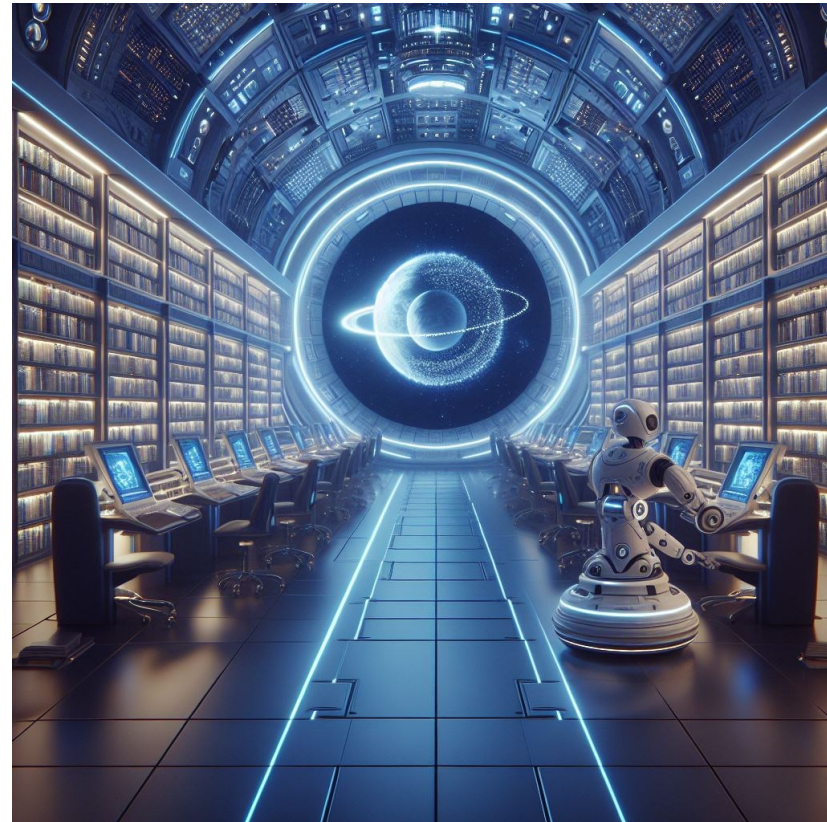


## Foundations of Generative AI: Practical Prompting & Advanced Applications

NOTE: most of the images in this presentation  
have been generated with Microsoft's Image Creator

January 2025



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# Generative AI

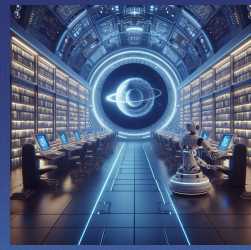


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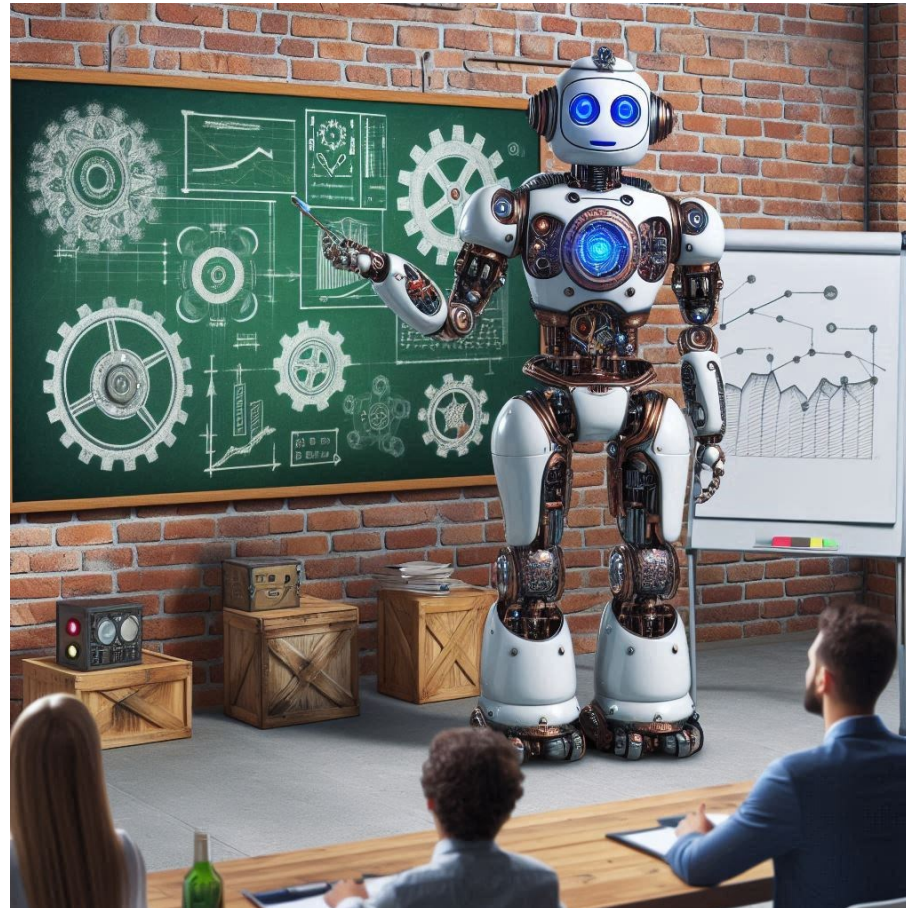


