Your Future at Illinois Tech

Cutting-Edge Programs, Smart People, Cool Research

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Illinois Tech, Chicago’s only tech–focused university, is a small, private university that educates students to go on to do big things. If your curiosity in artificial intelligence needs nourishing, there is no better place to study than Illinois Tech, a university recognized for innovation and achievements in science and technology.

Illinois Tech is one of only a few universities across the country offering a Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence, and the only one in the Midwest. Explore the broad and deep foundations necessary to build computational systems that can interpret sensory input, learn from experience, understand human language, plan ahead, and support intelligent decision-making. Learn core AI concepts and techniques including, machine learning, neural networks, planning, computer vision, and language understanding. The program includes a variety of advanced AI electives, enabling technical mastery in specific subfields.

The growing impact of AI on society demands that graduates are capable and ethical collaborators, able to ensure the safe and effective adoption of new technologies across domains.

Illinois Tech is also growing the computer science faculty to ensure the highest-quality instruction in cutting-edge technologies like artificial intelligence.

RESEARCH—EVEN AS AN UNDERGRAD!

Artificial Intelligence undergraduates at Illinois Tech get the opportunity to work on major research right from the start. You might participate in a professor’s research lab or work at a company on campus in University Technology Park. Our new Elevate program consists of summer courses that allow all undergraduates to experience research early in their careers at Illinois Tech (the summer after your first year, or the summer before your first year for transfer students). We also offer $5,000 Undergraduate Summer Research Stipends to select students.

WHERE MINORS ARE MAJOR

As an AI student, you will take a minor outside of the department—giving you an area of focus where statistics may be applied. Minors in mathematics, business, political science, entrepreneurship, artificial intelligence, economics, or finance, for example, allow you to pursue your application area of interest. Our AI program is designed for maximum flexibility, allowing you ample opportunity to assemble a portfolio of courses that will satisfy your intellectual curiosity and prepare you for your career.

Students who pursue minors in applied mathematics may qualify for admission into our highly rated Master of Data Science program. Students who pursue minors in applied mathematics may qualify for admission into our highly rated Master of Science in Computational Decision Sciences and Operations Research program.

“One thing that did surprise me, in all the ethical discussions I’ve had in classes about AI, is that there is a lot of miscommunication in how AI works. People are worried about things that are actually less likely to happen, and not too keen on looking at the problems being faced by the community studying and using AI.”

—Devyani Gauri (AI, 3rd year)
Computer Science Associate Professor Aron Culotta is the B.S. AI director. He studies socially beneficial applications of natural language processing, machine learning, and text mining algorithms. He has found correlations between Twitter chatter and values such as the influenza rate, alcohol sales, and the level of concern regarding an impending hurricane. Culotta is co-leading a research project that aims to develop software tools to forecast imminent cyberbullying threats and vulnerabilities in online social networks.

Computer Science Associate Professor Mustafa Bilgic is the B.S. AI co-director. He is the founder and director of Illinois Tech’s machine learning laboratory, where he pursues research interests in the broad areas of machine learning, information acquisition, and decision theory. His NSF-funded project is developing a new active learning paradigm dubbed “rich and transparent active learning.” It differs from traditional active learning paradigms by opening a communication channel between algorithms and users, allowing an exchange of a rich set of queries, answers, and explanations. By explaining their reasoning, these algorithms will achieve transparency, build trust, and open themselves to scrutiny.

Maximize Your Education

Illinois Tech’s accelerated master’s degree programs allow you to receive both your bachelor’s and master’s degrees in computer science in as few as five years.

- B.S. in Artificial Intelligence/Master of Artificial Intelligence
- B.S. in Artificial Intelligence/M.S. in Computer Science
- B.S. in Artificial Intelligence/Master of Data Science
- B.S. in Artificial Intelligence/Master of Cybersecurity
- B.S. in Artificial Intelligence/Master of Computer Science
- B.S. in Artificial Intelligence/Master of Science in Computational Decision Science and Operations Research

BE AN INNOVATOR—IPRO AND PROJECT-BASED LEARNING

In Illinois Tech’s signature Interprofessional Projects (IPRO) Program, you’ll work with students from various majors to solve real-world problems. This hands-on collaborative experience gives our students a big advantage after graduation. Recent computer science-oriented IPROs include:

- Inspiring public safety innovation and using big data visualization to improve responsiveness to natural disasters
- Smart microgrids within contemporary electrical generation, transmission, and distribution networks
- User interfaces for novel computer-aided drug-design tools
- Innovating downtown and neighborhood walkability through insights from big data and mobile app tools

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