Are you in college studying liberal arts? Or math? Or basket weaving? Doesn’t matter: having tech skills can benefit you. Just because you’re in a non-tech major doesn’t mean you can’t take advantage of some techie college courses that can help you out big-time down the road.

Here are nine college courses you should consider taking advantage of.

1. **Introduction to Programming**

   Most universities offer an introductory-level computer programming course. Depending on the university and instructor, you’ll cover the fundamentals of programming logic, touching upon problem solving, algorithmic design, data structures, and more.

   Even if you don’t want to become a full-blown programmer, knowing how computers work and how to write basic computer programs can help big-time in the job market. According to research at LinkedIn, computing, mobile development, web architecture and development frameworks, algorithmic design, and other programming-related skills are some of the most in-demand skills in 2016. Knowing even a little can go a long way in your job hunt.

2. **Technology and Human Values**

   Many universities offer courses that look at technology’s impact on humans and society. Like Lehigh University’s Technology and Human Values course, or University of Miami’s Social and Ethical Issues in Computing course.

   Taking a course like this will help you understand humans’ relationship to technology, the responsibilities it entails, and how to navigate issues of privacy, liberty, and security in a world where everything we do is on the web forever.

   If you’re a liberal arts major, this is already in your wheelhouse: a more philosophical/analytical way of studying technology.

3. **Introduction to Digital Media**

   This course could also be called “Introduction to Electronic Media” or “Introduction to Digital Design.”

   Usually, these kinds of courses teach you how to create computer-generated media using tools in the Adobe Creative Cloud, like Photoshop and InDesign. They also cover topics like typography, color theory, illustration, layout, and other fundamental principles of digital design/media.

   Knowing how to use industry tools in the Adobe Creative Cloud comes in handy in a range of careers, from marketing to content creation (and of course design itself). Also, understanding the principles of design can help in ways outside the workplace—like designing your BFF’s birthday party invitation or your wedding save-the-dates.

4. **Introduction to Web Design**

   Web design differs from digital media in that it’s less about creating images/graphics/layouts, and more about front-end coding that goes into creating a web page. You’ll learn HTML, sometimes CSS, and theories of making websites aesthetically appealing.

   Even if you don’t design websites, there are plenty of scenarios where you might need or want to use HTML, CSS, and web design principles. These skills can carry over into careers in marketing, business, and entrepreneurship. Plus, adding HTML and CSS to your resume is a total booster!

5. **Introduction to Video Recording and Editing**

   In this class, you’ll learn the basics of how to create videos, including choosing equipment, recording, editing, and using the software that makes it possible.

   Even if you’re not an aspiring filmographer, there are plenty of reasons to pursue basic film skills. Video is a form of communication, like writing, and it’s a tool many companies take advantage of today. It is used on social media, to advertise on company websites, as part of documentation to explain concepts, etc.

   Plus, adding video software to your LinkedIn or resume will help you stand out from other candidates.
6. Introduction to Entrepreneurship

Here, you’ll learn the principles of starting as well as operating an entrepreneurial venture. Areas it may cover include the entrepreneurial mindset, the process of creating a startup, basic finance and marketing necessities, how to grow the business, and more.

While an introduction to entrepreneurship course is not techie in nature, most of the greatest tech companies today were started small, as startups led by entrepreneurs. Understanding their mindset will make you better in the workplace and have a more rounded understanding of how these ventures work. (And, who knows, maybe one day you’ll have an amazing idea and want to strike out on your own!)

7. Introduction to Information Systems

Here, you’ll explore the role that information systems play in supporting and managing business functions, allowing companies to compete in the marketplace. You’ll learn about the physical infrastructure, the technical operation, and the strategy of integrating information systems into a business.

If you want to pursue a career in business and especially upper management, knowing how the systems work behind the scenes will be a huge help. (And by the end of the course you’ll probably also be an expert with spreadsheets.)

8. Introduction to Statistics

Statistics is the practice of collecting and analyzing numerical data. You may not associate statistics with technology…but think again. Business Intelligence, or BI, is a growing discipline that involves using software applications to analyze an organization’s raw data. This may include data mining, analytics, report creation, etc.

Taking statistics now, in college, can make you a more attractive candidate later. In most universities, you can either take statistics as an elective, or use it to fill a math requirement.

9. Foundations of Data Science

In 2012 HBR called data scientists the sexiest career of the 21st century. And for good reason: data science in the business has proven to work. It shows trends and data, and gives leaders better info to make more informed decisions. In a data science course, you’ll learn the basics of how to collect, analyze, and report on data.

There is a shortage of data scientists. For that reason, getting a grasp of basic data science principles will only make you a stronger candidate in the job search. Plus, taking the course will help sharpen your critical thinking skills.

Whether or not these exact courses are offered at your university, today there are plenty of ways to learn something if you set your mind to it. Many top universities offer courses like these for free online. You can get started by perusing MOOC platforms like edX and Coursera.

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I empower people to gain tech skills so they can level up their career.

I am the creator of Learn to Code With Me, where I help people learn how to code so they can get ahead in their careers and ultimately find more fulfillment in their lives. After teaching myself how to code at 22 years old, I discovered the abundance of professional opportunities that technological knowledge can offer. Today, I show others how digital skill acquisition can open doors to new professional possibilities. I am passionate about EdTech, and using technology to break down barriers in the education system. My writing has been featured on Mashable, SitePoint, The Muse, and more. You can find me at learntocodewith.me or on Twitter @learncodewithme.