WORLD ASSESSMENT COUNCIL

UNIVERSITY EDITION · 3 CREDITS · L-T-P 2-0-2

AI Ready Core: 3-credit syllabus

A unit-wise syllabus with course outcomes, a 15-week teaching plan, assessment scheme and resources, ready for a board of studies.

3	2-0-2	90	68
credits	L-T-P a week	notional hours	lessons

1 · COURSE DETAILS

AI Ready Core · 3 credits

Course title	AI Ready: Core
Course code	To be assigned by the university
Credits	3 (L-T-P 2-0-2)
Notional learning hours	90 (NCrF: 30 hours a credit)
Duration	One semester (15 weeks). Can also run as an 8-week intensive.
Level	Undergraduate, any discipline. Also suitable for postgraduate and faculty development.
Prerequisites	None. No coding or maths needed.
Delivery	Blended: recorded lectures, ebook and labs (self-paced), plus weekly live lab sessions run by WAC faculty or the university's own faculty.
Course type suggested	Multidisciplinary or open elective
Provider	World Assessment Council, Centre for AI-Powered Learning
Version	1.3, reviewed November 2026. Updated whenever AI changes.

Course objectives

- Give every student a working, critical command of today's AI assistants and tools.
- Build the habit of verifying AI output and using AI honestly and safely.
- Let students apply AI to real tasks in their own discipline and show the evidence.

Course outcomes

CO	On completing the course, students will be able to	Bloom level
CO1	Explain how modern AI systems work, where they fail, and the main terms used in the field.	K2 Understand
CO2	Choose and use leading AI assistants (ChatGPT, Claude, Gemini) with well-designed prompts and context.	K3 Apply
CO3	Research, study and produce documents, data analyses, slides and media with AI, verifying every output.	K4 Analyse
CO4	Build no-code automations and apps, and direct and supervise AI agents.	K3 Apply
CO5	Apply AI responsibly: privacy, bias, copyright, deepfakes, disclosure and safety.	K4 Analyse
CO6	Apply AI to a real problem in their field and present the evidence of their work.	K6 Create

Departments can map these COs to their own programme outcomes (POs and PSOs); a blank CO–PO matrix is in the assessment pack.

2 · UNITS

Unit-wise syllabus

Unit I · Foundations of AI

Module 0 Kick-off and setup · Module 1 How AI actually works · 11 lessons · about 10 notional hours

0.1 What AI is, and is not, in 2026; 0.2 The AI landscape: assistants, agents, open models; 0.3 Set up your free AI accounts the smart way; 0.4 Privacy and safety: what never to paste; 0.5 Lab 0: test three assistants and score them; 1.1 From rules to learning: how AI got here; 1.2 Data, models and predictions; 1.3 Neural networks, intuitively; 1.4 How large language models write: one token at a time; 1.5 Context windows, memory and reasoning models; 1.6 Why AI makes things up, and how to stop it fooling you.

Practical: Lab 0: test three assistants and score them; Why AI makes things up, and how to stop it fooling you.

Unit II · Prompting and the AI toolkit

Module 2 Prompting and context engineering · Toolkit Your AI toolkit: ChatGPT, Claude and Gemini · 10 lessons · about 11 notional hours

2.1 Anatomy of a strong prompt: role, task, context, format; 2.2 Examples and reusable templates; 2.3 Asking AI to reason, critique and improve; 2.4 Context engineering: files, projects and memory; 2.5 Custom assistants you can reuse; 2.6 The four-check habit for verifying output; T.1 ChatGPT, mastered; T.2 Claude, mastered; T.3 Gemini, mastered; T.4 Pick the right assistant, and the Toolkit lab.

Practical: The four-check habit for verifying output; Pick the right assistant, and the Toolkit lab.

Unit III · Research, learning and everyday work

Module 3 Research and learning with AI · Module 4 AI for everyday work · 16 lessons · about 16 notional hours

3.1 AI search vs. chat: when to use which; 3.2 Deep research, and verifying every citation; 3.3 Understanding a hard textbook chapter or lecture with AI; 3.4 Practice questions from your syllabus, and checking the answers; 3.5 Revising with AI without becoming dependent on it; 3.6 Spotting when an AI explanation is wrong or incomplete; 3.7 Academic integrity: using AI in assignments and disclosing it; 3.8 Explaining and defending your AI-assisted work out loud; 4.1 Writing and editing in your own voice; 4.2 Data analysis: upload a sheet, ask questions, chart it; 4.3 Slides and documents in minutes; 4.4 Generating and editing images; 4.5 Short videos and voice-overs; 4.6 Translation across languages; 4.7 Meeting notes and email, and Lab 4; 4.8 AI for your life: plan, learn, budget and travel.

