

Cummunity Manager AMA Session - Thursday June 6 (6:30 pm)

Notebook: Secure and Private AI Scholarship Challenge

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Link: <https://github.com/taimurzahid/Secure-and-Private-AI-Scholarship-Challenge/tree/master/AMA%20Sessions>

FAQ: <https://sites.google.com/udacity.com/secureprivateai-challenge/faqs/frequently-asked-questions>

AMA Session

Rules:

1. We will be using a red light/green light system for this AMA. If you see a green light, then that means we're taking new questions. If you see a red light, then we ask that you not post any questions as we need some time to answer previous students.
2. AMAs are not mandatory. These are optional sessions for students who need to clarify their queries.
3. Please reply in the thread if you want to answer or contribute to a question.
4. What is this AMA for: General Questions about the scholarships program.
5. What is it NOT for: Technical Questions. For any queries, reach out to your peers at #tech_help channel.

Questions and Answers:

Q. Will there be any analytics provided so we can see a summary of our participation since all the messages are being recorded in Slack now rather than being deleted?

A. Hi @Simone! I am really sorry but we won't be able to provide you with that and those will kept private to Udacity staff only due to privacy concerns. But let me assure you that the scoring and evaluation will be completely fair and non biased. 😊

Q. How can we rate our help mates? Will be wall of fame?

A. Hi @Calincan! I think you can always appreciate your peers by giving them a shoutout on the #celebrate channel. Right now we don't have a hall of fame as such. :smile: (edited)

Q. For phase 2 quality matters or quantity in slack?

A. Both matters, As how much quantity and quality information you provide to peers and through this how much of your valuable contribution effect in the community (edited)

Quality, though I'm wondering how they are measuring it 🙄

I think your peers have already answered the question above @Nupur! :wink: (edited)

Q. How much guidance will we receive from the instructors/mentors for the projects? (edited)

A. Hi @K.S.! Unlike normal Nanodegree programs, you won't have technical mentors here. But soon we are going to have technical moderators here whom you can reach out to for advices. 😊

Q. Would the time when a moderator would be available will be decided by him/her or by udacity staff.

A. Hi @Shreyash Jain! We will surely consider the timings of the moderators before making any decision for him/her. 😊

Q. I have a Windows PC - is it better to use the Cloud like AWS, Azure, or Google? And if so is it expensive?

A. Use google colab as its free. you can also use floyd hub for cloud computing.

Q. If we should only use Slack and no other groups: We are a few girls organizing meetups using video calls (did our first one today!).

We were thinking of creating a chat group (like a Whatsapp group type) in Slack. We want to keep in touch with everyone who has joined the video call meetup. In this case they won't miss out from one of the sessions if they do not see the post in the wmn_who_code channel.

But you can not add more than 9 members to a direct message (group). Is there any other way for us to keep a track of everyone interested and reminding them of the meetups?

We will of course always invite to the meet ups using the wmn_who_code channel. But with more than 600 girls in channel messages can easily get lost. The only other way I can think of if we should not use groups outside of Slack or can't solve it using Slack is to write a list in Word/Notepad with the girls interested and reminding them every time we post the meet ups in the channel.

Does anyone have another suggestion?

Thank you in advance 😊

A. Hi @Helena Barmer! I clearly get your point, and trust me this problem will be solved when we launch study groups next week. I would ask you to please not make any external groups as of now as that might lead to students getting disengaged. Please wait for that to be announced. 😊

Q. Only 300 people will actually be selected? Why this number?

A. Hi @Iago B. Araujo! I think @amine just hit the point here, That's how much facebook wants. 😊

@anime's response: probably because it's the amount of money facebook is willing to pay

Q. Will the project be in teams?

A. The projects are self evaluated @Erick Lara and won;t be in teams. 😊

Q. Why this is called AskMeAnything if we can't ask anything

:sweat_smile::joy:

A.Hahaha @amine! I think @Nupur said it. You can surely ask anything about the scholarships program here 😊

@Nupur's response: You can ask anything related to scholarship....i think so...

Q. If we have a group outside of Slack (like a WhatsApp group to keep in touch), would that affect our chances to being in the Nanodegree?

Do we need to use Slack exclusively?

A.Exactly what @Apoorva Patil said @Helena Barmer! And not to worry, like I said above, we will soon provide you with a platform that you will be able to use to connect with your peers, just wait for it. 😊

@Apoorva Patil's Response: This question was referred to in one of the earlier sessions. @akshit.udacity mentioned that using some other medium would lessen the Slack participation which is why they don't particularly encourage using any other groups. Hope this helps!

Q. hi @akshit.udacity for phase 2 of this challenge, do individual get to choose the nano_degree program to enroll in either computer vision or deep learning or you guys decide on that alone?

