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# Building Agentic AI Applications with a Problem-First Approach

★★★★★ 5.0 (65) · 6 WEEKS · COHORT-BASED COURSE

Learn to make decisions tailored to business constraints, understand when & how to apply AI effectively & build a multi-agent application

 **This course is popular**  
39 people enrolled last week.

HOSTED BY




**Aishwarya Naresh Reganti and Kiriti Badam**  
18+ years of combined experience in building enterprise AI systems.


WORKED/TAUGHT AT



COURSE OVERVIEW

## Design and build impactful agentic AI systems to solve business problems.

 **Note:** This course is an independent offering and is not affiliated with, endorsed by, or related to the instructors' current or past employers.

 The only prerequisite: you should have coded at least once in your life. The course includes low-code assignments, and even folks who hadn't touched code in over 15 years have found it approachable and rewarding. That said, a basic understanding of coding really helps you get the most out of it — and of course, there's AI to assist you along the way. The course is built for everyone, whether you're a Product Manager, Architect, Director, C-suite leader, or someone seriously exploring agentic AI.

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shift will drive a growing demand for professionals who can move beyond surface-level understanding and apply AI effectively to solve real business challenges while navigating practical constraints.

This course focuses on practical AI agent development, covering key agentic design and usage paradigms. Instead of just explaining what these techniques are, we focus on when and how to use them, so you're equipped to make informed, business-driven AI decisions.

What You'll Learn

All core content is pre-recorded so students can focus on two-way interaction. Lectures are watched asynchronously, and we host **four office hours** each week for questions and brainstorming

Week 1 (Let’s get you to understand what problem-first means)

- Decode why agentic AI breaks traditional software assumptions
- Frame hallucinations, latency, and prompt brittleness through the determinism spectrum
- Open vs. closed models: tradeoffs across compliance, latency, and cost
- Problem-first, evaluation-driven design using early datasets and proxy metrics
- Deconstruct a production-grade use case and redesign it across progressive system versions

Week 2 (Prompt engineering is still the core part of agents, but do it smarter with right evals)

- Break down the evolution from zero-shot prompts to self-optimizing models
- Master prompting: Decomposition, meta-prompts, algorithmic optimization
- Analyze when to use prompting-only systems based on task, cost, and latency
- Compare model-level strategies: reasoning vs. regular, and when each makes sense
- Add guardrails and evaluation layers using LLM judges, semantic scoring, and offline tests

Week 3 (RAG is not dead, it’s in fact the basis of self-improving agents)

- Address statelessness via dynamic retrieval and memory-backed context injection
- Build robust RAG pipelines with advanced chunking, embedding selection, and retrieval methods
- Explore GraphRAG, Agentic RAG and multimodal RAG and other advanced methods and learn tradeoffs
- Architect episodic, semantic, procedural, and working memory layers for self-reflective agent behavior

Week 4 (MCP from an enterprise lens and multi-agents + Fine-Tuning)

- Understand planning autonomy in agents and how dynamic tool use and multi-turn reasoning go beyond static workflows
- Compare agent levels and their control dimensions: action, planning, evolution, and physical autonomy
- Explore MCP (Model Context Protocol) and A2A as emerging agent-tool communication standards
- Investigate critical security challenges in MCP and A2A. Understand how guardrails, tool signing, audit trails improve reliability
- Analyze coordination patterns in multi-agent systems, including shared memory governance, state sync, AI collusion risks, evaluation, logging, and observability
- Explore fine-tuning levers (SFT, RLHF, PEFT etc.), compare with RAG, and determine when to shift from context injection to model adaptation

Week 5–6 (Put it all together in a capstone)



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**Homeworks:** You'll supplement your learning by building an agentic search system (Perplexity like) in 3 iterations with the final iteration using agentic RAG, MCP and multi-agents. You can choose between low-code/code routes to complete assignments.

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✗ Who This Course Is Not For

**For Those Who Have Already Deployed Gen AI in Enterprise:** This course is designed as an applied foundations course for enterprise AI with only basic Python as a prerequisite and no ML background required. If you're already familiar with deploying AI systems, you won't gain much from the core content. However, if you're looking to network and refine best practices, you're welcome to join.

