

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [University Vs Self Taught Programmer](#)

CyberError - June 3, 2019, 10:39 pm

What do you think ? a self taught programmer vs top University student ? Who'll get better knowledge ?

Let assume person is equally intelligent & Motivated

Just wanna know what you guys have to say about this

NetFlax - June 3, 2019, 10:47 pm

stupid question

of course the answer is university

Polymath - June 4, 2019, 9:53 am

I would say neither. Having both a degree and a history of skills you taught yourself is the best options. Typically a computer science degree is generic and will point you towards many directions. It is up to you to learn the stuff you want to specialise in yourself. A degree will definitely put you to the top and have more job prospects and people will take you more seriously too. So being self taught and having a degree is best.

?rescent - June 4, 2019, 10:27 am

Depends on how you learn, and what you want to learn.

Money- - June 4, 2019, 10:42 am

Both are good but obviously someone started out younger has more experience/wiser than someone in their twenties who just started out.

A degree cert is important for jobs. If you got both self-taught + university ain't it much better?

Caliban - June 4, 2019, 11:23 am

If you want to work at a big company there is no way around going to university (with few exceptions)

If you just care about programming skill then yeah you can learn it all by yourself if you are dedicated enough.

Kapes - June 5, 2019, 3:32 am

I think university gives you a main idea of everything (but maybe not very deeply in some subjects). I think in order to be good in this field you need to do both (if you dont want to be a mediocre) and also you need to keep learning everyday since the tech field changes constantly. Some people say the diploma dosent mean shit lol.

yorickx - June 5, 2019, 1:57 pm

depends what is your main goal, if it`s just knowledge then imo it`s better to self educate because then you can learn only what is necessary vs in university you have to waste time on unnecessary subjects

Doctor. - June 5, 2019, 6:08 pm

Apple, Google, Bank of America, and many other companies just replaced the requirement of a 4 year degree

MaximumPain - June 5, 2019, 7:44 pm

Mostly a university degree lmfao. Almost all the "self-taught" programmers here will not know much about time complexities or about how other data types can have smaller sizes other than ints. There is a lot more to programming that you would learn in university but once again it depends. You still see shitware produced by people with degrees and people without degrees. 100% depends... If you cannot afford a uni degree try going to a Community College then go to uni. If you cant do that then just be good at wtf you do lmao. other than that you are useless. Experience also matters...

runner - June 6, 2019, 6:33 am

I think a self taught programmer will be more motivated to work because not yet burned for years at university.

But a programmer with a 5 years degree will know a lot more.

Money- - June 6, 2019, 6:38 am

(Jun 6, 2019 06:33 AM)runner Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I think a self taught programmer will be more motivated to work because not yet burned for years at university.

But a programmer with a 5 years degree will know a lot more.

Kinda curious , may I ask how does a 5 years degree work? I never heard a degree that long. Over here is degree is maximum of 3 years or 2 years.

runner - June 6, 2019, 6:45 am

(Jun 6, 2019 06:38 AM)Money- Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Kinda curious , may I ask how does a 5 years degree work? I never heard a degree that long.

Over here is degree is maximum of 3 years or 2 years.

In reality not 5 years, only 3 years, but where I live usually people do 5 years. 3+2 years last 2 years to get a master. Sometimes they start the master without finish the first 3 years.

And they usually take more than 5 years to finish it.

ethellooking - September 21, 2020, 9:45 pm

It's base on what you want to be. I think you had your answer, a question here can't change your choice. Good luck!

Starks - September 21, 2020, 9:55 pm

Go for university. At the university, you'll follow the right course outline and meet the right connections. You might not have the discipline required to teach yourself programming. And of course there are those important interactions at the university.

CyberError - September 21, 2020, 11:07 pm

(Sep 21, 2020 09:55 PM)Starks Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Go for university. At the university, you'll follow the right course outline and meet the right connections. You might not have the discipline required to teach yourself programming. And of course there are those important interactions at the university. i have seen better self-taught programmer, even alot of 17-18yr old school kid who taught themselves programming code better than average joe in the university

the university isn't good until its the best university

Cybersinner - September 22, 2020, 1:01 am

(Sep 21, 2020 11:07 PM)CyberError Wrote: [CITE](#) i have seen better self-taught programmer, even alot of 17-18yr old school kid who taught themselves programming code better than average joe in the university

the university isn't good until its the best university

Well, define best university, best university might be expensive, or best university might be out of reach for someone(as in far-far away). In my opinion, if you truly want to study and understand programming, you do not really need excuses like the "best university", there are a lot of good programmers who finished mediocre universities. So, this puts my opinion around the middle, the university can be a great opener to this world, since you learn a lot of subjects, maybe not as in-depth as some would like, but that is the point, when you finish a CS university, you have to choose your own path. And while in the process of choosing your own path, you also become a self-taught programmer(in a sense). One thing is clear to me, if you want to become a good programmer in general(throug uni or self teaching), you need to know how to properly use google and SO.

P.S: My opinion might be biased.