
- B. Anthropic Academy's free Claude 101
- C. A random video from 2023
- D. None; just guess

Why: It's free, official and covers everyday features.

Which signal matters most when picking an AI tools course in 2026?

- A. The thumbnail
- B. How recently it was updated and whether you build projects
- C. The number of slides
- D. The course's length alone

Why: Tools change monthly; hands-on, recent courses transfer best.

23.12 Recommended resources

- [Claude Academy](#) (formerly [anthropic.com/learn](#)) · [DeepLearning.AI short courses](#)
- [Coursera: Claude Code \(Vanderbilt\)](#) · [LinkedIn Learning](#)
- [Make Academy](#) · [n8n courses](#) · [Zapier Learn](#)
- [Product Compass: best AI PM courses \(2026 review\)](#)