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UF Innovation Academy Offers New Artificial Intelligence Track

Gainesville, FL, July 1, 2021 - The UF Innovation Academy is proud to announce the addition of the Artificial Intelligence (AI) track to the Innovation Minor. Incoming through rising sophomore Innovation Academy students pursuing a minor in innovation will now have a choice between two interdisciplinary tracks: General Concentration or Artificial Intelligence.

The new AI track will offer additional courses in AI Fundamentals, Ethics, Data and Technology, and a senior project that will enhance the understanding of AI, its applications to real-world problems in various disciplines, and the ethical and professional responsibilities associated with these technologies while the General Concentration track will retain the current Innovation Minor curriculum.

"I started thinking through the possibility of having an Artificial Intelligence track as part of the Innovation Minor in January of 2021 as the larger University initiative in AI began to take off," Said Dr. Jeff Citty, Director of the Innovation Academy.

Launching today, this minor track will make AI fundamentals accessible not only to Innovation Academy students with STEAM majors but to those in the humanities and social sciences as well.

"Given the importance of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in our growing economy, the abundance of data, and how versatile AI is, most if not all students should consider this track," Dr. Citty says. "It provides both technical and non-technical majors the opportunity to understand the fundamentals of artificial intelligence, its applications to real-world problems in various disciplines and ethical and professional responsibilities of these technologies, not to mention a competitive advantage in the job market."

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The Innovation Academy (UF IA) is one of the nation's most forward-looking undergraduate programs – at one of its most dynamic research universities. UF IA gives motivated students a small-college experience focused on innovation, creativity, entrepreneurship, ethics and leadership on a unique spring-summer schedule. UF IA enrolls and supports academically talented students focused on developing knowledge to grow new business opportunities, services and products through curricular and co-curricular experiences.