



Android Developer Nanodegree program

Student Handbook & Syllabus

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I. Introduction

Welcome to Udacity's Android Developer Nanodegree program! After reading this document, you should understand the requirements and policies of the Nanodegree program, where completing the program will take you, and how to get support when you need it.

Please read this whole document carefully before you begin, and if you still have questions at the end, feel free to contact us in the [forums](#) or at android-support@udacity.com.

Once again, welcome, and we can't wait to see what you achieve!

Happy learning,
The Udacity Team

II. Anatomy of a Nanodegree program

A Nanodegree program consists of a series of projects and support courses designed to help you develop job-relevant skills and build a portfolio to show prospective employers. Udacity designed the Android Developer Nanodegree curriculum through close work with experts at Google .

You learn how to write code that could reach millions of people not only on their phones ... but also on their tablets, TVs, wearables, and even cars!

Projects and Courses

The bulk of the Nanodegree program consists of completing seven **projects**, accompanied by **courses**. These courses are designed to help you prepare to work on your projects, but they are not mandatory. More information is provided in [Section III: Nanodegree Roadmap](#). You can see a list of these projects and courses in your [Udacity Home](#) after you enroll.

Deadlines

To help you pace yourself, each project has its own **deadline** -- a date by which the project must be submitted -- that you'll need to reach in order to make good progress in your Nanodegree program. You'll find your deadlines in your [Udacity Home](#).

Career Development

Career development, in addition to technical growth, is an important part of the Nanodegree program. Udacity's career development support includes:

- One-on-one feedback on your resume, LinkedIn, and GitHub profiles, and feedback as you prepare for [behavioral](#) and [technical](#) interviews.
- Career Development Workshops with industry experts touching on topics like [salary negotiation](#).
- One-on-one career appointments and email support to help you work through any career questions you have.
- Introductions to employers and recruiters through Udacity Talent Source. To take part in this program, make sure you fill out your Udacity Profile fully to best show off your talents to Udacity partner employers.
- Access to [Udacity's Career Resource Center](#) and its library of helpful articles, videos, and workshops.

Community

One of the biggest benefits of the Nanodegree experience is being part of a **community** and completing the program with hundreds of other students from around the world. Though not all students may move through the curriculum at exactly the same pace, your Nanodegree community will be your strongest resource and support system. We expect you to be active in your community, as outlined in the [Honor Code](#).

Time Commitment

We designed this Nanodegree program so that you can graduate in **9-12 months**, assuming you devote at least **10 hours per week** to learn and work on the required projects.

III. Nanodegree Roadmap

Enrollment Requirements

This Nanodegree program has several important criteria that you should have met before enrolling in the program. Please make sure you have already done each of the following:

1. Fulfilled all [prerequisites](#), as listed on the Android Developer Nanodegree program overview page.
2. Made sure your system satisfies Udacity's [Technology Requirements](#).

If you have not done all of these things, please do them right away. If you realize you are not prepared to begin the program at this time, please [unsubscribe from the Nanodegree program](#) **before** your 7-day free trial ends. You will be able to re-enroll during a later enrollment period when you are ready.

We cannot guarantee a refund for students on account of unpreparedness as this is an intermediate Nanodegree program. Students are expected to have prior experience building web or mobile applications in Java and/or other object-oriented programming languages before enrolling.

Program Timeline and Project Portfolio

Graduating from the Nanodegree program requires that you submit work that meets Udacity's specifications for seven particular projects. You can submit a project as many times as required until it meets specifications. **You can find the week-to-week schedule, as well as a roadmap for what you'll work on in the program, on the [Udacity Homepage](#).**

If you are not able to meet a deadline, we will automatically adjust your deadlines based on your progress and activity in the Nanodegree program. This will *not* affect your overall standing in the Nanodegree program!

Project Submission and Graduation

You will submit each project you complete to Udacity for evaluation using your [Udacity Home](#). Detailed submission instructions for each project are listed in its project info sections, accessible by clicking the project's name in your Home.

You can submit projects as soon as you enroll in the Nanodegree program. Due to the high volume of submissions and the time it takes to give personalized feedback, the turnaround period for project evaluations is currently **1 week**. We encourage you to start working on the next project or associated support course while waiting for the evaluation to be returned. Once your project is evaluated, you will receive an email with a link to your evaluation. You can also view the feedback from your Udacity Home.

Once your project Meets or Exceeds Specifications of its rubric (found in the Project Information section), you may be required to do a verification interview with a Udacity Coach to demonstrate that the project in question represents your own work and/or correctly cites all sources and reasons for using others' code in any part of your submission. **For verification purposes, you will be asked to show a government-issued ID during your graduation process.**

To become a verified graduate of the Android Developer Nanodegree Program, you must:

- Successfully complete all projects in the Project Portfolio in the Nanodegree curriculum, earning a "Meets Specifications" or above for all projects
- Schedule and pass any requested verification interviews
- Maintain good standing for the duration of the program
- Stay in the program longer than two months past the Free Trial window

How do I maintain good standing in the program?

To maintain good standing and stay in the program, students are expected to meet the following criteria:

- Abide by the [Udacity Honor Code](#), the [Terms of Service](#), and the terms outlined in this Android Developer Nanodegree program Student Handbook
- If asked, schedule a verification interview within 7 days

The requirements above are designed to help students graduate from the Android Developer Nanodegree Program within 9-12 months of enrollment or earlier. Students who do not maintain good standing will be asked to leave the program.

Honor Code

Nanodegree Program

- I will abide by the [Terms of Service](#), Student Handbook guidelines, and all components of the Honor Code set for Udacity Nanodegree participants.
- I will conduct myself with honor as part of the Udacity community.
- I understand that all decisions regarding participation, graduation, and awarding of verified certificates will be made by Udacity at its sole discretion.

