

15 JAN 2025

Let's Soar!

Obsidi Academy is

- A **bespoke experiential** and **engaging** learning opportunity
- Loaded with **team collaboration, hands-on coding** that mirrors **real-world, industry agile** environments
- Your opportunity to **show up, develop yourself, and advance to the next level** in your professional career

Congratulations on being accepted into the Obsidi Academy Cohort 7!

Please review the following required action items that will set you up for success:

1. Application Registration and Login
2. Computer System/Environment Setup
3. Required Prerequisite Learning
4. Recommended Learning: Bootcamp Mindset
5. Workplace Insight Report
6. Obsidi Academy Weekly Syllabus

Please read through this information in its entirety, and schedule the time you need to complete the steps **before 20 JAN 2025 Monday, the start date of Obsidi Academy.**

7. **Note:** Obsidi Academy begins at 8:15 AM EST on 20 JAN 2025.
 - a. **Be at your desk early, no later than 8:10 AM EST.**
8. Some items listed below require additional information, sent to you via email, denoted by this icon:



1. Application Registration and Login

Please Note:

- For all application registration processes listed below, please adhere to the following **image and naming conventions**:
 - **Naming convention format**
 - **(PreferredName) LegalFirstName LegalLastName**
 - This convention ensures that we use your preferred name AND we can identify you with your legal name so that you receive your monthly stipend and are easily found on attendance and grade sheets.
 - **Image format**
 - Choose an image that clearly **shows your face with a plain background**

[Gmail/Google](#)

Obsidi Academy shares resources that are **only** accessible with a Google account. 1. Create or use an existing Gmail/Google account.

- a. **Important:** Please ensure that you use your Google account/email to register for the applications listed below.
 - i. Many applications give you the option to register/join/login with your Gmail - you should always choose this option.

Slack ([MacOS](#) | [Windows](#))

Slack is Obsidi Academy's primary communication platform. Please download the appropriate client ([MacOS](#) | [Windows](#)) and establish your account according to the following protocol:

1. You will receive an email invite from Obsidi Academy to join the Obsidi Academy Slack workspace.
 - a. Email to be sent after the Obsidi Academy Orientation and prior to Day 1 of the bootcamp.
2. [Join the Obsidi Academy Slack workspace](#) via the email instructions.
 - a. Please do **not** create/use an existing Slack workspace.
 - b. Only the Obsidi Academy Slack workspace is allowed.
3. Slack naming convention
 - a. Please use this naming convention format
 - i. (PreferredName) LegalFirstName LegalLastName
 - ii. Example: (Chi) Chilombo Mohamed
4. Slack Image
 - a. Once you're logged in, please [add your profile image](#).
5. [Learn how to use Slack](#)

Codio

Obsidi Academy uses [Codio](#) to deliver the instructional content.

1. You will receive an email invite from academy-logistics@bptn.com.
 - a. Email to be sent after the Obsidi Academy Orientation and prior to Day 1 of the bootcamp.
2. Follow the email instructions to register/join Codio.
 - a. Use the **aforementioned naming convention when joining**.
3. To join Codio, you'll receive a link from the academy-logistics@bptn.com. Once you have the link, follow these instructions to get started:
<https://docs.codio.com/students/accessing-codio/joining.html#joining>.
4. **Familiarize yourself with Codio via the [Codio learner resource link](#).**

[Zoom](#)

Obsidi Academy uses [Zoom](#) (in conjunction with Codio) for live (face-to-face) instructor-led content, webinars, professional development workshops, meetings, etc.

1. Download the full desktop client for your operating system OR update your current Zoom application.
2. Create a Zoom account
 - a. You can sign up for Zoom using the Gmail account you created–Zoom will use your gmail account details such as first name and last name.
 - b. Use the naming convention for your [on-screen name in all Zoom meetings](#).
3. Set your microphone setting [to automatically be muted](#) when you enter a meeting.
4. Having your camera on is an Obsidi Academy requirement.
 - a. Your **entire face must show on screen/camera**. Showing just your forehead, the top of your hair, an arm, etc., is not allowed.
5. Always [practice Zoom professional etiquette](#).

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6. See “Zoom Tips” in section 2, Computer System/Environment Setup, below.

[Github](#)

Github is used to track our projects.

