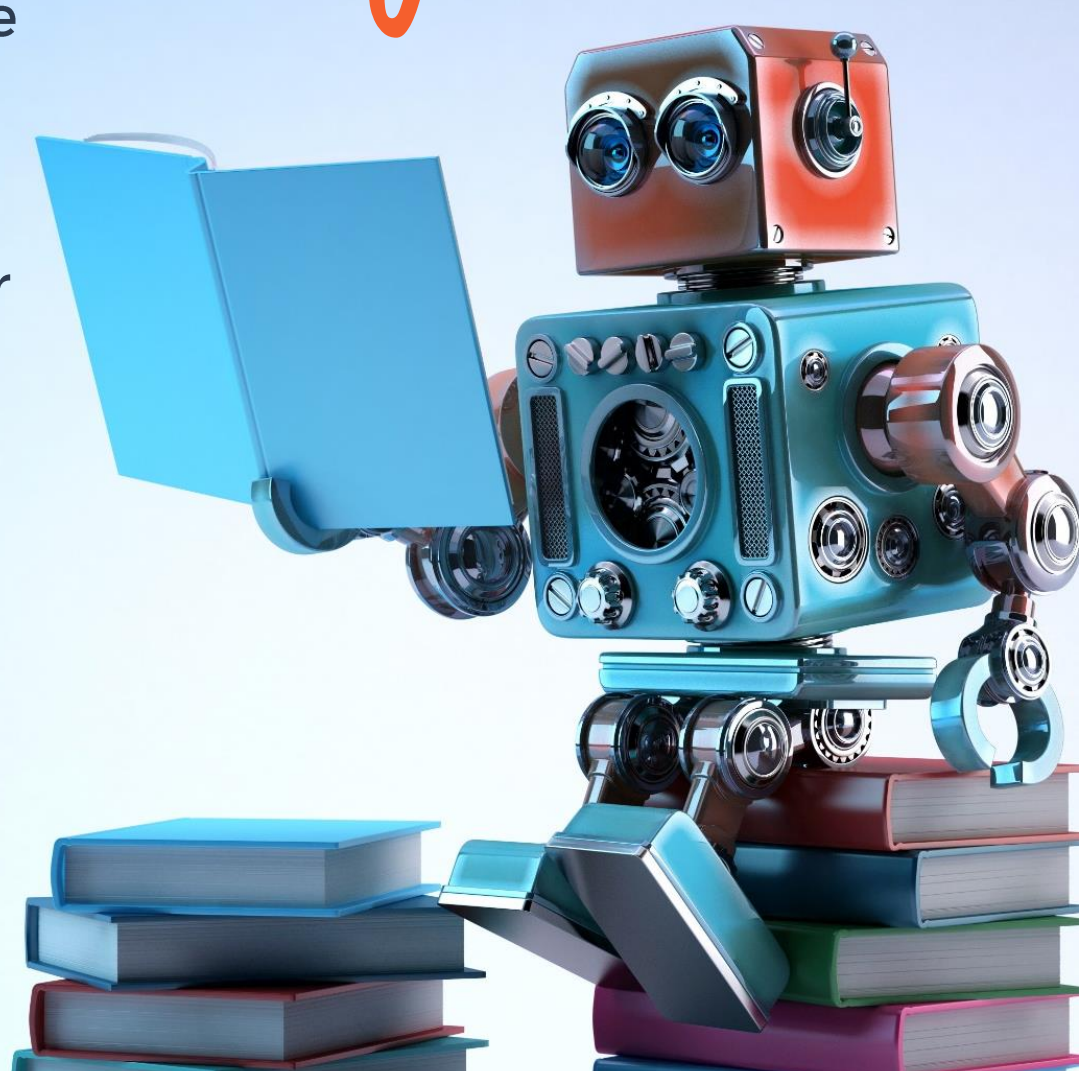


6 WAYS TO SUPPLEMENT YOUR ONLINE COURSE with a modern-day *reading room*

Your own focused lessons will be the core of your online course. With that core made clear, though, you will always have students who want to go deeper in their learning or practice or who could benefit from additional motivation, inspiration, and instruction.

Below I share 6 kinds of supplemental materials to consider incorporating into your classroom as well as several ideas for how to present them.



1 Resources that allow deeper study.

Link offsite to useful tools and lessons. For example, if you're teaching guitar, you might link to a fingering chart that's already available from a music publisher or guitar maker. If you're teaching brake repair for bikes, you could compile links to diagrams and parts lists from top bike brands.