**Those Seeking Heavy Theoretical Knowledge:** This course emphasizes applied learning and practical problem-solving, not deep dives into theoretical topics like transformer architecture, pre/post-training optimization, inference techniques, or alignment.

**Those Who Have Never Coded Before:** While we provide low-code options, this course assumes you have some coding experience. It's not suitable for those who have never written or worked with even basic code.

**Individuals Expecting Deep AI Research Focus:** While we'll cover cutting-edge techniques, this course is centered on applying AI to business problems, not research-heavy exploration.

**Scaling and Ops Enthusiasts:** This course does not focus heavily on scaling or operational aspects (i.e., LLMOps). Deployment will be covered at a high level, but not in-depth.

Who is this course for

01

Software/AI Engineers, Strategists, Data Professionals, Solution Architects and Consultants who want to master AI system design

02

Business Leaders and Product Managers seeking to gain the technical understanding needed to make informed decisions & lead AI initiatives

03

Entrepreneurs and business leaders looking to leverage AI to drive growth and innovation

- ✓

**Solving Real Enterprise Challenges, Not Just Concepts**

While most courses stop at teaching tools and frameworks, this course goes further by focusing on solving real-world business problems. You'll tackle practical constraints like cost, scalability, latency, and performance, learning to design AI solutions tailored to real use cases
- ✓

**Apply Concepts to Build an Agentic Search System**

While learning applied AI concepts, we'll put them into action by building a Perplexity-like AI-powered search system through detailed, hands-on tutorials that demonstrate their practical application (Low code options will be provided)
- ✓

**Capstone Project**

Learn how to connect cutting-edge research with real-world applications. For the capstone, you'll use our curated list of the latest research papers to design and implement solutions for practical business use cases. Some of our capstones have received VC funding too. [Examples](#)
- ✓


**Understand Challenges and Effective Evaluation**


Gain a deep understanding of key challenges in building AI systems, including handling hallucinations, adversarial attacks, security, privacy issues etc., and learn best practices to evaluate AI solutions comprehensively
- ✓


**Access to the Problem-First AI Community**


The course includes guest lectures from industry experts, AMA sessions, and our Chai & AI discussions, culminating in a final in-person meetup in the Bay Area. You'll have plenty of opportunities to network and become part of our community.

## What's included

- 

**Live sessions**  
Learn directly from Aishwarya Naresh Reganti & Kiriti Badam in a real-time, interactive format.
- 

**Lifetime access**  
Go back to course content and recordings whenever you need to.
- 

**Community of peers**  
Stay accountable and share insights with like-minded professionals.
- 

**Certificate of completion**  
Share your new skills with your employer or on LinkedIn.



**Maven Guarantee**  
This course is backed by the **Maven Guarantee**. Students are eligible for a full refund up until the halfway point of the course.


# Course syllabus

23 live sessions • 28 lessons


Expand all modules

Week 1 Jul 26—Jul 27

Introduction, Setup & Our Favorite AI Tools

 6 ITEMS

Week 1 (Let’s get you to understand what problem-first means)

 5 ITEMS

JUL  
26

Welcome Lecture

SAT 7/26 6:00 PM—7:00 PM (GMT+2)

JUL  
27

Live: Chai & AI Session (Not Recorded)

SUN 7/27 5:00 PM—6:00 PM (GMT+2) OPTIONAL

Week 2 Jul 28—Aug 3

JUL  
30

Week 1 Homework Office Hours

WED 7/30 6:00 PM—7:00 PM (GMT+2)

AUG  
1

Week 1 Content Office Hourse

FRI 8/1 2:00 AM—3:00 AM (GMT+2)

AUG  
2

Week 1 Content Office Hours


SAT 8/2 6:00 PM—7:00 PM (GMT+2)

AUG  
2

Week 1 Homework Office Hours

SAT 8/2 7:00 PM—8:00 PM (GMT+2)