A. Hi @Adedeji victor! We will be making that selection and we will soon release how we will do that, not to worry. :smile:

Q. Hi! Is this 'Channel Moderator' thing, the equivalent to 'Student Leaders' in previous scholarships? I read that 'Channel moderators will be announced on Friday. When is the deadline to apply for it? Thanks in advance.

A. @AlexDL yes they are the same thing. And you should do it by EOD today if you want to have a chance. 😊

Q. The participation at slack criteria will count to the selection of the scholarship? (edited)

A. Yes that;s right @João Rafael Chaves de Araújo Silva!

Q. What are the chances of getting selected for become a student moardator?

A. Exactly what @Shreyash Jain said @Vipul Aggarwal! 🙏

@Shreyash Jain's Response: It depends on the response you provided in the google form.

Q. There are 5000 participants but 4300+ people on the channel? So does that mean we have no mentors? If there are around, where do we find them?
(edited)

A. Hi @Phil Huang! Unlike other Nanodegree programs, you don;t get mentors in a scholarship program. You can make use of this amazing community while asking out your questions and seeking answers. :smile:

Q. Can we get a chance to discuss with the instructors?

A. Hi @Anish Kumar! We are planning some webinars with the instructors, I would advise you to please wait for that. :smile:

Q. What's Facebook participation on this scholarship or are they just sponsoring the nanodegree?

A. Hi @Fustincho! Facebook is the one who is sponsoring these scholarships and also the co creator of the course that you are currently taking with the program. :smile:

Q. What is Facebook providing as part of the scholarship? Credit, Certificates, our profiles be shared with 3rd parties for opportunities (jobs, internships, or events?)

A. Hi @Lujain! Facebook are just your sponsors here. I am really sorry but there is nothing else they will be providing you as of now. 😊

Q. Hi guys, I have some questions: How can I know my performance in this program? Can we obtain a certification of fulfilling all the requirements? How important it's to be active in the slack community and how it will affect a further selection on the phase 2 of this program?

A. Hi @José Felipe J. Aquino! I am really sorry but you won't be able to track your performance here as that will be kept private due to privacy concerns, but trust me we will be completely fair about it.

2. There will be only a certificate at the end of phase 2 if you complete it after getting selected.

3. Participation on Slack and its community engagement initiatives are really important factors to get into phase 2. 🙏

Q. Hi @akshit.udacity Will one person be selected as a moderator for more than one channel? For example: Person A gets to be the moderator for say both #general and #ama? Or is there a limit to number of channels one can moderate? Thankyou in advance!

A. Hi @Bharati Subramanian! As of now NO. 1 moderator will only be responsible for 1 channel. 🙏

Q. Is facebook team or udacity members going to review future projects or applications created from the content in this challenge?

A. Hi @Christian Rivera! I am really sorry but we won't be. All the projects made here will be self evaluated. 🙏

Q. Can the #resources channel be promoted (currently has 883 users), so people would stop posting useful material in other channels as they get lost in time and they mix up with questions? Maybe a resource channel per topic so that channel doesn't get too cluttered. I know there are some Airtables people are using, but seems like not many do.

A. Hi @Ramiro V.! That's indeed a great idea and not to worry, this will be sorted I think after we get our students moderators up and running. 😊

Q. What is the criteria for selection of phase 2 of the program ? On what factors will the community involvement be considered for selection? Who will evaluate candidates Facebook or Udacity for phase-2 selection?

A. Hi @Pava!

1. The complete criteria for the phase 2 selection can be found here -

<https://sites.google.com/udacity.com/secureprivateai-challenge/faqs/frequently-asked-questions>.

2. Please try to take part in the community initiatives that will be announced soon and be active here on community in terms of asking and answering questions.

3. Udacity will be evaluating the students. 🙌

Q. Does facebook have some expectations from the students after the nano degree? ie if at all one successfully completes the program from this stage through the nano degree

A. Hi @Harisu Fanyui! The Facebook team will be closely monitoring your progress and would certainly want you to complete your program successfully.

😊

Q. Look like that I am the only senegalese in this challenge, I am wondering if at least one scholar for each country around the world will be selected? How you will you process in order to make the step 2 diverse like the step in term of worldwide country representation?

A. Hi @Mouhamadou Gueye! I am really sorry but we won;t be doing that. We will try our best to maintain the diversity but we cannot be unfair to the students who would have worked hard in the community by that time. So the selection will be completely based on the participation and the selection criteria and not the regions. 😊

Q. Which is the best way to send feedback on lessons/notebooks contents?

A. Hi @lumartin! Just drop an email to our support team at scholarships-support@udacity.com. 😊

Q. Hi @akshit.udacity. How r you? Does asking questions in ama session also considered in contributing to slack? Will it matter for selection for phase 2. What if I don't have any question or they might have already asked by my fellows?

