

DeFi on Solana · Course map

Speaker script: every slide with its notes. Facts checked 11 to 14 Oct 2026; re-check anything marked "verify".

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Six weeks · finance people and developers · devnet only

DeFi on Solana

From the bank ledger to the on-chain ledger.

DeFi on Solana · Course map

Welcome. Say what this course is in one breath: six weeks, one topic per week, and every week you leave with something you did yourself and something you wrote.

The colour code runs through every deck. Navy ink is traditional finance: banks, brokers, the paper ledger. Violet is on-chain. Red is risk and loss. Green is gain. Point at it once now, then let them notice it.

Facts in this course were checked on 11 October 2026. Anything that moves weekly (TVL, supply, prices) is quoted with a date or not at all.

2

One ledger, two ways to keep it

The bank

YOU

ask

Bank

deposits, records

Private ledger

own the bank account

statements days later

The chain

YOU

sign

Program

open source

under a second

Public ledger

everybody can read it

DeFi = financial services written as programs anyone can call.

One ledger, two ways to keep it

This is the whole course in one slide. In a bank, a company keeps the ledger and decides what goes into it. On a public chain, the ledger is copied across thousands of machines, and the rules for changing it are programs that anyone can call.

Ask the room: as accountants, what do you lose and what do you gain? Lose: someone to call when it goes wrong, reversals, consumer protection. Gain: you can audit the ledger yourself, settlement in under a second, access without a bank account.

Don't let anyone leave thinking "DeFi is always better". Week 5 is about everything that goes wrong.

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Six weeks, six entries

Wk	Topic	What you learn	You ship
1	Intro to DeFi	Finance as open programs. The Solana map.	Trace a Jupiter route
2	Wallets & devnet	Keys, accounts, tokens, transactions.	Send devnet USDC, read it on Orb
3	Liquidity & AMMs	$x \cdot y = k$, Impermanent loss, yield.	Provide liquidity on devnet
4	Lending & stables	Collateral, health factor, liquidation, oracles.	Liquidation spreadsheet
5	Risk & security	Hacks grouped by root cause.	Post-mortem + token audit
6	Capstone & careers	Build, present, get paid for it.	Demo day

Six weeks, six entries

Each week builds on the one before. Week 2's token accounts are what week 3's pools hold. Week 3's prices are what week 4's lenders use as collateral values. Week 5 breaks all of it on purpose.

The right-hand column is what they ship. Every week also ends with one blog post. Six posts is a portfolio, and Superteam pays for writing like that (week 6).

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Every week runs the same loop

Teach

30 minutes, no more

→

Do

the task, live, in class

→

Write

one blog post

→

Log

what broke, fixed next week

Users

Wallets, explorers, dashboards, spreadsheets. No code needed.

Builders

Everything users do, plus a code extension each week.

Every week runs the same loop

Teaching is capped at 30 minutes. After that people stop listening and start nodding. The task is where they actually learn, and you unblock them while they do it.

The log: keep a running list of "things I got wrong" and fix them openly at the start of the next class. It builds trust.

Two tracks. Users do everything through wallets and spreadsheets. Builders do the same plus a code extension. Both write the same blog post, so nobody is left out of the conversation.

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you learned crypto on Ethereum

Click a card to translate it. Keep this open all six weeks.

Ethereum

MetaMask

Ethereum

Sepolia testnet

Ethereum

Etherscan

Ethereum

ERC-20 contract

Ethereum

Gas

Ethereum

Uniswap

Ethereum

Aave, Compound

Ethereum

MakerDAO / DAI

Ethereum

Chainlink

Ethereum

Solidity + Foundry

Ethereum

Reentrancy

Flip all

If you learned crypto on Ethereum

Most people who have touched crypto learned it on Ethereum. Every tutorial they find will assume Ethereum tools. This is the translation table.

The three that matter most:

- ERC-20 vs mint + token accounts. On Ethereum each token is its own contract holding a balance table. On Solana there is one shared token program; each token is a "mint" account, and your balance lives in a separate token account you own. Week 2 is built on this.
- Gas vs base fee + priority fee + rent. The base fee is 5,000 lamports per signature (0.000005 SOL). Rent is a refundable deposit for keeping data on chain.
- Reentrancy vs missing account checks. On Solana, a program receives every account it touches as an input. The classic bug is trusting an account you never checked. Week 5's biggest hacks (Wormhole, Cashio) are exactly this.

Also: Polygon shut Mumbai down in 2024, so any old tutorial pointing there is already broken. Use devnet.

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Three rules for the whole course

1

Never share a seed phrase or private key. Not with support, not with me, not in a screenshot.

2

Devnet and test tokens only. The one exception is an optional \$5 in week 4, and we will say so loudly.

3

Numbers carry dates. TVL, prices and supply change weekly. Say when you looked.

Three rules for the whole course

Rule 1 is the one that loses people real money. Every "support agent" who asks for a seed phrase is a thief. Phantom and Solflare will never ask.

Rule 3 is the analyst habit. DefiLlama, Artemis and Dune often disagree, sometimes by 2x. Quote the source and the date out loud.

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the toolkit

Need	Use
Wallet	Phantom, Solflare or Backpack, set to Devnet
Devnet SOL	faucet.solana.com or solana:airdrop.2--url.devnet
Devnet USDC	faucet.solanacoin.com - mint 4zMMC9st59k3d5GphHt13B9PMEYFP3gJ2bnd9
Explorer	Ola (on-helios.dev) , Solscan , explorer.solana.com + ?cluster=devnet
Prices	Pyth (insights.pyth.network) ; Builders read the price account on-chain
Data	DefiLlama , Artemis , Dune
Builders	Anchor 1.x , LiedtM , Surfpool , @solana/kit

Faucets break in class

The SOL faucet limits by IP, so one shared Wi-Fi gets throttled. Pre-fund a teacher wallet and send SOL around.

The toolkit

Check every one of these the week before you need it.

Circle's devnet faucet gives 20 USDC every 2 hours, per address, per chain (Circle's faucet FAQ, checked 14 Oct 2026). The SOL faucet rate-limits by IP, which hurts when a whole class shares one connection. Fallback: fund one teacher wallet beforehand and send each student 1 devnet SOL.

Builders: Anchor 1.2.1 was the latest on 6 October 2026. Solana is moving to sBPFv3 in Q4 2026; once SIMD-0500 activates, programs built on old toolchains cannot be deployed. Tutorials pinned to Anchor 0.29 will break. Supported minimums: Anchor 0.30.2, 0.31.2, 0.32.2 or 1.2.0+.

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Let's start.

Week 1: what DeFi is, and why so much of it runs on Solana.

Open week 1

Let's start.

No notes. Let the slide speak.