

SUCCESSFULLY NAVIGATING AI REQUIRES DATA LITERACY

As artificial intelligence (AI) permeates our lives and continues to evolve, the significance of data literacy and data science knowledge is tangible. Just as traditional literacy and numeracy are vital, data literacy is now an essential skill for individuals to be able to capitalize on AI benefits in their personal and professional life, understand how to navigate risks, and take advantage of the exploding demand in AI and data-related jobs.

THREE REASONS WHY GREATER DATA LITERACY IS REQUIRED IN THE AI AREA:

#1 MASTERING THE AI-DRIVEN FUTURE

Statistics and data literacy empower students to make informed decisions and harness AI's power to optimize strategies and enhance productivity in their work and personal life. Leveraging AI-driven technologies provides a competitive edge in a wide variety of jobs, not just those in the tech sector.



#2 UNDERSTANDING THE RISKS OF AI

Every AI model has limitations and makes assumptions. With data literacy, students can identify biases and understand the limitations of AI, ensuring ethical AI governance and contributing to a positive societal impact. Understanding the limitations and when to question the outcomes produced by an AI system may avoid harm if the AI output is flawed or biased.



#3 GETTING A JOB IN AI OR A RELATED FIELD

In the AI era, the demand for data-driven professionals is rapidly increasing in industries such as health care, finance, marketing, and technology, as they rely heavily on data analysis and interpretation. A strong foundation in data literacy opens doors to careers in AI, data science, and technology-driven fields, offering exciting opportunities for growth and innovation.



The transformative potential of AI is monumental—it stands to reshape societies, job markets, social interactions, and even political systems. Greater data literacy among all students and more data-savvy graduates to meet workforce demand will better position the US to meet challenges, whether they relate to AI, [national security](#), health, the [economy](#), education, or manufacturing. Please click on the linked topics above to see our related one-pagers about the importance of greater data literacy in those areas.