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**Pioneer of global flexible education online with Coursera**

The pioneer of global flexible education, the University of London International Programmes, is the first English higher education institution to join Coursera, in delivering free short courses across the continents.

To begin with, five courses will be offered: –

* ‘Why We Need Psychology’
* ‘Creative Programming for Digital Media and Mobile App Development’
* ‘Malicious Software and its Underground Economy: Two Sides to Every Story’
* ‘English Common Law: An Introduction’
* ‘The Camera Never Lies’: Film, Images & Historical Interpretation in the C20th: An Introduction’

The five courses will become available within the next few months through Coursera’s online platform, which within the first six months of its launch succeeded in enrolling 1.3 million students worldwide.

Professor Jonathan Kydd, Dean of the University of London International Programmes, said he welcomed the move.

Since 1858, the University of London International Programmes has provided access to quality higher education around the world. Professor Kydd explained how working with Coursera introduces a new chapter to this story. “Coursera and the University of London share a common mission based around access.  By combining our experience, we will provide even greater access to life-long learning as well as extending high quality education to those that may otherwise not have had the opportunity to study at all.”

“Students who enjoy our free offering through Coursera will have the opportunity to apply to become a student on one of our 100+ study programmes that lead to full University of London degrees.  We have 52,000 students in 180 countries working with us already and a unique network of 600 examination centres worldwide.”

“It is with great excitement and anticipation that we look forward to a flourishing new relationship with Coursera,” concluded Professor Kydd.

Professor Daphne Koller, Co-founder of Coursera, said: “We are delighted to see the University of London International Programmes, with its long standing tradition of delivering flexible and distance education around the world, offer a taste of its programmes through our online platform.  We are excited on collaborating on our shared mission of providing greater access to quality higher education.”

**-ENDS-**

**Notes for Editors**

**University of London International Programmes**

* The University of London was established in 1836 and is one of the oldest, largest and most diverse universities in the UK. Its founding principle is to provide education for all, irrespective of race, creed or political belief.
* In 1858, the University of London was granted its fourth Charter, which paved the way for the establishment of the University of London External System, which was renamed on 1 August 2010 as the University of London International Programmes.
* The University of London International Programmes is the world’s oldest provider of degrees through distance and flexible learning.
* The International Programmes has been instrumental in the formation of British higher education – all English and Welsh universities founded between 1849 and 1949 offered University of London degrees before obtaining Royal Charters to award their own degrees.
* Today, the University of London International Programmes is a unique global network of more than 52,000 students in 180 countries, on 100+ study programmes.
* Famous former students and alumni include seven Nobel Prize Winners: Sir Frederick Gowland Hopkins; Professor Ronald Coase; Wole Soyinka; Derek Walcott; former President Nelson Mandela; joint-winner Charles Kao; and joint-winner Dr Rolph Payet, currently Vice-Chancellor of the University of Seychelles.
* To find out more about the University of London International Programmes, visit our website: [www.londoninternational.ac.uk](http://www.londoninternational.ac.uk/).

**Coursera**

* Coursera is on a mission to change the world by educating millions of people by offering classes from top universities and professors online for free.
* Coursera’s comprehensive education platform combines mastery-based learning principles with video lectures, interactive content and a global community of peers, offering students from around the world a unique online learning experience.
* Coursera has partnered with top-tier universities to provide courses across a broad range of disciplines, including medicine, literature, history and computer science, among others.
* Coursera is backed by leading venture capital firms, Kleiner Perkins Caulfield & Bayers and New Enterprise Associates. For more information visit Coursera.org.