Project Submissions

- I hereby confirm that all project submissions consist of my own work. Accordingly, I will document and cite the origins of any part(s) of my project submissions that were taken from websites, books, forums, blog posts, github repositories, or any other source and explain why I used them for any part of my submission. I understand that I may be asked to explain my work in a video call with a Udacity Coach before my Nanodegree certificate is conferred.

Community Guidelines

- I will help cultivate a positive, supportive learning environment.
- I will communicate respectfully and considerately with all other Nanodegree participants, Udacity Coaches, and Udacity representatives.
- I will not share any content that is obscene, illicit, threatening, or discriminatory.
- I will contribute constructively to discussions with fellow students.
- I will notify a Udacity Coach immediately if I become aware of cheating or plagiarism by any Nanodegree student.

IV. Nanodegree Support System

Community Forum

Each Nanodegree program has its own **Udacity Discussions forum** where students can ask and answer each other's questions about the projects, program logistics, and course material. Udacity Coaches also moderate posts, answer student questions, and publicize important program information in this forum. Coaches do their best to ensure all content-related questions have answers within twenty-four hours.

To access the forum, click the [Discussions](#) link from any classroom page in your Nanodegree program. Then click the “Log In” button in the upper right hand corner to be automatically signed in.

Events and Google+ Communities

Nanodegree students have access to content, community, and career events integral to their learning experience through Google Hangouts On Air hosted in the [Android Developer Nanodegree Google+ Community](#). **To join this community, each student needs to have or create a Google+ account under the same name they’ve registered for Udacity with.**

Webcasts

Webcasts are live, 45-60 minute sessions in which Udacity instructors will provide in-depth explanations of projects, as well as supplementary resources related to Android App development. We will send an announcement when these sessions are scheduled.

You can access these events from your Udacity homepage and the Android Developer Google + Community. Recordings of each session will be available afterward. If you are unable to make a live broadcast, you are welcome to submit questions you have in advance and come back to hear them answered when it’s convenient for you.

Office Hours

Office Hours are unrecorded video conversations (via Google Hangouts) between Udacity Coaches and a small group of up to 15 students on a first-come, first-served basis. These events occur multiple times a week and serve as an opportunity for you to ask questions and engage with your fellow Nanodegree students face-to-face.

Access the calendar for Office Hours is [here](#). This calendar is also located in your Udacity Home.

Coach Appointments

The Udacity Coach team is available for 30-minute one-on-one appointments on a first come, first served basis. The purpose of these meetings is to help answer in-depth content-related questions that you cannot get answers to elsewhere. Below are instructions on how to setup an appointment:

1. Go to the Android Developer Nanodegree program [Appointment Calendar](#).
2. Fill out the mandatory questions in the Description section of the appointment. Be as specific as you can so that coaches can prepare beforehand. Appointments without the form filled out will be cancelled.
3. Double-check to make sure that your timezone is consistent with our hours. Feel free to contact the coach conducting the appointment beforehand to confirm.
4. If you need to reschedule or cancel, please do so within 48 hours of your appointment. If you are unable to attend an appointment less than 48 hours in advance, it is your responsibility to email the coach and let them know. **Otherwise, you may be prohibited from making an appointment for another two weeks.**
5. Students can make appointments once every two weeks, and up to two weeks in advance. This is to ensure that we can give time to as many students as possible since we expect individual appointments to be in high demand.

Career Development Events

Career development, in addition to technical growth, is a very important part of the Nanodegree program. Udacity offers two monthly career development events over Google Hangouts On Air through the [Google+ Community](#) for Nanodegree students to attend. Please see the [Career Activities Calendar](#) (also in your [Udacity Home](#)) for a list of events. We also encourage you to watch events that took place prior to your enrollment! You'll find their recorded versions in the Career Activities Calendar and the "Past Events" section of the Google+ Community.

V. Payment Policy and Cancellations

Free Trials

All Nanodegree programs start with a 7-day free trial (more precisely, seven 24-hour cycles), during which time you will have full access to all Nanodegree features.

You are required to enter their credit card information at the time of enrollment, but will not be billed until after your free trial expires. After this, you will automatically be charged a fee of **\$200 per month** for your Nanodegree subscription.

Cancellations and Refunds

If you opt to cancel your enrollment within the one-week Free Trial window, you will not be charged, regardless of how far you have come in the program. **We strongly recommend that you complete the [Project 0: My App Portfolio](#) before the one-week Free Trial window expires to make sure that the Nanodegree program is a good fit for you.**

Students who cancel will no longer be charged the monthly subscription fee, effective the next billing cycle from the date of cancellation. Students who wish to cancel after the Free Trial expires will not be granted a refund for past month's subscription fees.

Pausing a Nanodegree program

Due to the open nature of our courses combined with the pacing of the Nanodegree program, Udacity cannot pause active subscriptions. However, we understand that our students are very busy and that life can take unexpected turns, which may not always leave enough time to continue the Nanodegree program at the required pace.

As you move through your Nanodegree program, all of your progress is automatically saved. Therefore, if you feel that you need to take a break from the program at any point, you are welcome to cancel your subscription and then re-enroll during a future open registration period when you are ready to return. You'll be able to pick up right where you left off!

More Questions?

We are actively working on ways to improve the Android Developer Nanodegree program. Please be aware that we may make adjustments throughout your time in the program based on student and industry feedback. We will notify active Nanodegree students about any impact this may have on their experience or program requirements.

If you have any unanswered questions, please email android-support@udacity.com!