



The Roadtrip Nation Experience: Implementation Guide

Welcome to the Roadtrip Nation Experience! If you'll be acting as a facilitator to lead others through this project-based learning course, this guide holds everything you'll need to successfully implement this course in your learning environment.

Course Schedule



Lesson Duration

- **Lesson Video:** Roughly seven minutes
- **Lesson Tasks:** 30 minutes to an hour
- **Lesson Extras:** 30 minutes to several hours, depending on how many you choose to incorporate

Course Duration

We recommend teaching this five-lesson course over the span of at least **six weeks**, averaging about one lesson per week. This will give learners the time needed to internalize the takeaways from each lesson.



Interview Project

In **Lesson Four**, learners will complete an **Interview Project**—the centerpiece of the Roadtrip Nation Experience! This project takes time and effort, so we recommend allotting at **least two weeks** to this lesson.

Here's how it works:

1. Learners will research professionals working in fields that interest them, and reach out to them to schedule an informal digital or in-person interview. You can help them out by suggesting potential interview subjects, and motivating them to stay persistent in their outreach. They're going to hear some "no's" while cold calling—that's normal!—so again, try not to rush them through the process.
2. Once learners have successfully conducted an interview with a professional of their choice, they'll use the Interview Portal to fill out a profile outlining that person's career journey. Completing the profile will generate a private URL, which they will turn in to you for review.
3. The profile will also be sent to the professional for review. If approved, their profile will be published to the Roadtrip Nation Interview Archive. That way, new career stories are constantly being surfaced in the Roadmap tool—and the advice and wisdom from the interview is passed onto the next group of learners!

Course Structure



Step One: Watch Lesson Video

The **Lesson Video** acts as the foundation of every lesson, and will introduce learners to the key themes, tools, and techniques. These videos are roughly seven minutes long and should be watched first, before any other work is started.



Step Two: Complete Lesson Tasks

After viewing the **Lesson Video**, learners will complete the **Lesson Tasks**. These tasks are made up of **Questions** and **Assignments** that encourage learners to reflect on their life and career goals. With the exception of the Interview Project in Lesson Four, these tasks should take between 30 minutes and an hour to complete.

Some lessons also contain **Essential Resources**—these are tools and lessons that will help learners complete their tasks.

As the facilitator, you can decide how you'd like to check for completion of each lesson—we recommend learners record their answers digitally using a tool like Google Docs, or write them down on paper to be turned in. If you want the Tasks to feel more collaborative, you can also have learners answer the questions in more creative ways, such as through drawing or group discussion.

Although the Tasks may take as little as 30 minutes to complete, we recommend giving learners at least a day or two to complete them, so there's enough time for reflection.



Step Three: Explore Lesson Extras and Additional Videos

Under **Lesson Extras**, you'll find resources to help guide learners beyond this lesson, ranging from related Roadtrip Nation documentaries and interviews, to **Google's Applied Digital Skills** lessons (more on those in the next section!).

If you're looking for even more inspiring video content, the **Additional Videos** section expands upon the themes, careers, and stories from each lesson.

Making the Most of Google's Applied Digital Skills



Applied Digital Skills

Roadtrip Nation and Google have teamed up to bring Google's project-based curriculum, [Applied Digital Skills](#), into the Roadtrip Nation Experience, helping learners directly translate the takeaways from each lesson into practical, real-world applications.

These online resources will improve learners' digital literacy through project creation, teaching them the skills needed to succeed in the workforce and introducing them to tools that can further their career goals.

When you're ready to start using Google's Applied Digital Skills in Lesson One, check out their [Getting Started Guide](#). When signing up for your account, complete your profile and make sure to select the "Other" item and write "RTN" in the blank field provided!

Lesson Objectives

LESSON 1



Introduction: What you're interested in matters

Learners are introduced to Roadtrip Nation's interest-based approach to career exploration, and start to see how taking this course will ultimately get them closer to their career goals.



Applied Digital Skills

- **[Take Notes in a Table](#)**
 - > Teaches learners how to set up a template for table-based note-taking. This lesson will help learners organize their thoughts, notes, and jolts of inspiration throughout the course—and will be especially helpful as they conduct their Interview Project!
 - > Tools learned: Google Docs
 - > Skills learned: Document formatting, organizing data, writing strategies

LESSON 2



Let Go: Shed the noise and listen to yourself

Learners will begin their process of self-exploration by identifying how "noise" affects their aspirations. They'll start to create a new definition of success for themselves and their futures.

LESSON 3



Define: Connect your interests to careers

Learners will identify their interests and align them to career goals through Roadtrip Nation's **Roadmap tool**. This exercise will expose them to careers they may not have considered, and expand their ideas of what's possible.



Applied Digital Skills

- **Build Your Professional Network**
 - > Find and organize contacts to help establish and maintain professional relationships. This lesson will help learners build out a list of network contacts in preparation for their Interview Project.
 - > Tools learned: Gmail, Google Search, Google Sheets
 - > Skills learned: Effective communication, Gmail features, identify relevant data, internet search, organizing data, project management, spreadsheet organization, writing strategies

LESSON 4



Interview Project: How to interview a professional for advice

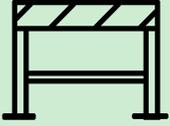
Learners will reach out to a professional working in a career aligned to their interests, conduct an informal interview with them, and build a profile showcasing that person's story. Along the way, they'll practice professional skills, like cold calling.



Applied Digital Skills

- **Send Professional Emails**
 - > Teaches learners how to write professional emails for specific workplace situations. This is a skill that everyone should build, but it's especially valuable in tandem with this lesson, as it will give learners the confidence to send out cold emails and follow-up thank you notes for their Interview Project.
 - > Tools learned: Gmail
 - > Skills learned: Effective communication, using email, writing strategies
- **Start or Join a Video Conference with Google Meet**
 - > Shows learners the basics of online video communication. Familiarity with this tool will give learners an option for conducting their Interview Project remotely!
 - > Tools learned: Google Meet
 - > Skills learned: Communication, digital collaboration, effective communication, video conferencing

LESSON 5



Become: Overcome roadblocks and take action

Learners will reflect on their Interview Project and find ways to apply what they learned to their own lives. They'll also identify how to use a variety of tools and resources to continue taking steps toward their career goals.



Applied Digital Skills

- **Start a Resume**
 - > Teaches learners how to write an effective resume that highlights their experience and achievements. Lesson Five encourages learners to keep working toward their career goals, even after the end of this course—this is a great next step for them to take!
 - > Tools learned: Google Docs
 - > Skills learned: Document formatting, resume writing, using a document template
- **Write a Cover Letter for a Job or Career Change**
 - > Shows learners how to explain their skills and experiences to potential employers through a compelling cover letter. Writing a cover letter will teach learners how to translate their self-reflection and growth into a professional document with the power to help them get hired.
 - > Tools learned: Google Search, Google Docs
 - > Skills learned: Document formatting, effective communication, internet search
- **Use Google to Get a New Job**
 - > Teaches learners how to conduct a successful job search using digital tools. At the end of the Roadtrip Nation Experience, learners are ready to take the next big step in their career journey—finding a job will be the culmination of all their work!
 - > Tools learned: Google Docs, Google Search, Google Sheets, Google Slides
 - > Skills learned: Document formatting, resume writing, spreadsheet organization