Online Education
at the University of Colorado Boulder

We believe online courses and credentials promote equity and accessibility, extending CU Boulder’s reach and projecting its value to meet our students’ needs wherever they may be located.

- Support faculty members & academic units in developing and delivering online offerings
  - Created inaugural Faculty Director for Online Education
  - Partnered with the Center for Teaching & Learning (CTL) for in-load online teaching in the post-pandemic learning environment (PILOT Program)
- Address online-specific student support needs
  - Developed alternative credentials (i.e., badging, micro-credentials)
  - Established online tutoring support
  - Instituted mental health support
- Strong administrative support by our Online Action Team
  - Streamlined/navigated multiple enrollment systems across campus
  - Compressed marketing/recruitment efforts specific to online credential programs
  - Consolidated portfolio and programmatic marketing for online credentials

CU Boulder is focused on improving the student and faculty experience in all modalities.

- Implementation of the CRM Strategic Roadmap
  - Conduct an in-depth discovery process and formulate use cases for online education
- Leveraging two online platforms to create multiple pathways for student success and achievement
  - Canvas and Coursera platforms
- Developing programmatic digital marketing to identify learners
- Support to create school/college online strategic plans (Academic Futures)
- Use CTL PILOT Program to jumpstart new offerings (Online Pipeline)
- Using market research to guide new offerings
- Selectively engaging highly recognized CU Boulder programs for development into online programs and credentials

Current Initiatives

Program Highlights

- Post-Baccalaureate in Computer Science
- MS in Organizational Leadership (MSOL)
- MS in Electrical Engineering (MS-EE)
- MS in Outdoor Recreation Economy (MORE)
- MA in Teacher Leadership (MA-TL)
- MA in Corporate Communication (MACC)
- MS in Data Science (MS-DS)
- ME in Engineering Management (ME-EM)
- MS in Computer Science (MS-CS)

9 new online programs launched since 2017

9 new online programs
since 2017

5858 online students (2023)

166K credit hours (2023)
The University of Colorado Boulder is focused on speeding time to delivery of new academic modalities for our colleges, schools and institutes.

4 Degree Programs
5 Graduate Certificates
66 Specializations
270 Courses

University of Colorado Boulder + coursera

Program Reach
Since launch, MS-EE has enrolled students from 93 countries, MS-DS from 89 countries, and ME-EM from 35 countries.

Program Scale
4500+ unique students enrolled in MS-EE, MS-DS, and ME-EM since launch. MS-DS has admitted 1103 students in its first two years.

2013: CU Boulder launches 4 MOOCs covering topics in Electrical Engineering, Physics, Literature and Programming

2017: Inspired by the success of the Power Electronics MOOC, the Electrical Engineering department develops a performance-based, stackable Master of Science in Electrical Engineering

2019: MS-EE degree program launched
   ◦ Degree Admissions to date = 381
   ◦ Degree Conferrals to date = 42
   ◦ Certificate Conferrals to date = 144

2021: MS-DS degree program launched
   ◦ Degree Admissions to date = 1103
   ◦ Degree Conferrals to date = 79
   ◦ Certificate Conferrals to date = 82

2022: ME-EM degree program launched
   ◦ Degree Admissions to date = 167
   ◦ Degree Conferrals to date = 7

2023: MS-CS degree program launched
   ◦ Fall enrollments to date = 356

SeungGeon Kim
MS-DS student | University of Colorado Boulder

“You need to get a house when you go to campus, you have to pay for food. If you do it online, you can do it from your home. I was able to complete the degree while working full-time as a game designer.”

Coursera Degree Features

• Performance-Based Admissions
  ◦ Earn a B or better in 3 pathway courses to gain admission

• Stackable Credentials

• Degree Pricing Models
  ◦ MS-DS and MS-CS are testing price models based on annual IRS employer education benefits deduction ($5250)

• Enrollment Options
  ◦ Six 8-week sessions per year with six enrollment periods

• Collaboration with Industry Partners