Cornell
SC Johnson College of Business

CORNELL CHIEF AI OFFICER PROGRAM

Program Overview

AI in 2025 is way more than the ChatGPT of 2024. AI capabilities have rapidly advanced from text and visual generation in 2024, to doing advanced reasoning and autonomous agentic work in 2025. In effect, we already have widely accessible, limitless amounts of advanced intelligence.

These advances have the potential to usher in a business transformation akin to that from the invention of other general-purpose technologies such as the steam engine, electricity, the internet, etc. Organizations and individuals that prudently harness the potential of these technologies will gain a significant advantage, while those that get swept by the hype or fail to upskill and prepare risk obsolescence.

The Cornell Chief AI Officer Program prepares you to lead this AI transformation with clarity, confidence, and credibility. This experiential program with live interactive sessions, including working labs, builds fluency across the full stack of AI Transformation skills. You will select an organization or industry and apply insights from each session to create your AI Strategy Blueprint. In the final session, you'll share your AI Strategy Blueprint with faculty for feedback and refinement.

Starts On
30 Aug 2025

Duration
6 months

Program Fee
USD 4,800

Program Highlights

16 interactive sessions (100% LIVE)

AI strategy blueprint: 3 working lab sessions

AI Strategy Blueprint final report out and personalized feedback

Access to 2000+ Courses & exclusive curated AI track

Certificate from Cornell University

Impactful learning with peer coaching & assessments

Curriculum (Live Online Modules)

Module 1: AI and Underlying Technologies

Leverage your deep understanding of AI and its underlying technologies and assess future advances.

- AI in 2025: Limitless Super Intelligence on Tap
- The Technology: Perceptive, Generative and Agentic AI

AI in 2025: Limitless Super Intelligence on Tap

- Understand the trajectory of AI advancements and their implications for productivity, business models, and strategic advantage across industries.

- Develop a deep conceptual unbiased understanding of the underlying technologies—machine learning, reinforcement learning, pre-training, post-training, foundation models, large language models, reasoning models, etc.

The Technology: Perceptive, Generative and Agentic AI

- **Gain an understanding of the cognitive capabilities, limits, operational and economic characteristics of perceptive, generative and agentic AI.**

- **Use a framework for understanding and assessing any future advances in AI.**

Module 2: Human Ingenuity in an AI World

Unleash creative thinking and lead innovation with a human-centered approach.

- **Design Thinking for AI Innovation**
- **Creativity and Innovation**

Design Thinking for AI Innovation

- **Explore how AI and human-centered design thinking intersect to drive innovation.**

- **Understand the benefits, challenges, and real-world use cases of this integration to apply AI meaningfully in solving complex, high-impact problems.**

Creativity and Innovation

- **Challenge conventional assumptions to unlock breakthrough opportunities by linking creative thinking with disruptive innovation across the "who," "what," and "how" of value creation.**

- **Activate individual and team creativity to drive bold experimentation and scalable innovation.**

Module 3: AI Opportunity Stack

Use your knowledge and hands-on experience with a series of deep, research-based frameworks for identifying transformation opportunities enabled by AI.

- **Work Redesign: Automation and Augmentation**
- **AI and Human Interactions**
- **New Business Models and Strategic Positions**
- **AI-Powered Decision Making**
- **Narrative Intelligence with AI Insights**

Work Redesign: Automation and Augmentation

- **Learn where and how to use AI effectively to boost your productivity. Understand three key AI personas.**

- **Redesign jobs, work, systems and processes in your organization via automation, augmentation and increased value capture.**

AI and Human Interactions

- **Understand how individuals and teams interact with AI. Examine cognitive and behavioral patterns shaping trust, adoption, and collaboration.**

New Business Models and Strategic Positions

- **Identify new business models, redesigning business scope, clock speed and sequencing, employee and value chain engagement, pricing and incentive structures.**

- **Build a new strategic position, anticipate and react to changes in economic power in an ecosystem.**

AI-Powered Decision Making

- **Apply data-driven decision frameworks to identify, evaluate, and communicate AI use cases.**

- **Strengthen your ability to assess trade-offs, anticipate risks, and make high-quality decisions in AI-enabled environments.**

Narrative Intelligence with AI Insights

- **Translate insights into actionable narratives that drive alignment and strategic buy-in across stakeholders.**

- **Use narrative framing and strategic communication to simplify complexity, highlight value, and influence executive decisions.**

Module 4: AI Transformation and Leadership

Elevate your ability to make AI transformation happen.