1. Create a Github account using the aforementioned naming convention.
2. Link your Github account to the **Gmail** account you will use for Obsidi Academy.
3. You can use an existing Github account, but will need to update your name using the **aforementioned naming convention** and the **email you will use with Obsidi Academy** in your GitHub account settings.

2. Computer System/Environment Setup

Obsidi Academy uses industry standard programs that require sufficient memory; 8GB of RAM, at a minimum, is required. It is best to prepare your system/environment/work area before the first day of Obsidi Academy. The information below will help maximize your Obsidi Academy experience.

Internet

- **Routers**

- Many Internet Service Providers will replace old routers with new ones (for free) if you ask them to do so. If you've had spotty internet in the past few months, please reach out to your ISP and tell them about your issues *right now*. Do not wait until you're missing your classes to fix these problems.

- **Wifi**

- **2.4GHz** is a slower connection, but it can be accessed further away from a router. It can also work through walls better than 5GHz can.
- **5GHz** is a faster connection, but its limitations can often make it rather useless if you're too far away from your router.
- If you have a router that offers both 2.4GHz and 5GHz and you frequently lose connection, talk to your ISP about changing the settings on your router to force 2.4GHz, or inquire about where your router could better be positioned to ensure a solid connection.

Computer

Obsidi Academy requires the following system specifications, at the minimum:

- processor speed of 1.5 gigahertz (GHz)
- random-access memory (RAM) of 8 gigabytes (GB)
- free storage space of 1 GB

Here are some tips to set your system up for success:

- Ensure that all **unnecessary** processes/applications/programs are shut off/closed. ○ Google "stop programs from opening on startup" or "kill background processes" to see what you can shut off.
- Update your browser.
- Provide your [computer with proper ventilation](#).
- Perform basic cleanup:
 - Delete old unnecessary files, and don't forget to empty your trash/recycle bin.
 - Delete old unnecessary programs.
- Use a cloud service to back up important files and free up space on your local machine.

Environment

- **Wear headphones**
 - Headphones/earbuds prevent feedback and other sound issues from ruining your meetings.
- **Zoom Tips**
 - Always [practice good Zoom professional etiquette](#).
 - [Enhance your Zoom video](#)
 - Use a [virtual background in Zoom](#)
 - Keep your Zoom background as simple as possible (e.g., have a wall/room divider behind you and limit the number of items behind you.)
- **Minimize distractions**
 - Find a quiet and distraction free place to work.
 - Politely ask your household members to not interrupt you while you are attending class.
 - Remember, dependent care is an Obsidi Academy requirement.
- **External webcam and/or usb microphone**
 - While not required, these make your video and audio **clearly** seen and heard, respectively.
- **Work area**
 - Find a distraction free work area that is comfortable.

3. Required Prerequisite Learning

NOTE: Due: Jan 19th 2025 12:00 AM EST

- Course completion certificates (see below) must be uploaded to Codio by 12:00AM.


LinkedIn Learning

Participants are expected to successfully complete three courses:

1. [Agile Methodology Course](#)
2. [Git and GitHub Basics Course](#)
3. [Java Fundamentals Course](#)

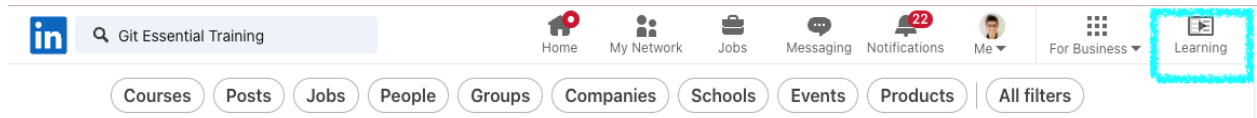
These courses aim to build foundational knowledge and skills crucial for collaborative and efficient project development.

Directions

1. Create your LinkedIn Learning account as per the invitation email. 
 - a. Email will be sent prior to Day 1 of the bootcamp.
 - b. Note: if you already have a LinkedIn Learning account that you wish to use and do not wish/need to establish a new account please notify us via
 - i. academy-logistics@bptn.com.
2. Log in to LinkedIn Learning.
 - a. Open your web browser and go to [LinkedIn](#).
 - b. Sign in to your LinkedIn account using your username and password created in step 1 (above).