Week 2 (Systemic Prompt Design, Evaluation Loops & Guardrail Design for Agents)

 5 ITEMS

HW: Build your v1 Agentic Search System Perplexia (Choose code/no-code options)

0 ITEMS

AUG  
3

Chai & AI Session (Not Recorded)

SUN 8/3 5:00 PM—6:00 PM (GMT+2) OPTIONAL

Week 3 Aug 4—Aug 10



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<div><div>AUG</div><div>8</div></div>	<div>Week 2 Content Office Hours</div> <div>FRI 8/8 2:00 AM—3:00 AM (GMT+2)</div>
<div><div>AUG</div><div>9</div></div>	<div>Week 2 Content Office Hours</div> <div>SAT 8/9 6:00 PM—7:00 PM (GMT+2)</div>
<div><div>AUG</div><div>9</div></div>	<div>Week 2 Homework Office Hours</div> <div>SAT 8/9 7:00 PM—8:00 PM (GMT+2)</div>
	<div>Week 3 (RAG is not dead, it’s in fact the basis of self-improving agents)</div> <div>📁 5 ITEMS</div>
	<div>HW: Build your v2 Agentic Search System Perplexia w/ Agentic RAG</div> <div>📁 0 ITEMS</div>
<div><div>AUG</div><div>10</div></div>	<div>Chai &amp; AI Session (Not Recorded)</div> <div>SUN 8/10 5:00 PM—6:00 PM (GMT+2) OPTIONAL</div>


Week 4 Aug 11—Aug 17

<div><div>AUG</div><div>16</div></div>	<div>Week 3 Content Office Hours</div> <div>SAT 8/16 6:00 PM—7:00 PM (GMT+2)</div>
<div><div>AUG</div><div>16</div></div>	<div>Week 3 Homework Office Hours</div> <div>SAT 8/16 7:00 PM—8:00 PM (GMT+2)</div>
<div><div>AUG</div><div>13</div></div>	<div>Week 3 Homework Office Hours</div> <div>WED 8/13 6:00 PM—7:00 PM (GMT+2)</div>
<div><div>AUG</div><div>15</div></div>	<div>Week 3 Content Office Hours</div> <div>FRI 8/15 2:00 AM—3:00 AM (GMT+2)</div>
	<div>Week 4 (MCP from an enterprise lens, multi-agents, fine-tuning)</div> <div>📁 6 ITEMS</div>
	<div>HW: Build your v3 Agentic Search System w/ MCP + Memory</div> <div>📁 0 ITEMS</div>
	<div>Capstone Project Overview and Deliverables</div> <div>📁 1 ITEM</div>
<div><div>AUG</div><div>17</div></div>	<div>Chai &amp; AI Session (Not Recorded)</div> <div>SUN 8/17 5:00 PM—6:00 PM (GMT+2)</div>

Week 5 Aug 18—Aug 24

Building Agentic AI Applications with a Problem-First Approach

Aishwarya Naresh Reganti, Kiriti Badam



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NEXT COHORT

July 26—Aug 31, 2025

3 days left to enroll

Enroll

GET FUTURE COHORT DATES





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Get reimbursed Save 20%+ with a team

AUG 22 Week 4 Content Office Hours  
FRI 8/22 2:00 AM—3:00 AM (GMT+2)

Covered by Maven Guarantee

AUG 23 Final Lecture (Aish + Kiriti)  
SAT 8/23 6:00 PM—7:00 PM (GMT+2)

AUG 23 Week 4 Homework Office Hours  
SAT 8/23 7:00 PM—8:00 PM (GMT+2)

Comprehensive Guide: Decision Framework for Enterprise Agents  
0 ITEMS

AUG 24 Capstone Brainstorming Workshop  
SUN 8/24 6:00 PM—8:00 PM (GMT+2) OPTIONAL

Week 6 Aug 25—Aug 30

Work with Capstone team to design/implement enterprise agentic solution  
0 ITEMS

AUG 30 Casptone Demo Day: Public Event (Open to All)  
SAT 8/30 6:00 PM—9:00 PM (GMT+2)

Post-course

In-Person Meetup in Bay-Area  
0 ITEMS

★★★★★ 5.0 (65 RATINGS)

What students are saying

★★★★★

Perfect course to learn both core concepts and get a chance to implement what you have learned + life time access to contents.