- **Legal and Ethical Considerations**
- **Technology Update Panel**
- **De-Risking New Ventures and Your AI Strategy**
- **Leading Change in a Disruptive World**
- **Leading High-Performance Teams with Humans and AI**
- **Communicate like a CEO: Differentiator for the AI Era**

Legal and Ethical Considerations

- **Examine Legal and Ethical issues associated with AI ventures. Explore issues related to fairness, transparency, accountability, and regulatory response.**

Technology Update Panel

- **Gain awareness of the latest research and findings on how customers, employees and organizations are collaborating with and reacting to AI - what is working in the wild and what is not.**

De-Risking New Ventures and Your AI Strategy

- **Apply a structured framework to test and refine AI initiatives.**
- **Learn how to manage uncertainty, conduct low-cost experiments, and scale validated solutions.**

Leading Change in a Disruptive World

- **Learn how to manage organizational change driven by AI.**
- **Build skills to navigate resistance, align stakeholders, and lead transformation efforts.**

Leading High-Performance Teams with Humans and AI

- **Develop strategies to lead teams where humans and AI systems collaborate to deliver outcomes.**
- **Build the skills to manage trust, alignment, and performance in environments shaped by intelligent technologies.**

Communicate like a CEO: Differentiator for the AI Era

- **Use tools to project presence, confidence, and clarity as an AI leader navigating complex systems and resistance.**
- **Strengthen your ability to communicate with credibility and impact in high-stakes settings.**

AI Strategy Blueprint

Develop a rigorous AI Strategy Blueprint for your organization or selected industry. The blueprint will include:

- **Assessment of short, medium and long-term productivity, business model innovation, and strategic opportunities and threats**
- **Recommended short and medium-term transformation initiatives**
- **Plan to de-risk and refine the initiatives via series of escalating experiments**
- **Architecture of the organizational structures and resources needed to execute this strategy.**

Intensive Working Labs

- **Work with industry experts on your AI Strategy Blueprint through structured labs: 3 group sessions of 30 minutes each.**
- **By the end of the program, you will have created a rigorous, actionable AI Strategy Blueprint.**

AI Strategy Blueprint Report Out

- **In the final session, you'll present your AI Strategy Blueprint to peers and faculty for feedback and refinement.**
- **Your AI Strategy Blueprint will be your deliverable designed to inform executive decision-making or guide entrepreneurial execution.**

Year long access to 2000+ Courses

Choose from over 2000+ courses that will enhance your knowledge and skills across business functions. With unlimited access to Cornell's resource library, you will have the opportunity to learn something new, every day. Super-specialize in your area of interest from topics across domains like innovation, leadership, marketing, supply chain, finance, service excellence, operations, project management and more.

Regular assessments and leaderboard

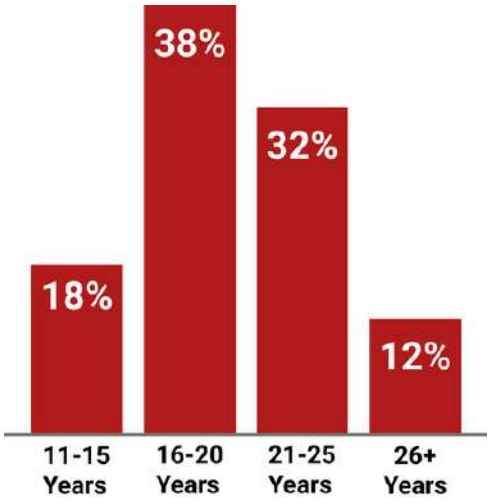
Participants will be given an assessment to test their acquired knowledge towards the end of the LIVE session. This will help you understand the knowledge gap and further assist you in developing a learning path for yourself. Post-work assignments/tasks will be given after each session to enhance your skills on each topic taught during the LIVE session. The leaderboard scores you against your peers in the learning journey.

Peer coaching and feedback

Learn from high-achieving peers from around the globe and build your network. The cohort will be divided into triads. You will get a chance to interact, share and exchange ideas with your peers. You can discuss on-going scenarios, solve doubts, work on assignments and receive valuable feedback from like-minded senior leaders globally.

Cohort Statistics

Work Experience



Average Work Experience - 21 Years

Industries

- Financial Services
- Information Technology
- Manufacturing
- Healthcare
- Real Estate
- Oil & Gas
- Consulting
- Hospitality
- Edtech
- Construction
- Telecommunication
- Retail
- Entertainment
- FMCG and Others

Designations

- Founder
- Partner
- Chairman
- Managing Director
- Executive Director
- President
- Group CEO
- Group CFO & COO
- Director of Finance
- Director - Communication
- & Marketing
- Chief Planning Officer
- Chief Digital Officer
- Chief HR Officer
- Senior Vice President
- AVP, Retail Analytics

Companies

accenture, APPAREL GROUP, TCS, ORACLE, KPMG, THRS, Ferrari, KPMG Bahrain, FIVE HOLDINGS, KAGOME, ASSA ABLOY, Star, standard chartered, Unilever, Nasdaq, Swiggy, Valiant, PANTALOONS, Gartner, COVIE, Johnson & Johnson, cognizant, Emirates NBD, Nielsen, iProspect, Neilsoft, EGENCIA, HSBC, AXIS BANK, kotak Kotak Mahindra Bank, hp

Faculty (Indicative)

Karan Girotra

Professor of Operations, Technology and Information Management

Karan Girotra is the academic lead for the flagship studio-based education programs at Cornell Tech and is applying his research on innovation to help build a new model for graduate education. As one of the first business faculty at Cornell Tech, he is helping build a unique new educational institution that fuses technology with business and creative thinking. He has collaborated with companies building new business models in the areas of urban living, smart transportation and e-commerce, helping them build rigorous research-based solutions.