A. Hi @Ashish Shrivastava! Yes they will be counted. And no worries if those have been already answered. I am sure some of the students here might still need help in regard of those questions and you can surely help them out. 😊

Q. Will Facebook make a round of interview with people they find interesting, even not moving for the next phase?

A. Hi @Emory Freitas! I am really sorry but as of now there are no such plans. 😊

Q. Will there be Security&Privacy related projects in Phase II of Deep Learning or Computer Vision Nanodegree Scholarship?

A. Hi @Esin Darici! I don;t think if I am the best person to answer this questions, but I suppose there will surely be some new content that you might see in there. 😊

Q. I have been invited for different account and i have joined slack through different. Is it matter ? (edited)

A. Yes it does @Talha Malik! I would advise you to please join using your udacity email ID and message me once you do so that I can remove your old email from here. :v:It's really important to track your participation here. 😊

Q. Previously it was answered in a question that projects for this course are self-evaluated. Does that mean only criteria to select 300 students for phase 2 is Slack participation/communication?

A. Hi @Bikash Thapa! Slack participation and the successfull completion of course. 🙌

Q. Were there any previous challenges evaluated through participation or is this the first one? How do you feel about this as a community manager?

A. There have been many challenges previously that have been evaluated through community participation @Felipe Aranguiz! And not to worry, we have a complete system worked out. So you can be rest assured about it. 😊

Q. It's difficult to ask the questions as a new learner. Is that means the new learner difficult to get the chance for phase 2?

A. Not at all @br! If you don;t have any QnAs, you can always take part in the soon to be announced community initiatives to increase your chances. 😊

Q. What Facebook will get from this sponsoring? Is there any chance to get a job offer from Facebook if I was one of the top students?

A. hi @Ali Ataf! I am really sorry but here is no such job plans from FB as of now. 😊

Q. How this scholarship challenge helps in real world and how we help other peers to complete the challenge in order to utilisation of this valuable course and the knowledge which helps us to solve real world problems?

A. Hi @Vipul Aggarwal! Data privacy and security is one of the biggest industries out there. So working up on your skills i that domain, will really help you encounter some real life problems. 😊

Q. Do you think being moderator would effect any chances of being selected for 2nd round?

A. Not at all @Seeratpal K. Jaura! Just like normal students, same criteria will apply to moderators as well. 😊

Q. I applied to be a moderator. I would rather not have a photo of myself on the site for privacy reasons. Is that a problem?

A. Not at all @Simone! You can use the one you currently have on as your DP.



Q. 1)How is interacting with slack community be monitored or taken into account for phase-2? There are spams on slack channel :slightly_smiling_face:

2) Is there a post tracker counter present on slack community channel which counts posts of individual participant? 3) Is there anything such as more messages on slack greater the chance of entering phase-2 of the program? If point 3 is true then how is genuine community involvement distinguished from random messages in the slack channel and how is evaluation done in this case?

A. Hi @Pava!

1. We have a backend integration here in Slack that helps us record its activity for our use case.

2. Only qualitative posts are taken into account by using both ML algorithms and human eyes.

3. Like I said, it's quality over quantity, so posting more messages here and spamming the channels won't increase your chances. 😊

Q. Participation in slack is counted by our names or by email id?

A. By email Id @Nupur! 🙏

Q. What happens if I can not be in the ama session on Mondays?

A. No problem at all @Jesus Herrera! They are completely optional and you can show up only if you have questions. 😊

Q. Is contributing in Airtable has any value for selection to next round?

A. Hi @Aniket Mitra! You can always post on #resources channel for community participation as for the airtable that will come under the duties of the #resources channel moderators. 😊

Q. Will other projects be considered for selection for round 2. Is participation in slack more important than guarantee to complete the course. Afterall the free course and the the 3 month term is only to select the ones who will really complete the nanodegree?

A. Hi @Sankalp Dayal!

1. All the projects in phase 1 are self evaluated, just to be clear.

2. Both of them will have equal weightage.

Q. I see many students from previous challenges. I am willing to know if there's a means to stay updated about further challenges. Is there a community, a forum or any mailing lists to subscribe to?

Q. You can fill this form using : <https://www.udacity.com/scholarships> and get notified via mail (edited)

Q. Can we send direct messages to Scholarships team with question or is it seen as something bad since there is a lot of us students?

A. Hi @Karol Jezierski! As said by Yemi, you can most certainly reach out to us or drop us an email at scholarships-support@udacity.com. 😊

Q. Is there any other doubt portal other than slack from where we can ask doubts?

A. Yes @Ambika! You can always reach out to scholarships-support@udacity.com. 😊

Q. Will udacity offer more opportunities for those who qualify to 2nd phase and if I want to create a course for udacity how do I qualify for that ?