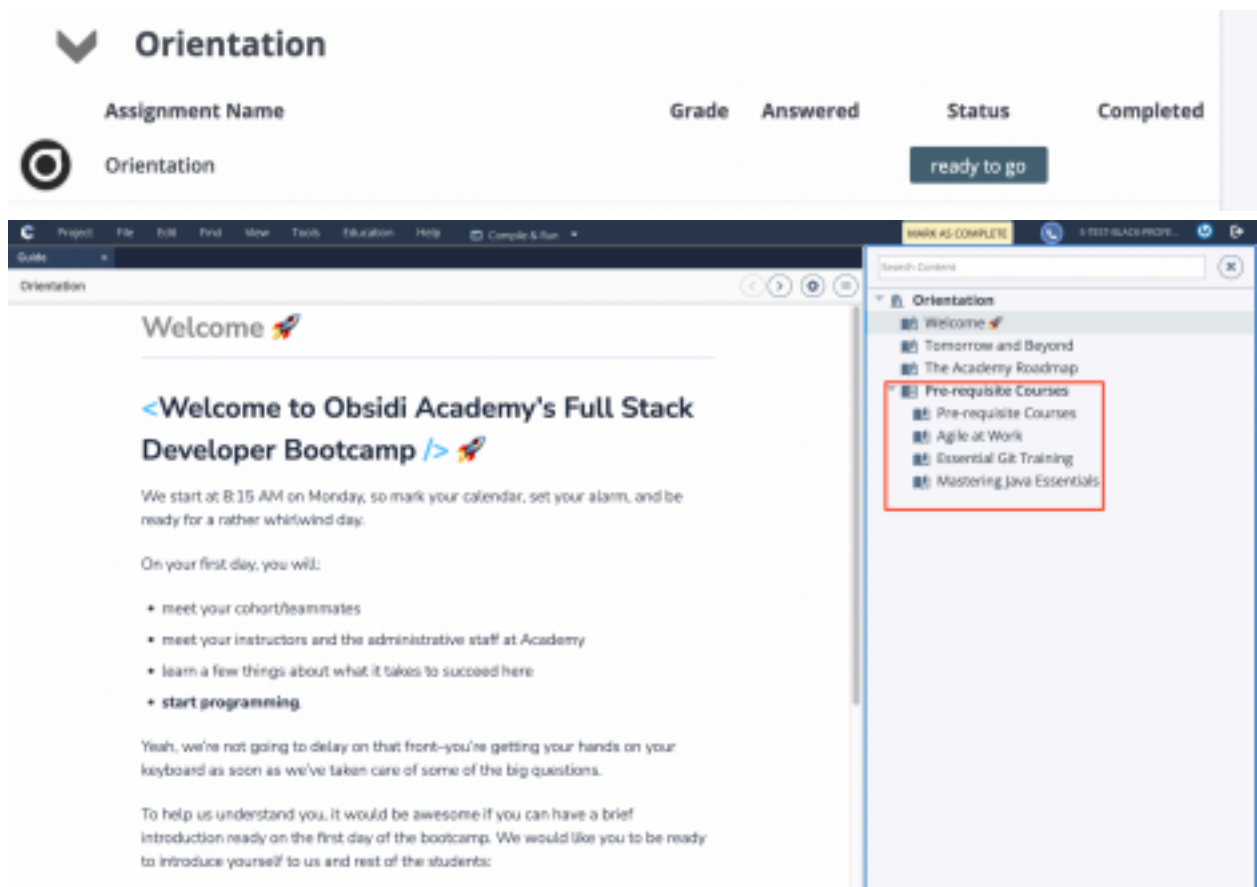
3. Access LinkedIn Learning.