Allan Filipowicz

Clinical Professor of Management and Organizations

Allan Filipowicz is a Clinical Professor of Management and Organizations at the Samuel Curtis Johnson Graduate School of Management at Cornell University. Professor Filipowicz received his Ph.D. from Harvard University. He holds an MBA from The Wharton School, an MA in International Affairs from the University of Pennsylvania, and degrees in electrical engineering (MEng, BS) and economics (BA) from Cornell University. His professional experience includes banking (Bankers Trust, New York) and consulting, including running his own boutique consulting firm and four years with The Boston Consulting Group in Paris.

Mor Namaan

Professor at the Jacobs Technion-Cornell Institute

Mor Naaman is Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs and Professor at the Jacobs Technion-Cornell Institute at Cornell Tech where he holds the Don and Mibs Follett Chair and in the Information Science Department at Cornell University, and currently serves as Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs (ADFA). Mor leads a research group looking at topics at the intersection of technology, media and democracy. The group applies multidisciplinary techniques - from machine learning to qualitative social science, to study our information ecosystem and its challenges, with a special focus on AI-mediated communication and its impact on society.

Frank Pasquale

Professor of Law

Frank Pasquale is Professor of Law at Cornell Tech and Cornell Law School. He is an expert on the law of artificial intelligence (AI), algorithms, and machine learning. His books include The Black Box Society (Harvard University Press, 2015) and New Laws of Robotics (Harvard University Press, 2020). He has published more than 70 journal articles and book chapters on topics ranging from technology policy to health law. He co-edited The Oxford Handbook on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence (Oxford University Press, 2020) and Transparent Data Mining for Big and Small Data (Springer-Verlag, 2017).

David Rand

Professor of Management Science and Brain and Cognitive Sciences

David Rand is the Erwin H. Schell Professor and Professor of Management Science and Brain and Cognitive Sciences at MIT, the director of the Applied Cooperation Initiative, and an affiliate of the MIT Institute of Data, Systems, and Society, and the Initiative on the Digital Economy. David received his BA in computational biology from Cornell University in 2004 and his PhD in systems biology from Harvard University in 2009, was a post-doctoral researcher in Harvard University's Department of Psychology from 2009 to 2013, and was an Assistant and then Associate Professor (with tenure) of Psychology, Economics, and Management at Yale University prior to joining the faculty at MIT.

Industry Experts (Indicative)

Anton Musgrave

Futurist and Business Strategist

Anton Musgrave lectures regularly for London Business School, Duke CE, IMD and Oxford's Said Business School. He is passionate about teaching business strategy, innovation and the future. He has also served as Managing Partner of a large legal practice and Managing Director of a major property business. He shares an insightful understanding of the drivers of long-term business success, shifting business models and what it takes to stay ahead of the market.

Jamie Anderson

Creative Management Thinker

Jamie has held teaching positions at some of the world's top business schools, such as London Business School, IMD, ESMT Berlin and the University of Melbourne. Named as a "management guru" by the Financial Times, Jamie has also been listed as one of the world's top 25 management thinkers by the journal Business Strategy Review. He is passionate about teaching strategy, innovation and creativity.

Federico Quijada

Professor of Technology

Fred Quijada's has lectured in professional education programs on technology management and information science for the Massachusetts Institute of Technology for the past 3 years. His current research centers on creating a unified theory for technology leadership, while also exploring the applications of AI/ML, cloud computing, and DevOps technologies within enterprise settings. He holds an A.B., Cum Laude, from St. Anselm College, a J.D. specializing in corporate law from Villanova University, an Sc.M. in Technology Leadership from Brown University, and is currently pursuing an M.L.A. in Ethics & Leadership from the University of Chicago and Doctor of Technology from Purdue University.

Navid Asgari

Professor of Management Systems

Dr. Navid Asgari is an Associate Professor and Grose Family Endowed Chair in Business Strategy and Statistics at Fordham University's Gabelli School of Business. He specializes in competitive strategy, innovation, and the integration of design thinking into corporate strategy. His research focuses on helping organizations navigate complexity, adapt to technological changes, and foster innovation. He emphasizes strategic decision-making in dynamic environments and works at the intersection of strategy and design thinking to help firms stay competitive.

Antoinette Dale Henderson

Leadership and Change Expert and Executive Coach

Antoinette Dale Henderson is an internationally recognized expert in leadership communications with over 25 years of experience. She has held senior roles at leading PR consultancies and is the founder of the Gravitas® Program, which equips women leaders with the skills to communicate effectively and command respect. Antoinette's methodology emphasizes the importance of gravitas in leadership, a quality that empowers leaders to inspire, influence, and navigate change successfully.

Certificate

Note: Certificate image is for illustrative purposes only and may be subject to change at the discretion of Cornell University.

Who Should Apply?

Cornell Chief AI Officer Program is designed for emerging and current CXOs, senior leaders and executives, across geographies and industries, who desire to be agile in thinking and strategic in their approach towards building innovative AI solutions to steer business growth.

- 10+ years of work experience and proven success in leading high performing teams / impactful projects
- A minimum of a Bachelor's degree

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