# Generative AI



- Generative AI and Large Language Models (LLMs) are related but distinct concepts in the field of artificial intelligence.
- The term **Generative AI** refers to any AI system whose primary function is to **generate content**. This could include a variety of AI models that generate different types of content, such as images, text, code, audio and video. Generative AI emphasizes the content-creating function of these systems.
- On the other hand, **Large Language Models (LLMs)** are a **specific type of AI system that works with language**. They are designed to analyze and produce text. LLMs are a form of generative AI, but they specifically deal with text-based content.

# Course Introduction



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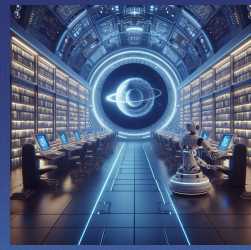
# Course Introduction



- **Title:** Foundations of Generative AI: Practical Prompting & Advanced Applications
- **Duration:** 2 days (9:00 AM - 5:30 PM)
- **Audience:**
  - The primary audience includes data scientists, analysts, software engineers, and developers. However, business analysts, consultants, product managers, marketing professionals, researchers, entrepreneurs, and startups may also find the course valuable.
  - No prior knowledge of Generative AI is required, and the course is suitable for both beginners and experienced professionals looking to expand their understanding of the field.



# Agenda



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# Agenda – Day 1: Foundations and Practical Prompting



- **9:00 AM - 10:30 AM: Introduction and History of Transformers and Large Language Models (LLMs)**
  - **Course Introduction**
  - **Overview of AI Evolution:** Brief history of AI development, leading up to the introduction of neural networks and deep learning.
  - **Transformers:** Explanation of transformer architecture, self-attention mechanisms, and why transformers revolutionized NLP.
  - **Development of LLMs:** Evolution from early NLP models to large-scale models (GPT, BERT, etc.).
  - **Key Milestones:** Major breakthroughs in LLM capabilities, such as GPT-3, GPT-4, and other industry advancements.
- **10:30 AM - 10:45 AM: Break**
- **10:45 AM - 12:15 PM: Most Popular and Widely Used Generative Chatbots**
  - **Overview of Key Chatbots:** Introduction to popular models like ChatGPT, Claude, Bard, etc.
  - **Feature Comparison:** Capabilities and limitations of each model, including fine-tuning, response generation quality, and API availability.  
**Use Cases and Applications:** Examples of real-world applications (customer service, content creation, research).
  - **Ethics and Challenges:** Brief overview of ethical concerns (e.g., bias, misuse) and technical challenges in maintaining AI reliability.
- **12:15 PM - 1:15 PM: Lunch Break**

# Agenda – Day 1: Foundations and Practical Prompting



– **1:15 PM - 3:00 PM: Hands-On Exercise: Generating Proper Prompts for Text**

- **Summarizing, Analyzing, and Improving Text:** Introduction to prompt engineering techniques for text-based tasks. **Text Summarization:** Crafting prompts to condense information while retaining meaning.
- **Text Analysis:** Developing prompts to extract insights or key points from unstructured text.
- **Improving Text Quality:** Using AI to enhance writing quality, clarity, and flow.
- **Practice Session:** Guided exercises to build confidence in generating prompts for various text tasks.