A. Hi @Rohit! I am not sure right now we allow students to create course for us. But you will surely get some more opportunities like career services if you get selected in phase 2. 😊

Q. Will we get any swags from Facebook & will we be invited in their event (maybe few selected scholars in future!)?

A. Hi @Sourav! I am really sorry but as of now we don't have any such plans. 😊

Q. Are the 300 nano degree scholarships going to be distributed equally amongst Deep Learning and Computer Vision for the second phase or 300 for each? or there exist some other criteria for distributing?

A. Hi @Harisu Fanyui! There will be a criteria for distribution that we will be releasing soon, please wait for it. 😊

Q. Any chance for pair-programming between advanced and beginner programmers. What about study groups for publications (papers)? These I think will be useful.

A. Yes there will be @Oladimeji Mudele! Just wait for it. 😊

Q. Many people are busy and cannot access slack all the time to check for messages. What about them?

A. Hi @Aniket Mitra! Please use the advices that @Shivam Raisharma posted above. Those are really helpful. 🙏

Hi @Muskan! First of all you don't have to go through everything happening here on Slack. You can use the following steps given below to make the best out of Slack and you would still have a high chance of getting selected in phase 2:

1. Keep an eye out on #announcements channel and check the slack community on a daily basis.
2. Show up for official sessions like #ama_sessions and soon to be announced technical sessions.
3. Just follow the channels & topics that you think are important for you, no need to stay updated with every channel.
4. Finally, take part in the community initiatives that are going to be announced soon. 😊

Q. Which slack channels are considered while evaluating students participation in community?

A. Hi @Bhriku Kansra! Only the public channels are taken into account. 😊

Q. Hi Akshit, Many thanks for the today session. My question: There are many challenge participants who already graduated the Deep Learning ND. If DL ND

graduates are selected for stage 2 of this challenge, would they receive the DL ND again? I mean, is there a fixed number of scholarships for the DL ND and the CV ND? (edited)

A. @Berenice Challenge participants who have already completed the DL ND would be considered for the CV ND, they won't have to repeat the DL ND

Q. What is it like to work at Udacity & being a community manager? Really want to know :smile: (edited)

A. Hi @Sourav! Trust me its truly amazing. Helping students from all around the world and guiding them towards their success really makes me happy and get me motivated. 😊

Q. After phase one will the slack channels be closed and will we remain part of it. When new students get selected next year will we be part of those channels?

A. Hi @Steven K Makunzva! I am really sorry but the Slack channel are closed after the course ends. :smile: But still we try our best to make them open for as long as possible. 😊

Q. @akshit.udacity Would you clarify the best selection criteria for this challenge? I was not selected in second phase in PyTorch Challenge though I got the 1st positions in all leaderboards and mentored many guys, participated in many discussions, completed course 1 month ahead of the deadline.

A. Hi @BP Bista! I think apart from the link that @Ellyana Linden shared above, you should:

1. Keep an eye out on #announcements channel and check the slack community on a daily basis.
2. Show up for official sessions like #ama_sessions and soon to be announced technical sessions.
3. Just follow the channels & topics that you think are important for you, no need to stay updated with every channel.
4. Finally, take part in the community initiatives that are going to be announced soon. 😊

Q. Do we have a channel dedicated to discussing research papers?

A. Hi @Shivam Raisharma! You can make use of #resources channel if you want. 😊

Q. Do we get to keep the slack after the end of the program?

A. Hi @Phil Huang! I am really sorry but the slack is deleted after the course ends. We still try our best to keep it active for as long as we can. 😊

Q. @akshit.udacity Questions in ama sessions are being answered before we can even read them!! And participating in ama sessions are quite necessary for being considered for the phase 2. But sometimes we won't have a question and also we might not get a chance to answer questions asked by others! And if this continues to happen in the future ama sessions, then definitely this would affect our participation! What advice would you give and is there even a solution? Thankyou in advance! (edited)

A. Hi @Bharati Subramanian! AMA sessions are completely optional and participating here is not everything trust me. I would advise you to please wait

for soon to be announced community initiatives using which you will be able to increase your chances of getting selected. 😊

Q. Should we use notebooks of udacity to complete excercises?

A. Hi @sruthi anumula! It's absolutely upto you what you want to use to complete the lessons. The main thing that matters is that you go through the course completely. 😊

Q. Will we get any other benefits from completing phase 1?

A. Hi @Anish Kumar! I think you will get some amazing community peers that you can interact with for the rest of your life. Do remember that phase 1 is more than just completing a single course, it's about being a part of this amazing community. :innocent: And yes you can surely add this achievement on your linkedin profiles as well, we will show you how to do that. 😊

Q. I would like a mentor who works at Facebook to help me with interview prep 😊

A. Hi @Simone! I am really sorry but we don;t have any such plans as of now.

