

Societal AI Training Programs (Hybrid)

I propose to use my organizational platform via [SimPPL](#) to scale a fellowships program where we train undergraduate students in their sophomore, junior, and senior years coming in with basic programming knowledge to gain exposure and build responsible computing tools grounded in the fields of technology, policy, and computing. The students collaborate with external partners from civil society and nonprofits working on information integrity. We will pursue projects that advance AI, journalism, fact-checking, digital media, and healthcare, and combating online harms.

Program

I will run our program teaching students to build and deploy responsible computing technologies through live, online lectures with recordings made available on a [website like UMLSC](#) across 40 weeks, offering a total of 7 workshops and 15 seminars in this period (details available [here](#)); the outcome is to identify co-development partnerships for their product ideas, advancing progress in **societal AI**. The outcomes will be successful external partnerships, research publications at top workshops and conferences, and real-world deployments of software tools.

Project Development Plan

Trainees recruited into this program will learn to develop a research project that has a publication end goal and extend this into a real-world project with a deployment end goal. For all projects we ensure a practical component and partnership with external organizations or contributing a real-world tool, platform, system, or library to their community locally or partners internationally. A portion of my funds will be directed towards payment to trainees that lead teams.

External Global Partner Network

For these programs, we will develop external partnerships and collaborations with some of these orgs.:

1. [United Nations Office of the Secretary General](#), across a variety of policy focus areas
2. [Tech Global Institute](#), led by former Meta leads for Bangladesh
3. [New York Public Radio](#), analyzing audiences for their Gothamist site
4. [NEST Center for Journalism](#), advancing digital fact-checking for Mongolia's only IFCN-member fact-checker
5. [Spreeha Foundation](#), for a digital healthcare literacy chatbot in Bangladesh
6. [Aadhar Bahuddeshiya Sanstha](#), for a healthcare records digitization project in India
7. [Oxford and Princeton Researchers](#) for LLM modeling of human behavior research

Please see the Appendix and follow the link provided to access the full plan for these training programs I hope to be able to work on!

Appendix

Here are some examples of past workshops with an extended set of seminars and research programs available at this link: [Societal AI Program Planner](#) **Feedback is always welcome, I strive to make this a relatable and engaging experience to intrinsically motivate my mentees.**

Workshops	Topics
Workshop 1	Social Media Data Collection and Scraping Tutorial (past workshop)
Workshop 2	Network analysis and visualization tutorials (Telegram Network Viz and Data)
Workshop 3	Basic NLP tutorial including topic analysis and sentiment analysis (past ML/NLP recitations)
Workshop 4	Basic LLM tutorials including Prompting and RAG (NYU AI School lab we co-developed)
Workshop 5	Engineering Infrastructure and Cloud tutorial for Google and Amazon (internal link , ask Swapneel to access it)
Workshop 6	Career Development I: Academia, Industry, and Beyond (related past talk)
Workshop 7	Career Development II: Networking, Entrepreneurship, and Pitching (by Sakhi team at SimPPL, incubated at MIT's Delta V incubator, winner of multiple grants)

Additional Partners

8. [Oxford University and Meta Researchers](#) on a social media bot detection project
9. [Boston University and MIT Professors](#) for a fake news NSF-funded research project
10. [UC Berkeley Instructor and Professor](#) for studying LLM harms on social media platforms
11. [Center for Tech and Society](#), to study hate against female and minority politicians
12. [Tattle Civic Technology](#), on social listening and data gathering.
13. [Just Rights for Children](#), on technology for child trafficking prevention