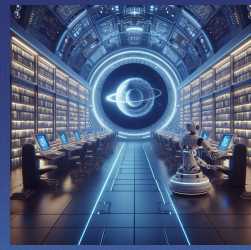
– **3:00 PM - 3:15 PM: Break**

– **3:15 PM - 5:00 PM: Hands-On Exercise: Generating Proper Prompts for Code**

- **Code Generation:** Writing prompts that guide models to generate code snippets, solve specific coding problems, or write functions.
- **Code Analysis and Improvement:** Techniques for prompting code reviews, debugging, or enhancing code efficiency.
- **Practice Session:** Participants engage in exercises, getting feedback on prompt adjustments to achieve the desired output.



# Agenda – Day 2: Advanced Applications, Privacy, and Deployment



– **9:00 AM - 10:30 AM: Hands-On Exercise: Generating Proper Prompts for Data Extraction**

- **Extracting Data from Unstructured Sources:** Methods for generating prompts to extract structured data (e.g., names, dates, specific details) from unstructured text.
- **Techniques for Accurate Data Extraction:** Crafting prompts for precision, managing ambiguity in language, and maintaining context.
- **Practice Session:** Real-world examples where participants practice data extraction from various types of unstructured text.

– **10:30 AM - 10:45 AM: Break**

– **10:45 AM - 12:15 PM: Hands-On Exercise: Generating Prompts for Image Generation**

- **Overview of Image Generation:** Introduction to popular image-generative models (e.g., DALL-E) and prompt structures for effective image output.
- **Prompting Techniques:** Crafting prompts to generate images with specific styles, compositions, or attributes.
- **Practice Session:** Guided practice on writing prompts and refining results based on initial outputs.

– **12:15 PM - 1:15 PM: Lunch Break**

# Agenda – Day 2: Advanced Applications, Privacy, and Deployment



- **1:15 PM - 2:45 PM: Privacy Protection and Hallucinations**
  - **Understanding Privacy Concerns:** Overview of data privacy risks in using generative AI models, including inadvertent data exposure.
  - **Understanding Hallucinations:** Overview of hallucinations, i.e. instances when generative models produce nonsensical outputs that appear credible.
  - **Balancing Innovation with Responsibility:** Properly using Generative AI.
- **2:45 PM - 3:00 PM: Break**
- **3:00 PM - 4:00 PM: Local Execution of AI Models on Disconnected Machines**
  - **Setting Up Local Environments:** Step-by-step guide on configuring local environments for AI model execution (using tools like Docker, Anaconda).
  - **Running AI Models Offline:** Demonstration of running generative models in a local environment for secure, offline use.
- **Practice Session:** Participants follow along with setup steps or observe demonstrations
- **4:00 PM - 4:15 PM: Break**
- **4:15 PM - 5:00 PM: Introduction to Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG)**
  - **Overview of RAG:** Explanation of combining retrieval and generation techniques for more accurate, context-aware answers.
  - **RAG Use Cases:** Applications in customer support, knowledge bases, and complex question answering.
  - **Practice Session:** Participants try simple RAG tasks, retrieving information to augment generated content.

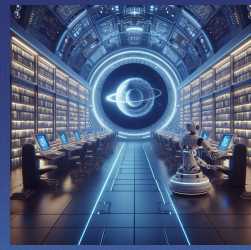
# Agenda – Day 2: Advanced Applications, Privacy, and Deployment



- **5:00 PM - 5:30 PM: Improving RAG by Reducing Non-Determinism**
  - **Enhancing RAG Accuracy:** Techniques for tuning RAG systems for higher quality retrieval and response generation.
  - **Strategies to Reduce Non-Determinism:** Methods to manage the variability of responses, including prompt engineering and model adjustments.
  - **Practice Session:** Exercises for refining prompts and model settings to produce consistent outputs.
- **5:30 PM - 6:00 PM: Q&A and Wrap-Up**
  - **Summary of Key Takeaways:** Review of the major concepts and skills covered.
  - **Open Floor for Questions:** Opportunity for participants to clarify concepts or revisit any topics.
  - **Feedback and Next Steps:** Discussion on further learning resources and practical steps post-course.



# Who am I?



Maurizio Martignano – Spazio IT

<https://spazioit.com>

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/mauriziomartignano>

Active since the 1990 (sigh) in Avionics Software Development and Verification

[https://spazioit.com/pages\\_en/sol\\_inf\\_en/code\\_quality\\_en/](https://spazioit.com/pages_en/sol_inf_en/code_quality_en/)

Providing software consultancies in various application domains, e.g. Healthcare, Cybersecurity, Data Protection,...

Not a developer but a **user** of AI Technologies (especially in Healthcare and Software Verification Applications)

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# Who are you?

