Hands-on with Generative AI

The capabilities of Generative AI models like GPT4, Claude and Google's Gemini are profound, and profoundly weird. To harness their creative and analytical powers, it helps to understand a little about how they work - and then get your hands dirty.

In this theory+practice course, we'll look at the latest AI tools and learn some principles, practices, tips and tricks for getting the most out of them. It will be a fun, pragmatic and probably perplexing parlay with the intelligences that are on a path to replacing our own. There, I said it. If you can't beat 'em, join 'em!

Week 1: Making friends with AI

How Generative AI works

- What a large language model is and how it's made
- How to pick an AI friend: the major LLM chatbots and what you get from each.
- The pros and cons of paid access

Hands-on 1 - getting started

- Logging in a setting up
- Introduction to the art of the prompt

Week 2: What is AI useful for? And not.

Safety and security

- Data privacy and copyright
- Can I trust this thing?

Hands-on 2

- Task types: the unprecedented things AI can do for you
- The art of the prompt 2
- How to iterate to get what you want

Week 3: Beyond text: Generative Media

How text to image generation works

- How they're built
- The tools that are out there today and what's coming

Hands-on 3

- Techniques to get the image you want
- Techniques to get images you never imagined

Week 4: Al is not just better software

What else can we do with intelligence

- Al as thought partner
- Al as tutor
- Al as simulator

AI Everywhere - What to expect in the months ahead