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KGiSL Educational Institutions transform 100+ courses with Coursera

Industry
Higher Education

Location
India

Size
1,000–5,000 learners

> *Our institution's core mission is to produce industry-ready graduates who are equipped for the challenges of a digital and AI-driven world. Coursera became a strategic pillar in achieving this mission rather than just an add-on tool.*



Aravind Kumar Rajendran
CEO, KGiSL Educational Institutions

Overview

KGiSL Educational Institutions recognized that preparing learners for an increasingly digital economy required a new approach to skills development. Traditional curricula alone could not keep pace with rapidly evolving fields such as artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning, data science, digital marketing, and emerging workplace competencies.

To address this challenge, KGiSL integrated Coursera into its academic ecosystem as a strategic platform for continuous upskilling. Students gained access to industry-recognized learning pathways while faculty members used Coursera to strengthen their own expertise and keep classroom content aligned with workforce needs. The result was a campus-wide model designed to connect academic learning with practical, employer-relevant skills.

Snapshot

150+
faculty members upskilled through Coursera and integrated industry-relevant practices into teaching

100+
academic courses redesigned to include applied learning, industry case studies, and current technologies

1,084
learners developed AI and machine learning capabilities through structured learning pathways

The challenge

The institution faced a dual challenge. Meeting both needs at the same time required more than incremental updates to individual courses.

Students needed stronger exposure to industry-relevant capabilities in high-demand domains while also developing the practical skills employers increasingly expect from graduates. At the same time, faculty members needed ongoing opportunities to refresh their expertise and incorporate current technologies, tools, and practices into teaching. Without a coordinated approach, these two priorities risked moving at different speeds and widening the gap between classroom learning and workplace needs.

KGiSL also recognized that its learner population was highly diverse. First-year students, final-year students, engineering learners, arts and science students, graduate learners, and faculty members required different levels of support and personalized pathways. Meeting the needs of this range of learners meant designing pathways flexible enough to serve beginners and advanced students alike, across every discipline on campus. A one-size-fits-all approach would not deliver the outcomes needed for long-term workforce readiness.

The solution

KGiSL implemented Coursera through a structured institutional strategy that embedded learning directly into academic and professional development processes.

Dedicated learning hours were incorporated into weekly schedules, ensuring learners had protected time for skills development. This built-in time made skills development a routine part of the week rather than something learners had to find on their own. Coursera pathways were aligned with academic outcomes and assessment structures, giving students a clear connection between skill development and academic progress.

Faculty members were required to complete relevant Coursera learning experiences before integrating content into their teaching, creating a culture where educators modeled continuous learning. This meant faculty were not simply directing students toward new skills, but actively building those same skills themselves.

The institution prioritized Professional Certificates from organizations including Google, IBM, Meta, and DeepLearning.AI, alongside Specializations, Guided Projects, and capstone experiences. These partnerships gave learners access to credentials recognized by employers in the industries they hoped to enter. Learning pathways focused on AI, machine learning, data science, digital marketing, and professional skills, helping students develop competencies aligned with workforce demand.

Sustaining this level of participation required consistent support beyond the initial rollout. Leadership sponsorship, faculty engagement, learning challenges, progress reviews, recognition programs, and peer-learning communities reinforced participation and sustained momentum across the institution.

The results

KGiSL's Coursera initiative delivered measurable transformation across both learner and faculty development.

More than **150 faculty members** completed Coursera learning pathways. They subsequently upgraded over **100 academic courses** with applied projects, industry case studies, current tools, and practical learning experiences. This created a multiplier effect in which faculty development directly improved the learning experiences of hundreds of students each semester.

Students translated learning into practical skill development across AI, machine learning, fintech, data science, digital marketing, and other high-growth domains. Learners completed Guided Projects, Professional Certificates, Specializations, and capstone experiences that emphasized applied problem-solving rather than passive content consumption.

The institution reported that **1,084 learners** developed AI and machine learning skills, while learners in fintech and data science demonstrated increasingly advanced proficiency.

The scale of achievement was significant. Learners earned more than **49,000 industry-recognized credentials**, demonstrating sustained engagement with structured learning pathways and globally recognized credentials. This commitment to skills-based education also contributed to external recognition, including the Coursera Bold Innovator Award.

As the initiative continues to expand, KGiSL is strengthening its position as a skills-first institution. Academic learning, faculty development, and workforce readiness now reinforce one another. Coursera remains a strategic enabler in helping the institution prepare graduates for a rapidly evolving digital economy.

> *The combination of industry-recognized certifications, hands-on project work, and faculty-led curriculum transformation positioned our learners not just as certificate holders, but as practically skilled, credible candidates ready to contribute from day one.*



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coursera for campus

Build workforce-ready graduates

Connect learning directly to industry skills.

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