2026 Week 01_Class 01 - The AI Landscape

05 - 05 Jan 2026

Poll results

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Select the option that best aligns with your current expertise and skills:

0 4 9

Engineering

61 %

Non-engineering

39 %

MBAi Kickoff Survey (2/4)

0 4 9

Select the option that best aligns with your primary interest in MBAi 448:

(1/2)

Founder / Entrepreneur

29 %

Product Managment

49 %

Engineering (AI/ML)

6 %

Management Consulting

8 %

Investments / Capital (e.g., VC, PE)

6 %

MBAi Kickoff Survey (2/4)

Select the option that best aligns with your primary interest in MBAi 448:

(2/2)

0 4 9

Other

2 %

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MBAi Kickoff Survey (3/4)

What are the things about AI you are most excited about?

(1/7)

0 4 9

- Agentic AI to hopefully automate a lot of work.
- Efficiency, generating code, generating images, image editing, brainstorming, autonomous driving, translation, smart glasses, virtual reality
- The conveniency of AI in terms of analyzing big datasets, helping out with tasks that would usually take up a lot of time during product development and many others.

- how AI can help transform workforce development and skills learning
- Applications of AI in accelerating scientific discoveries and unlocking insane productivity through an army of agents or recursive self-correcting behavior.
- Learning agentic AI workflows and usage
- I'm most excited about how AI lowers the barrier between ideas and execution. You no longer

What are the things about AI you are most excited about?
(2/7)

need a huge team or deep technical background to test a hypothesis, analyze data, or build something real. In areas like biotech and healthcare, this means faster drug discovery, better use of messy biological data, and more informed decision-making across research, clinical trials, and business.

- How it may resolve issues that haven't been solved by human beings

- The democratization of capability is probably at the top. Things that used to require specialized expertise - consulting, code debugging, data analysis, even creative ideation - are becoming accessible to anyone with curiosity and a good question. That's genuinely thrilling. I'm also fascinated

MBAi Kickoff Survey (3/4)

0 4 9

What are the things about AI you are most excited about?
(3/7)

by AI as a thinking partner rather than just an answer machine. The back-and-forth of working through a problem together -where the human brings judgment, context, and taste, and I can offer breadth, speed, and pattern-matching - feels like something genuinely new.

- Knowledge on how to use it effectively for various business needs. AI potential is growing day by day which is exciting.

- Democratizing and accelerating product development
- World AI
- Agentic AI, Generative AI
- The ability to enhance workflows and create an efficient system.
- I am excited - how interfacing will change with computer systems. - how AI can be applied to ease so many of the worlds problems, even though a small improvement at places
- It's ability to allow

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What are the things about AI you are most excited about?

(4/7)

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us to rapidly parse/search/ingest a broader array of data and then act on it at scale. The ability of AI to allow us to create/prototype ideas and concepts easily. At the end state, this would ideally allow people to customize their environment (digital and maybe even physical) to their own ways of working.

- I've seen firsthand how useful it can be. If used correctly

it can only help the world to solve meaningful problems.

- Agentic AI taking off, robotics and AI, and AI in other industries Applications around these two
- Excited about its enablement abilities. Wanting to be a founder, it's never been easier to build an MVP by yourself. I'm technical but not an engineer, so being able to build with AI is very exciting.
- Reinforcement learning, future of work

MBAi Kickoff Survey (3/4)

What are the things about AI you are most excited about?

(5/7)

0 4 9

- embodied / physical AI longer agentic AI workflows (up to full day) freeing up human capacity for creative endeavors reducing energy / water demand from AI
- Improving QOL for people without formal education Reducing misinformation Speeding up corporate workflows
- The application of AI to solve business problems, starting with understanding of

basics of concepts in order to know what to implement where
- Reinventing user experiences as AI technologies evolve.
- Speed, Creativity
- AGI, evolution of work done by humans
- Automation LLM Autonomous driving
- The ability to build things quickly and simplify/automate mundane tasks
- Agentic assistance for

MBAi Kickoff Survey (3/4)

What are the things about AI you are most excited about?

(6/7)

0 4 9

- existing roles.
- Reinforcement Learning, especially for fine tuning LLMs Game Playing AIs Model of the World
- The rapid improvement of coding agents like Claude Code
- Taking a business problem and getting to MVP, understanding the core ways AI works, how to best think through problems
- Guide you in every circumstances, tracking repeated events

- Automate tasks and make them faster with fewer mistakes
- Ai workflow optimization, how they can work safely in production, and how models are progressing now
- Improving the end to end business model for industries that have historically been plagued by manual inefficiency
- Makes my work more productive and easier
- Faster code delivery and

MBAi Kickoff Survey (3/4)

What are the things about AI you are most excited about?