Mani MAY 2025 COHORT  
Director  
Federal Reserve

★★★★★

The course has been thoughtfully designed to be easy to understand and highly relatable for everyone. The instructors Aish and Kiriti both bring a wealth of experience to the table, and their guidance consistently...

Read more

Dev MAY 2025 COHORT  
Lead ML Engineer  
ING Bank

★★★★★



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foundational concepts, practical techniques, and iterati...

Read more

**Shrey** MAY 2025 COHORT  
Lead Data Analyst  
Hinge Health

★★★★★

“Building Agentic AI Applications with a Problem-First Approach” is hands down one of the most thoughtfully designed and impactful courses I’ve ever taken. What sets this course apart is the depth and intentionality behind...

Read more

**Neelesh** MAY 2025 COHORT  
AI Architect  
Accenture

Aish and Kiriti's work for quite some time, I joined with high expectations, and the experience exceeded them. The course is exceptionally well-designed and insightful...

Read more

**Komal** MAY 2025 COHORT  
Data Scientist  
Shell

★★★★★

I've taken a number of courses across different platforms, and this one was truly exceptional. Starting with not just the density of knowledge that works for learners from all experience levels, but the thoughtful progression and...

Read more

**Jasen** MAY 2025 COHORT  
CEO & Founder  
Glowing

What makes our course the most holistic Applied AI program out there?





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## What people are saying

“ I'm loving the course. I considered myself an AI business expert, yet I'm learning so much and filling gaps I didn't even realize I had!

**Nadia V Gill**  
Senior Vice President of Strategy (AI),  
Hitachi Digital

“ Hands, down this is an excellent course - both in terms of pacing, coverage of the materials and technical depth. Aish has an extraordinary ability to take complex concepts and deliver it elegantly without oversimplifying. I teach gen AI for marketers and I know how hard this is so i appreciate the work put into this!

**Karla Congson**  
CEO, Agentiiv.com

“ you are doing a great job with the course! Balancing the right level of pacing and content can be challenging, but Aish & Kiriti areable find that line.

“ I can see the amount of effort that you have put into putting this together. It is well constructed love the depth at which things are being discussed. You have the perfect balance between



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Govind Manoharan

Technical Architect, SapientRazorfish

“ I’m learning a lot, and what stands out the most for me is Aish’s ability to curate extensive material into concise, well-structured slides, along with Kiriti’s demos that bring those concepts to life. Given the six-week duration, the content is crisp, easy to grasp, and aligns well with the course objectives.

Ravi Nukala

Senior Director of Engineering, BlackLine

“ The course structure is thoughtfully designed, with bite-sized weekly lessons that are engaging and easy to absorb. It takes an enterprise and industry-specific approach to qualifying agentic AI solutions for real-world problems. I especially appreciated the flexibility to dive deep into technical aspects while still covering the basics

Milli Comstock

Gen AI Digital Strategy Leader, Hitachi Energy

LinkedIn Shoutouts From Past Cohort Members!



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## Other praise on assignments/lectures



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Our alumni come from



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3 days left to enroll

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Overview

Syllabus

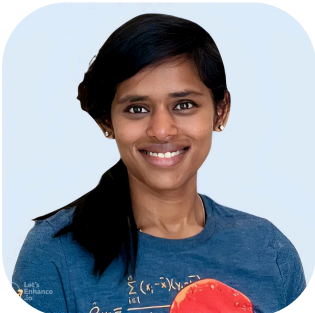
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## Meet your instructor



### Aishwarya Naresh Reganti

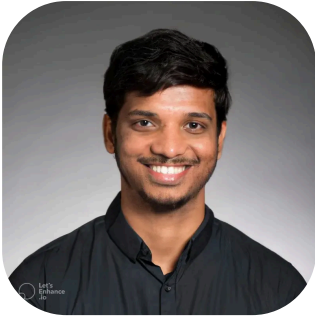
Tech Lead | Lecturer | Advisor | Researcher | Speaker | Investor

Aishwarya Naresh Reganti is an Applied Science Tech Lead and leads initiatives to develop and deploy production-ready generative AI solutions enterprise clients. With over 9 years of experience in machine learning, she has published more than 35 research papers at top-tier AI conferences, including NeurIPS, AACL, and CVPR.