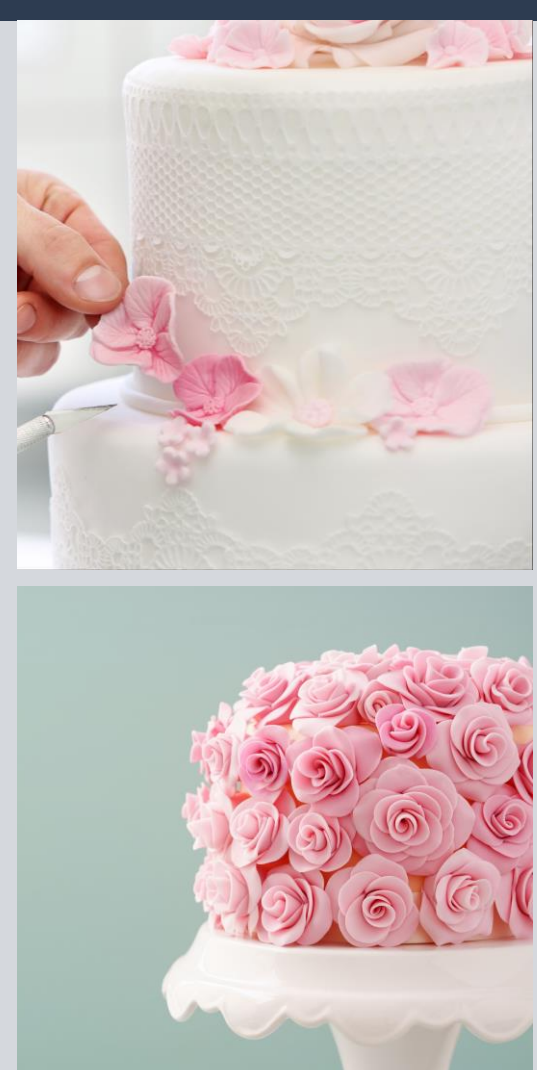


2 Resources that expose your students to other voices that echo or enhance your teaching.

Look to the experts in your field and the free materials they've made available that confirm what you're teaching and give your students confidence and motivation in their own progress. For example, if you're teaching wellness, you might include a public video from Oprah's Soul Sunday with Tony Robbins or Brene Brown (these are public YouTube videos with embedding on other sites allowed).

3 Resources that inspire creative work and motivate your students to take action by example.

If you're asking your students to take action with what you've taught them, then share videos, articles or Pinterest Board collections that show the work of others who've done this kind of work successfully. Show results that your students can aspire to. For example, if you're teaching a creative skill, create a pinboard of completed projects: quilts, woodwork projects, DIY home décor, or plated gourmet meals.

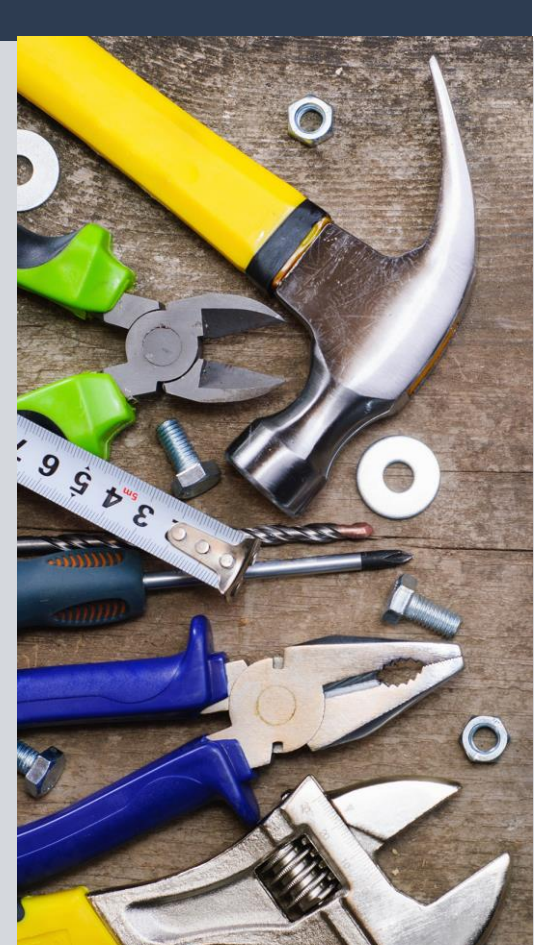


4 Resources that provide a broader understanding and trigger connections for students.

If your teaching asks students to look inward, whether for self-transformation or for the development of personal creative work, share articles and works by others that show different angles on the topic. For example, at my craft education site, I'll soon be prompting students to create journal pages on the topic of clutter (or decluttering). A supplemental resource is a Pinterest Board of essays and opinion pieces from top newspapers and magazines on the topic of clutter and decluttering.

5 Resources and free tools that can be used to complete work.

What's your topic, and are there free tools your students could make use of as they complete the work of your class? Are there templates, recipes, printables, apps, fonts or some other items that others make available for free that your students could use? Collecting these items makes a great supplement for your students.



6 Resources that can enable field-work-type assignments.

Consider the new assignment possibilities you have for your students when you can collect the raw materials for that assignment from the internet. For example: If you're teaching floral arrangement, you could share a Pinterest board of floral arrangements and ask your students to pick one and make an arrangement inspired by it—or to pick one and explain how the colors (or textures or balance) contribute to its success as a design.

