

AI Tutor

Overview

Spencer Thompson

December 02, 2025

Table of Contents

- I | The Beginning 3
 - An Idea 3
 - AI AI AI 3
 - Natural Evolution 3
- II | The Journey 3
 - Roadblocks 3
 - Scrappy Solutions 3
 - Iterating with Intensity 3
- III | Suffering from Success 3
 - Oh hi canvas 3
 - Burn it to the Ground 4
 - Oh, that’s a lot of users 4
- IV | The Existential Crisis 4
 - It’s Concious? 4
 - Unforeseen Consequences 4
 - Don’t you know AI will replace you? 4
- V | The End 4
 - Success? 4
 - Lessons Learned 4
 - An Exciting Future 4

I | The Beginning

The AI Tutor project started out of conversations shared from a mutual interest in realistic capabilities of an exciting new technology.

With [Dr. Ahmed Alsharif](#) and [Dr. Armen Ilikchyan](#)

An Idea

The idea was using this new and exciting technology to build an AI assistant for students at UVU.

AI AI AI

The project was started right around the beginning of 2024, and at the time AI was buzzing.

- AI Hype
- Interesting tech

Natural Evolution

- The team
- the scope
- the features

II | The Journey

- Exciting work
- Users Users Users

Roadblocks

- Auth / Permission

Scrappy Solutions

- JWTs / Extension

Iterating with Intensity

- Lots of failures
- Wasted code
- Bad ideas
- Quick deployments

III | Suffering from Success

Oh hi canvas

- Users
- Scope creep

- Bugs on Bugs

Burn it to the Ground

- Quick adoption

Oh, that's a lot of users

- Dopamine

IV | The Existential Crisis

- Unsettling feelings

It's Concious?

- Recursive AI, with code execution
- Scary Capabillities
- Thinking

Unforeseen Consequences

- If you write code you own it

Don't you know AI will replace you?

- oof

V | The End

- A long journey
- Learned a lot

Success?

- yea
- lots of users 😎

Lessons Learned

- Production code is different
- Schemas are really important, and no matter how hard you try they are never enough
- Documentation is really important

An Exciting Future

- yea idk