Digital Intelligence Training Program

What It Is:
The first of its kind in New York state, the Digital Intelligence Training Program is a new Arts and Technology program that provides today’s technology-focused students with creative skills required for today’s high tech jobs. Interdisciplinary teaching and vertically-integrated research projects will provide students with critical thinking and cross-cultural understanding necessary for tomorrow’s AI-driven careers and a variety of positions in the IT sector.

The pilot program combines computer science with traditional disciplines like history, philosophy, linguistics, or art – with each curriculum providing a solid foundation in their respective programs. Digital badges will be earned in specific skill areas such as programming, geographic information systems, machine learning, or data analysis.

The program launched in Fall 2019 with IAE 101: Introduction to Digital Intelligence, an interdisciplinary course that offers students hands-on opportunities to learn basic programming skills in a creative context. Students learn the full suite of tools, languages, and methods they can expect from any introductory-level computing course, plus an exciting array of creative problems and applications connected to these skills, such as:

- building Twitter bots
- drawing a Sierpinski triangle using Python
- creating a music generator

Today’s students are aware that jobs are disappearing as a result of advances in artificial intelligence, and they are driving the need for changes in higher education. In response to the national educational movement – Computer Science Plus X – we created the Digital Intelligence Training Program, a blending of technological aptitude, data literacy, and the human touch – creativity, empathy, ethics. It’s designed to educate students for today’s high-tech marketplace by creating new programs that cross the computer science/engineering divide by incorporating arts, humanities and social sciences disciplines.

For more information, visit bitly.com/SBUdigitalintelligence
Who It’s For:

Students who want to work with creative topics, hands-on projects and essential computer science skills but aren’t necessarily focused on a computer science degree. The program is designed to help students build a foundational skill set for growth into capable creators, regardless of their course of study.

Students do not need a programming/ technological background.

Incoming first year students interested in the training program are encouraged to enroll in IAE 101; no prerequisites are required and the course will simultaneously satisfy both ARTS and TECH SBC requirements.

What They’ll Learn:

Students will learn to understand the world of technology as a world shaped by human norms, beliefs and agendas, and how to intervene in that world as critics and makers.

Students will learn basic programming skills that will help them understand how sophisticated programs work, and will apply these skills to creative self-expression.

Students will learn to understand and engage with the “human made” world. They will learn how the arts can intervene in conversations about science, technology and engineering.

Students will be exposed to several possible career paths that they may not be aware of, learning career possibilities they may wish to explore while they are still in the early phases of their education.

Why IAE 101:

Elyse Graham
Assistant Professor
Department of English

“IAE 101 is an exciting, fun, yet practical course for Stony Brook students who want to work with creative topics, hands-on projects, and essential computer science skills. It will help them build a foundational skill set for their growth into confident and capable creators, regardless of the course of study they ultimately pursue.”

Fernando Amador II
PhD Student
Department of History

“This course has shown me how I can integrate technology into history courses I will teach in the future.”

Priyanka Kaur
Pre-Med, Class of 2023

“The humanities help paint the bigger picture, putting students in the shoes of past programmers and how they came up with ideas to make advancements in technology.”

Jackie Yeh
Psychology, Class of 2023

“IAE 101 gave me a wider perspective on how humans and technology are guided by each other. As for the long term, I can use the Python skills I learned to design statistical and data models in psychology later in my career.”

Tell your students about this unique and exciting program!

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