**FutureLearn announces first US university partners**

**Notes to editors**

Please find below quotes and course links for the partner universities as well as contact details for further information.

**Dean, John Delaney from American University commented:**

“American University's Business@American seeks to extend access to learning opportunities for students around the world.  An open platform provides prospective students with a real learning environment and one that will challenge and encourage them to continue their professional studies. The Kogod School is committed to extending its online presence and the FutureLearn platform provides and engaging way to introduce students to the possibilities online learning creates for career advancement.”  For more information, please contact press contacts Garland Knott: gknott@american.edu or Ericka Acosta: acosta@american.edu

**Provost, Rick Miranda from Colorado State University commented:**

“Working with FutureLearn and other world-class institutions is a powerful way for CSU to share information and expertise that’s both interesting and valuable for people who love to learn. Lifelong learning from quality institutions is increasingly important as people adapt to rapid changes in industries and careers, and FutureLearn is a perfect extension of our mission as a Land Grant institution to engage with people in communities in Colorado and around the world as they extend their education and learning throughout the course of their lives.” For more information, please contact Jeff Dodge, Communications Coordinator: Jeff.Dodge@colostate.edu

**Renata Engel, Interim Vice Provost for Online Education from Penn State commented:**

“Penn State has long been a leader in distance and online education, and we’re excited to offer free online courses through FutureLearn’s highly collaborative and engaging platform,” said Renata Engel, interim vice provost for online education at Penn State. “This partnership is another way the University is addressing its ability to improve access to higher education and advance understanding.” For more information, please contact Mike Dawson, Public Relations Specialist: mdawson@psu.edu

Two initial courses will launch from Penn State on 14 February. **1.** [**Energy, the environment and our future**](https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/energy-environment-future)**, 2.** [**Maps and the geospatial revolution**](https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/maps-geospatial-revolution)**.**

**Jonathan Harbor Director of Digital Education from Purdue University commented:**

“As both an international and land-grant university, Purdue is committed to offering access to learning opportunities that bring a global perspective to a broad audience in ways that meet their educational needs. Our partnership with FutureLearn provides exciting opportunities to serve new and existing audiences in the U.S. and globally using an innovative social learning platform, and is part of our broader strategy to enhance our online presence moving forward.” For more information, please contact Brian Zink, Senior Director, News and Information: bzink@purdue.edu

Three courses from Purdue University will launch on 14 February: **1.** [**Communicating complex information**](https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/communicating-complex-information) **2.** [**Body weight: How our brain, behaviour and genetics influence appetite and food choices.**](https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/body-weight) **3.** [**Persuasive communication: What makes messages persuasive?**](https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/persuasive-communication)

**Tom Steenburgh, Senior Associate Dean for Executive Education and Non-credit, University of Virginia Darden School of Business commented:**

“The University of Virginia Darden School of Business is excited to partner with FutureLearn to extend and expand our reach and impact across the globe. FutureLearn’s focus on the learning community perfectly aligns with Darden’s collaborative and participative approach to business education. Routinely recognised for providing the world’s best graduate business education experience, Darden looks forward to the partnership providing another avenue for the School to drive innovation in pursuit of transformational learning opportunities for all.” For more information please contact Sophie Zunz, Director of Media Relations: zunzs@darden.virginia.edu

**For more information from FutureLearn**, please contact Sarah Mulder, Head of Communications, FutureLearn: +44 7720 401 466 or sarah.mulder@futurelearn.com

\*IELTS is the English language proficiency test used across the world.