Practical: Explaining and defending your AI-assisted work out loud; Meeting notes and email, and Lab 4.

Unit IV · Building with AI and agentic AI

Module 5 Build without code · Module 6 Agentic AI · 14 lessons · about 14 notional hours

5.1 Thinking in workflows: trigger, steps, output; 5.2 Adding AI steps to automations; 5.3 Vibe coding: describe an app and AI builds it; 5.4 Fixing bugs and making changes by conversation; 5.5 Publishing and sharing your app; 5.6 Keeping data and API keys safe; 5.7 Automate your inbox and calendar; 6.1 Chatbots vs. agents: tools, plans and actions; 6.2 Browser and computer-use agents; 6.3 MCP: how AI connects to your apps; 6.4 Coding agents for non-coders; 6.5 Voice and multimodal AI; 6.6 Open and on-device models; 6.7 Where agents fail, and how to supervise them.

Practical: Keeping data and API keys safe; Automate your inbox and calendar; Where agents fail, and how to supervise them.

Unit V · Responsible AI, careers and the capstone

Module 7 Responsible and safe AI · Module 8 AI in your field and career · Capstone Capstone: solve a real problem · 17 lessons · about 27 notional hours

7.1 Bias and fairness: when AI treats people unequally; 7.2 Privacy and data protection: GDPR, US privacy laws and the EU AI Act; 7.3 Deepfakes, voice clones and scams; 7.4 Copyright and who owns AI output; 7.5 The environmental cost of AI; 7.6 Disclosure and AI-use policies, and Lab 7; 8.1 AI across fields: what it really does at work; 8.2 Mapping tasks: automate, augment or keep human; 8.3 Skills employers are asking for; 8.4 AI-assisted job search: resume, portfolio, mock interviews; 8.5 Building a habit of keeping up, and Lab 8; 8.6 Freelancing and side income with AI; C.1 Pick a problem for a club, department, family business or employer; C.2 Plan it: users, tools, success measure; C.3 Build it with AI; C.4 Test it with real users; C.5 Present it in a three-minute demo.

Practical: Disclosure and AI-use policies, and Lab 7; Building a habit of keeping up, and Lab 8.

3 · TEACHING PLAN

15-week teaching plan

Week	Topic	Lessons
1	Module 0 · Kick-off and setup	5
2	Module 1 · How AI actually works	6
3	Module 2 · Prompting and context engineering	6
4	Toolkit · Your AI toolkit: ChatGPT, Claude and Gemini	4
5–6	Module 3 · Research and learning with AI	8
7–8	Module 4 · AI for everyday work	8
9–10	Module 5 · Build without code	7
11	Module 6 · Agentic AI	7
12	Module 7 · Responsible and safe AI	6
13	Module 8 · AI in your field and career	6
14–15	Capstone · Capstone: solve a real problem	5

Weekly rhythm

- **Before class:** watch the video lectures and read the ebook chapters (self-paced).
- **Live lab (2 hours a week):** a guided session to start the week's lab, discuss cases and answer questions.
- **After class:** finish the lab, take the quizzes and add the work to the portfolio.

Learning resources

- AI Ready module ebooks, slide decks and lecture scripts (one per lesson), with sources at the end of every chapter.
- AI Ready Daily, the 28-day practice challenge.
- Free tiers of ChatGPT, Claude, Gemini and the other tools named in each lab. Every lab offers a free option.

4 · ASSESSMENT

Assessment scheme

Component	Marks
Continuous internal evaluation (60)	
Lesson quizzes	10
Labs and portfolio (WAC rubric)	30
Capstone project	20
End-semester evaluation (40)	
Written examination (2 hours) or capstone project viva	40
Total	**100**

Rubric for labs and the capstone project

Each piece is scored on four criteria, each on a 4-level scale: tool choice; prompt and context quality; verification; responsible use. The rubric is printed at the end of every lab chapter.

Universities can change the split to match their regulations (for example 50:50). A model end-semester paper and a question bank with answers are in the assessment pack, which is shared with faculty only.

Optional WAC certificate

Students who submit their portfolio can also earn the WAC Certificate of Skills (USD 5, with one year of WAC membership). Credit is awarded by the university, not by WAC.