

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

FOR THE AI MICROCREDENTIAL

Who is the audience for this course?

This course is designed for people in the field of education and is appropriate for anyone interested in how AI is already and will continue to impact learners in K-12 schools. Professors in Higher Ed have also found this course to be applicable to their practice. The course has had participants from across the United States and is open to international participants as well. The Credly badge is internationally recognized for the completion of micro-credential courses. Teachers already using AI for their work or with students have found the course helpful in deepening their understanding and learning new tools. Novice users find it to be a great introduction and way to start using AI in their work and thinking about how it will impact students and learning.

What level of AI knowledge or experience is required to take this course?

You can be a complete novice or an experienced user. Our participants have had a wide array of experiences, and all have learned a lot.

How do I sign on and get started?

You will access the course and all materials on the Skills21 Launchpad site at microai.skills21.org on the first day of the course. You will create an account (most people use their school or professional email address) on the Launchpad platform and will be ready to begin!

How do I participate in this course?

This micro-credential is hosted on the Skills21 Launchpad website. There are five modules, each consisting of three to five activities. Each activity includes a brief instructional video (3-5 minutes), a hands-on activity, and a written reflection. You will use a variety of AI Large Language Models, including Sidekick, the Skills21 chatbot.

What is Sidekick?

Sidekick is a chatbot incorporated into the Launchpad platform. Sidekick was built using the API from OpenAI (the company behind ChatGPT). Sidekick has custom instructions in the backend, designed by facilitators for each activity.

How long does the course take?

This course consists of five modules, and most participants work through one module per week. We spread the four optional Zoom meetings over five or six weeks as well. However, the course is self-paced, so some students finish quicker, while others take more time. You have up to three months to complete the course, but an extension is possible with permission from the facilitators.

How long does each activity take?

The course comprises five modules with three to five activities each. Each activity takes about 15 minutes to watch the instructional video, try the hands-on activity, and write a brief reflection. Some students spend more time digging into certain activities, and you can work at your own pace.

What kind of device or software do I need to complete this course?

You can use any computer with internet access and you may want to use a mobile device for some activities.

What do you do in the optional Zoom meetings?

The one-hour optional Zoom meetings allow facilitators to dive deeper into the module content, share breaking AI news, and answer participant questions. The sessions are interactive and casual. All Zoom meetings are recorded and shared with participants a few days after the meeting.

Where will I get the Zoom link for the meetings?

You will receive the Zoom link via email reminders about the upcoming meeting (seven days and one day prior). The meeting link is the same for all four meetings, so you can save it if you wish.

Will there be quizzes or assessments?

There are no quizzes or assessments besides the reflections.

How will I know when I'm done?

Once you have completed all the activities and the facilitators have approved your work, you will receive an email from the facilitators. At the conclusion of the course, you will receive your Credly badge via email from Southern Connecticut State University.

Who should I contact if I have questions?

If you have questions about registration and payment, contact Jen LaBella at labella@edadvance.org. For questions about course material, content, or anything else, contact Liz Radday at radday@edadvance.org.

What should I do if I can't access one of the tools referenced in the course?

The course introduces a variety of AI tools, including different large language models, web apps for image, video, and sound generation, mobile apps for AI vision and video, and other tools. Some tools may be blocked by your school's IT department, or you may not want to download an app on your phone. No worries! You can access tools through personal email accounts if you wish. If an activity requires a tool you can't or don't want to access, simply note that in your reflection.

How long should my reflections be?

At the conclusion of each activity, you will write a brief reflection. These should be just a paragraph—three to six sentences are sufficient.

Can I revisit the course materials after I've completed the course?

Yes, you will continue to have access to Launchpad and the resources and your reflections.

What if I encounter technical issues during the course?

For technical issues, email Liz Radday at radday@edadvance.org.

How do I get my badge when I am done?

You will receive an email from Southern Connecticut State University with your badge when you complete the course.