- a. Click on the "Learning" icon located in the top right corner, this will route you to LinkedIn Learning



4. Access the three courses.

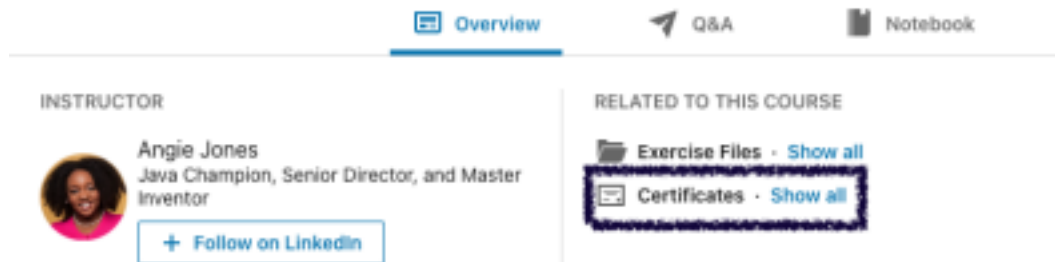
- a. ["Agile at Work: Building Your Agile Team" by Doug Rose.](#)
- b. ["Git Essential Training" by Barbara Forbes](#)
- c. ["Java Essential Training: Syntax and Structure" by Angie Jones](#)
- d. Alternatively, you can use the direct links in Codio.
 - i. Codio access is available after you attend the Obsidi Academy Orientation.



5. Complete all three courses.

- a. Watch all respective course videos and thoroughly complete all course content, exercises, knowledge checks, assessments, etc.

- Download your LinkedIn Course Completion certificate for each course.

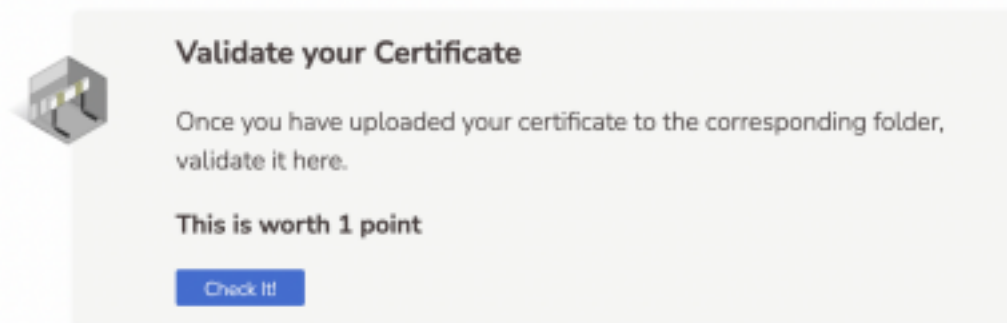


- Upload your LinkedIn Course Completion certificates to Codio by following the instructions given under the assignment.

7. Upload your Agile Methodology Course Completion certificate to the corresponding folder on the left, search for the folder "Agile at Work":

```
code > prerequisite-courses > Agile at Work
```

8. Once you uploaded your certificate, validate it here:



4. Recommended Learning: Bootcamp Mindset

Obsidi Academy highly recommends the following are completed prior to Day 1 of Obsidi Academy:

- [How to Prepare for a Coding Bootcamp: 4 Tips](#)
 - This is a quick read on how to prepare yourself to attend a coding bootcamp.
- [10 Things I Wish I Knew Before Coding Bootcamp](#)
 - Video: a bootcamp attendee discusses his experience.
 - While he wasn't an Obsidi Academy student, he has some good tips.

5. Workplace Insight Report

Please search your email for your Workplace Insight Report (PDF, see example snapshot of partial report below) that you received, via email from Criteria, after you completed your Obsidi Academy assessments.

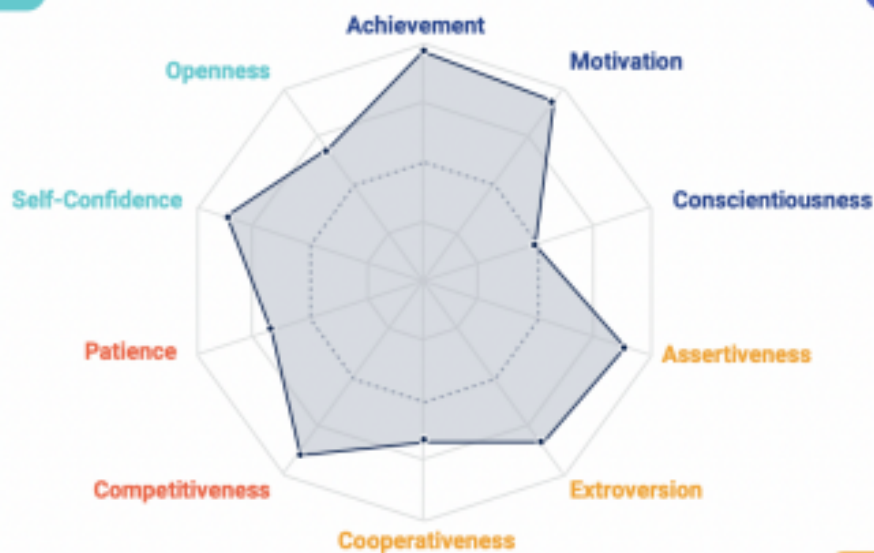
- Read your report prior to Day 1 of Obsidi Academy.
- Have your report accessible on Day 1 of Obsidi Academy, as you will use your report in the first Professional Development Workshop.