Aishwarya has taught professional courses on generative AI at renowned institutions like MIT and Oxford. She has also designed free courses that have reached over 8,000 students globally and have formed the foundation for several academic programs and industry training curricula.

Recognized as one of the most prominent voices in enterprise AI, with over 95,000 professionals following her on LinkedIn, she is a sought-after thought leader frequently invited to speak at leading conferences and events, including TEDx, MLOps World, and ReWork.

Aishwarya actively collaborates with leading research professors and provides strategic advisory to organizations, enabling them to harness AI



Kiriti Badam

Member of Technical Staff @ OpenAI | AI Advisor | Ex-Google

Kiriti Badam is a member of the technical staff at OpenAI, with over a decade of experience designing high-impact enterprise AI systems. He specializes in AI-centric infrastructure, with deep expertise in large-scale compute, data engineering, and storage systems.

Prior to OpenAI, Kiriti was a founding engineer at Kumo.ai, a Forbes AI 50 startup, where he led the development of infrastructure that enabled training hundreds of models daily—driving significant ARR growth for enterprise clients.

Kiriti brings a rare blend of startup agility and enterprise-scale depth, having worked at companies like Google, Samsung, Databricks, and Kumo.ai. At Google Ads, he built globally distributed key-value stores that powered ad systems generating tens of billions in annual revenue.

He holds a Master’s degree from Carnegie Mellon University and a Bachelor’s from IIT Madras, where his research focused on advanced storage systems and distributed databases for AI workloads. A sought-after mentor and advisor, Kiriti helps startups and organizations design scalable AI infrastructure, reach product-market fit, and build long-term product strategy.

Join an upcoming cohort

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COST	UPCOMING	DATES	PAYMENT DEADLINE
\$1,950	July 2025 Cohort	July 26—Aug 31, 2025	June 25, 2025
Don't miss out! Enrollment closes in 3 days			

[Get reimbursed](#)   [Save 20%+ with a team](#)

Enroll today



# Course schedule

🕒 5-8 hours per week

## Live Office Hours

4 hours per week

We offer generous office hours to support you throughout the course, along with 24-hour help on Slack. Typical weekly schedule:

- **Wednesdays at 10 am PT** and **Saturdays at 9 am PT**: Assignment Support
- **Thursdays at 5 pm PT** and **Saturdays at 8 am PT**: Content/Use-case discussions

## Chai & AI Sessions

Sundays 8 am PT

Our weekly community discussion channel covers the latest trends in AI, industry updates, and all the unfiltered tea, open, casual, and freeform.

## Guest Lectures

PT evenings

We bring in industry experts to share proven insights and discuss real enterprise challenges

Free resource

## Our Curated Generative AI Free-Resource Bundle

Access our curated collection of top reading materials, roadmaps, research papers, and more!

Get this free resource





# Learning is better with cohorts

## Active hands-on learning

This course builds on live workshops and hands-on projects

## Interactive and project-based

You'll be interacting with other learners through breakout rooms and project teams

## Learn with a cohort of peers

Join a community of like-minded people who want to learn and grow alongside you

# Frequently Asked Questions

- What happens if I can't make a live session? >
- I work full-time, what is the expected time commitment? >
- I'm not very proficient in coding; is this course suitable for me? >
- How much should I budget for APIs and other resources? >



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I have coding experience, but it's been a while since I've coded. Is that okay?



What is the refund policy?



Can I defer to the next cohort if I can't attend this one?



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Sign up to be the first to know about course updates.

vasileva\_iskriyana@yahoo.com

Sign up

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