

Sliding Scale Tuition Online Courses

Participants are expected to make a **monthly** pledge to Free Columbia. This can be done by:

- check: made to Free Columbia, and sent to 651 Harlemville Rd, Hillsdale, NY
- Via our Patreon page:

https://www.patreon.com/FreeColumbia?fan_landing=true

- Venmo use @Freecolumbia
- Paypal: info@freecolumbia.org
- Free Columbia website: <https://www.freecolumbia.org/support-1>
- If you prefer not to pay so often you can combine what you would pay monthly into one check or online payment.

Another payment possibility is a smaller pledge over a longer time.

Free Columbia is the entity that supports my work, it is what allows me to offer this course regardless of what any individual pays.

I have researched online courses and I have noticed that the range of cost is quite large, between \$20 for one pdf lesson to \$600 for 3 months of lessons. None of these included live zoom calls. The correspondence course I teach for [Educaredo](#) costs about \$30/month, there is no live component but I do offer email support.

So how do I set a price that everyone can feel good about and that supports the work?

Lets try a sliding scale.

What does a sliding scale mean? It means that you can choose an amount that is significant for you in relationship to your financial situation and to what you are receiving.

The sliding scale range is between \$1 and \$250 per month per course.

Sometimes it is difficult to decide where you should fall on a sliding scale, few of us feel like we have plenty of money. These suggestions may help:

Consider paying the full amount (\$200-250/month per course) if you have access to financial security. Such as any of the following - you own property, have savings, have investments, have retirement accounts, inheritance, are able to travel recreationally without creating financial strain, have access to family money and resources, work part time by choice, or choose not to work.

Consider paying somewhere in the middle (\$50-\$175) if imagining paying the full price deters you from accessing services, but you know you are not in need of a significant reduction in cost. You fall in this category if you have access to steady income, are not struggling to make all your regular payments each month.

Consider paying near the lowest suggested amount (\$1-\$50) if your circumstances prevent you from accessing services due to financial hardship. If you struggle to meet some of your basic needs such as food, shelter, medical care, or child care, you very likely belong on this end of the payment scale. *If the lowest suggested amount still feels like too much of an obstacle, but you feel like you want to take this work on, please contact me anyway and we will work to find other solutions.*

Free Columbia is committed to making the cultural realm accessible to everyone.

When choosing an amount consider also what you are receiving:
pdf lessons with written instruction and video demonstrations
group zoom calls with me.
my availability for questions.

Please consider an amount for each course you are taking even if you pay for them together.