



headstarter

AI HACKATHON



Meta

Gemini

Overview



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Date, Location, & Time

- Saturday, March 16th
- St. Augustine 2nd Floor, St. John's University
- 10 AM - 8 PM
- Open to current SJU students & recent SJU grads

Objective

- Work in teams of 3 - 4 to build an AI project that solves a business need for Headstarter.
- Present your project with your team at the end of the Hackathon to be judged.
- The winning team gets to intern at Headstarter & demo their project to Engineering Directors & Senior Software Engineers!



What is Headstarter?

- Headstarter is a venture-backed AI startup founded by SJU Alum Faizan & Queens College Alum Yasin.
- Headstarter is striving to make learning algorithms and interviewing easy for everyone, through its multimodal AI agent that speaks, listens, and codes with you, just like how a real 1 on 1 tutor would.



Faizan Ahmed

SJU'23 M.S. Data Science
SJU'22 B.S. Computer Science



Yasin Ehsan

QC'21 B.S. Computer Science



Hackathon Tracks

Each Hackathon project must fall under one of the categories outlined below:

Enterprise AI

- For this track, the objective is to build an AI tool that Headstarter can sell to other businesses. This tool should be customizable to fit the specific needs of different businesses.

AI for Learning

- For this track, the objective is to build an AI tool that helps students learn Computer Science. This tool should help teach and break down complex topics.

Internal AI

- For this track, the objective is to build an AI tool that can be used internally at Headstarter. This tool should help save time by automating some manual tasks.



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Hackathon Workshops

During the Hackathon, Headstarter Co-Founders will be hosting workshops on:

Training ChatGPT on Custom Data

- In this workshop, we will go over how to train ChatGPT and other large language models on custom data from PDFs, websites, videos, and other documents, using a technique called retrieval augmented generation.

Running & Fine-Tuning Open Source LLMs

- In this workshop, we will go over how to run open source large language models such as Llama-2 from Meta and Gemma from Google locally on your laptops. Using custom data, we will also show how to fine tune these models so they respond in a custom format.



Winning Team

- The winning team for the Hackathon will get to intern for Headstarter during Summer 2024 and continue working on their project or building new features on top of Headstarter's product.
- The internship will be paid and will last 3 weeks. Performing well in the internship will lead to a longer contract being extended.
- During the internship, the winning team will get to demo their project to Headstarter's investors & advisors, as shown on the next slide.



Headstarter's Investors & Advisors

Winners will get a chance to Demo their project to:



Tariq
Director of Engineering at
AppLovin



Chao
Distinguished
Software Engineer at Self



Mofi
Google Gemini Engineer



Kunal
Software Engineer at
Two Sigma



Karen
Global Head of Operations
at LinkedIn



Talib
Lead Engineer at AppLovin