Singapore is using DataCamp to spread AI fluency nationwide

How Singapore is helping 25,000 professionals and 100,000 students become data fluent.

“Working professionals today find it hard to sit through traditional online courses of 40- to 90-minute videos and taking weeks to learn new skills. The approach of DataCamp, where learning and practice are done in bite-size (sessions), allows the beginner and practicing machine learning engineer to acquire new skills quickly and effectively.”

LAURENCE LIEW, DIRECTOR OF AI INDUSTRY INNOVATION AT AI SINGAPORE

As a nation, Singapore is driving targeted programs to equip its current and future workforce with skills in data science, machine learning, and artificial intelligence tools and techniques. AI Singapore was launched by Singapore’s National Research Foundation to support the mission to:

*Anchor deep national capabilities in artificial intelligence, thereby creating social and economic impact, grow local talent, build an AI ecosystem, and put Singapore on the world map through the three pillars of AI research, AI technology and AI innovation.*

To achieve this mission, AI Singapore brings together research institutions and Singapore’s vibrant ecosystem of startups and companies developing AI products to drive cutting-edge research, grow widespread knowledge and skills, and create tools to power Singapore’s AI efforts. DataCamp has partnered on three of their initiatives, including a full-time apprenticeship program, a part-time professional training program, and an educational program for students.
AI Singapore created a nine-month paid apprenticeship program to help build the workforce required to support current and growing AI needs across Singaporean companies. The goal is to give Singaporeans with basic knowledge the opportunity to deepen their skills in AI. The program combines learning through DataCamp courses and other resources with real-world experience gained through projects.

By the end of 2019, almost 100 AI engineers will have gone through this training, and the program aims to train 400-500 total Singaporeans. The apprenticeship program has won IDC's Digital Transformation (DX) Talent Accelerator award for Singapore.

AI Apprenticeship Program: Training tomorrow’s AI leaders

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AI for Industry: Democratizing technical skills

AI for Industry’s goal is to uplift the technical skill sets of those working for organizations across a range of verticals.

Participants in this program start with a three-hour workshop called AI for Everyone, which introduces modern AI technologies and applications. Then, participants embark on DataCamp’s Data Scientist with Python track, a 100-hour collection of courses that covers everything from Python foundations to importing, cleaning, and wrangling data, to statistics, machine learning, SQL, package management, data visualization, and much more.

AI for Industry participants take this track over a 12-month period, combined with a three-hour hands-on machine learning workshop. Since 2018, over 1,000 working professionals have completed DataCamp training.

“Dedicating about two to three hours each day, I was able to complete the AI4I programme in three months...The content from DataCamp is a useful resource for reference while on the job. The value of AI4I is not just on training, but the resources provided by AISG (are) still very relevant to us even after we finish and graduate from the course.”

ANDREW NG, AI FOR INDUSTRY PARTICIPANT

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AI for Students: Empowering the next generation

AI Singapore believes AI skills training should start well before entering the workforce, or even reaching the university level. Why not begin at the secondary school level? DataCamp is proud to announce that through October 2019, we partnered with AI Singapore to educate 12,000 Singaporean students 12 years old and above with our Data Scientist with Python track.

Even more exciting is what’s in store for the future: DataCamp has agreed to support 100,000 students in the classroom, and the new AI for Industry collaboration is now tasked with enabling 25,000 working professionals in Singapore to become AI proficient. AI Singapore will continue to base its AI for Industry program heavily on our Data Scientist with Python track to provide participants with the basic skills and knowledge to be data fluent and AI proficient.

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<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>AI Research</td>
<td>Seeds high quality research efforts aimed at developing fundamental AI novel techniques, algorithms, and adjacent technologies—efforts that will eventually contribute significantly to the other pillars of AI Singapore. This research program encourages national research collaborations and nurtures local AI talents.</td>
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<td>AI Technology</td>
<td>Supports what AI Singapore calls grand challenges, the class of problems that are really difficult and that AI could be used to solve. Grand challenges (i) need to be impactful, (ii) need to affect each and every person in Singapore, and (iii) must be measurable. AI Singapore has prioritized four verticals: healthcare, education, cities and smart nations, and finance.</td>
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<td>AI Innovation</td>
<td>A set of programs and strategies to get cutting-edge AI research techniques into the hands of industry partners to solve real-world problems. The flagship program under AI Innovation is the 100 Experiments program, where companies come to AI Singapore with a business problem or challenge that they think data science, machine learning, or AI could be used to solve.</td>
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<td>The AI Apprenticeship Program</td>
<td>Helps build the workforce to support industry's current and growing AI needs, AI Singapore created the AI Apprenticeship program. This gives Singaporeans with basic knowledge the opportunity and access to develop deeper skills on their own time. The program combines learning through DataCamp courses and other resources with real-world experience gained through projects under the 100 Experiments program.</td>
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<td>AI for Industry</td>
<td>Uplifts the technical skill sets of working professionals across verticals AI Singapore partners closely with DataCamp for this program.</td>
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<td>AI for Everyone</td>
<td>A three-hour workshop to introduce anyone to modern AI technologies and applications so they can be savvy consumers of AI products and services.</td>
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<td>AI for Students</td>
<td>A program to empower the next generation with AI fluency. This program provides students from secondary schools, polytechnics, and universities with free access to DataCamp’s 100-hour Data Science with Python track.</td>
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