(7/7)

0 4 9

optimisation. Deep research

- Make quick judgments out of big data
- How to present it in "english". Would love to learn how to utilize it better for day to day or for work.
- Time and cost savings, productivity increases, work/life benefits, and health advancements
- How to train models
- Reduce manual labor, make

work more meaningful

- I am excited about its potential to change how humans work, giving us more time to be creatives
- Gen AI, Vision AI, multimodal AI
- The fast development and significant applications nowadays.
- Agentic AI
- I'd like to see how AI influences the financial decisions that tech companies make
- AI applications in business

MBAi Kickoff Survey (4/4)

What are the things about AI you are most concerned about?

(1/7)

0 4 9

- Entry level jobs getting wiped out. Environmental impact.
- Job loss, evil AI, future generation ability for critical thinking, drone use
- I'm concerned if it would largely alter job categories and replace many of them and at the same time creating new ones.
- biases and privacy issues
- Privacy, Reliability
- How to master advanced human centric skills to stay on top of it

- I'm most concerned about people using AI outputs as definitive answers instead of decision support. I'm also concerned about bias in training data, since that can quietly shape customer targeting, credit, hiring, or healthcare outcomes in ways that aren't obvious.
- Ethics
- Concentration of power. These systems are expensive to build, which

What are the things about AI you are most concerned about?

(2/7)

0 4 9

means a small number of actors control them. How that plays out for competition, for access, for whose values get encoded - that matters enormously. I worry about atrophied skills - not in a Luddite way, but genuinely: if people stop practicing certain kinds of thinking because AI handles it, what gets lost? There's value in the struggle of learning, not just the output.

- Ethicality and security.

Also regulation of AI use. Might be paywalled.

- Existential threat of AGI to human's ability to generate economic value
- Replacement of entry-level roles
- Since I am working in Finance sector, Security risk is the most concerned thing about AI
- Lack of guardrails leading to a catastrophe which creates distrust amongst the public.
- - Guardrail - Data privacy

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MBAi Kickoff Survey (4/4)

What are the things about AI you are most concerned about?

(3/7)

0 4 9

and security - Geopolitics

- Actually getting it into practice. Slop
- I'm very concerned about what this means for the workplace in the future. I'm not quite convinced that this won't completely replace jobs and send the world into a little bit of a frenzy. All other major innovations (internet etc) have replaced jobs but added equal if not more new jobs.

- Data collections and bias, Data scarcity, Electricity and Water shortage preventing growth
- How it will displace people and how it will impact society
- Agent agency, resource allocation, mental health
- embodied / physical AI AI displacing jobs AI slop destroying news trustworthiness and how we value creative outputs (art, movies, etc) AGI / ASI going wrong

MBAi Kickoff Survey (4/4)

What are the things about AI you are most concerned about?

(4/7)

0 4 9

- People replacing thinking with AI
- Incorrect usage and understanding of AI concepts leading to failure of projects or termination of employees stating not having enough understanding of AI
- Reliability of models. Balancing training and inference costs with product value. Black box operations that limit explainability of outcomes.
- Ethics

- Not able to adapt to all the changes
- Bias when training LLM
- Data security and misinformation. Deepfakes are so easy to create, for now we can validate but unlikely to last.
- Agentic replacement of existing roles.
- Human/Job Replacement
- Financial Bubble
- Can differentiated business models be built?

MBAi Kickoff Survey (4/4)

What are the things about AI you are most concerned about?
(5/7)

Is the speed of deployment a long term hindrance to the building of startups that can sustain growth?

- Non-original work, lack of creativity
- Fewer job positions, less competition from giant companies expanding to new fields.
- Hallucinations in production/not aligned behavior. "Hacking" models to get around safeguards put in place

- Similar to the Deepmind Manifesto, AI should be used for the betterment of humanity, which entails having an ethical board to oversee it. Currently I feel capital greed around AI will incite insurgent use
- Ethics, copyrights, AI replacing jobs
- Over reliance on ai. Reduced use of the brain
- The fact that it's being overrated at this moment

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MBAi Kickoff Survey (4/4)

0 4 9

What are the things about AI you are most concerned about?

(6/7)

- It'll make people lazy. People would not want to double check their work and just use chatgpt to answer questions
- Job losses/layoffs, increase of resource and wealth inequality, oligarchic society
- How quickly they evolve and would that affect practical application
- Healthcare setting, will Doctors lose their authority and impact

the healthcare system. People trust AI more than doctors right now. Will we lose trust with humans and just be focused on data/AI responses.

- I am concerned about data and security, now that AI can be used by anyone and it is relatively cheap
- Responsible use, job displacement
- How it could possibly take over in

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MBAi Kickoff Survey (4/4)

What are the things about AI you are most concerned about?

(7/7)

0 4 9

the future and decrease the
employment rate.

- Responsible AI and ethics
- AI bubble
- Ethics Scale