Josh's Report Summary

Josh General Population

Attitudes & Outlook

Work Habits



Temperament

Interaction Style

Notable Traits

You can be described as:

Goal-oriented

Values achievement, sets goals, and prioritizes achieving them

Extroverted

Socially outgoing, gregarious, often initiates social interactions

Assertive

Bold, forceful and sometimes dominant presence; not inclined to defer

Competitive

Innate drive to win, measures performance in comparison to others

6. Obsidi Academy Weekly Syllabus

- Note: The following is subject to iteration.

Weeks 1 - 4: Fundamentals of Java

- Week 1: Introduction to variables, data types, arrays, strings, and hands-on coding exercises.
- Week 2: Object-Oriented Programming (OOP) concepts such as classes, objects, inheritance, encapsulation polymorphism, abstraction (interfaces and abstract classes), exception handling, wrapper classes, and static variables. methods.
- Week 3: Collection frameworks including ArrayList, LinkedList, HashMap, LinkedHashMap, TreeMap, HashSet, LinkedHashSet, TreeSet, and an introduction to threads.
- Week 4: JUnit testing, search and sort algorithms, Java generics, functional interfaces & lambda expressions, and method references.

Weeks 5 - 6: PostgreSQL Basics and JDBC Integration

- Week 5: Fundamentals of PostgreSQL-SQL commands (DDL, DML, DCL), joins, triggers, functions, stored procedures, views, ER diagrams, indexing, ACID properties, and normalization. Hands-on with the FeedApp ERD and database tables.
- Week 6: Advanced SQL topics including subqueries and JDBC integration and begin Capstone 1 (WeatherApp Database) .

Weeks 7 - 8: Spring Framework and Backend Development

- Introduction to Spring fundamentals-Spring JDBC, JPA & Hibernate, Spring Security, and Spring Mail.
- Build and test REST API endpoints for the FeedApp backend with database integration.
- Implement integration testing and CI/CD pipelines using GitHub Actions.

Week 9 (Capstone 2): WeatherApp Backend (Spring)

- Develop the backend for the WeatherApp project using Spring, applying learned concepts.

Weeks 10 - 11: Frontend Development (HTML, CSS, JS, React JS)

- Week 10: Fundamentals of web development-HTML, CSS, JavaScript, and React JS.
- Week 11: Create the FeedApp frontend using React JS, Tailwind CSS and React libraries

Week 12 (Capstone 3): BDD, Cucumber, Selenium, RestAssured

- Introduction to Behavior-Driven Development (BDD) using Cucumber.
- Automate testing for FeedApp using Cucumber and Selenium (frontend) and RestAssured (backend API testing).
- **Capstone 3**
 - **Core Group**
 - Build the WeatherApp frontend using React.
 - **Quality Engineering Group (QE)**
 - • Automate testing of FeedApp backend using Cucumber and RestAssured.
 - • Automate testing of WeatherApp using Cucumber and Selenium (frontend) and RestAssured (backend API testing).

Week 12+: Enrichment Instructor-Led Presentations

- As time permits the following topics will be presented:
 - Microservices
 - Deployment of feedApp to AWS

Exciting New Addition: GEN AI Course

We're introducing the GEN AI Course, where you'll learn how to interact with OpenAI's GPT models (GPT-3, GPT-4-mini, etc.).

- Crash course on Python
- Understand LLMs, prompt engineering, experiment with different parameters with chat completions API, and gain hands-on experience with AI-driven solutions.
- This course aims to equip you with valuable skills for integrating AI capabilities into modern software applications.

Best wishes,
Obsidi Academy