

AI and Data Management for Innovation Leaders

7 – 11 June 2027
Rome (Italy)

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AI and data management for innovation leaders is the practice of governing an organisation's data and applying artificial intelligence to it so that plans, forecasts and new initiatives rest on reliable evidence. This 1-week course is for managers and team leaders who steer planning or innovation, and its final deliverable is a data management plan linked to one AI use case, with an action plan for the delegate's own unit.

Introduction

The course rests on three frames. The data lifecycle follows data from collection and integration through storage and use to archiving, and shows where governance and quality controls belong. The three families of machine learning, supervised, unsupervised and reinforcement learning, describe what kind of question each model type can answer. Responsible AI principles of fairness, transparency and accountability set the limits within which models are used. The level is practitioner for leaders: models are interpreted and commissioned, not coded. Teaching uses case studies, short lab sessions and a staged plan-building exercise.

Course Objectives

- Define the data lifecycle, data governance and data quality and explain why each matters for AI-supported plans
- Distinguish supervised, unsupervised and reinforcement learning and select the family that fits a business question
- Compare databases, data warehouses and cloud storage and select an option for a given data need
- Apply AI-supported forecasting, KPIs and scenario analysis to an innovation or business plan
- Interpret bias, transparency and accountability risks in an AI system and justify the safeguards a leader should require
- Apply a data management plan template to one AI use case in the delegate's own unit

Target Audience

- Strategy and planning managers, who must decide which forecasts and scenarios can rely on AI outputs
- Innovation and transformation leads, who must select the AI use cases worth funding first
- Department heads who own operational data, who must judge whether its quality is fit for analytics
- Project and product managers commissioning AI work, who must determine scope, data needs and success measures
- Compliance and risk managers, who must assess whether a proposed AI use meets security and ethical expectations

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Course Outline

Day 1: AI, Data and Innovation Foundations

- Data Management vs Data Governance: Daily Handling Compared with Decision Rights and Policy
- AI Innovations Overview: Definitions, Business Applications, Recent Advances and Case Studies
- Data Lifecycle: Collection, Storage, Use, Sharing and Archiving Stages Explained
- Data Quality Dimensions: Accuracy, Completeness, Timeliness and Consistency for Analytics
- Integration Challenges Session: Mapping Obstacles and Openings for Data and AI

Day 2: Machine Learning Families and Model Types

- Supervised vs Unsupervised vs Reinforcement Learning: Labelled, Unlabelled and Reward-Based Learning
- Deep Learning Basics: Neural Networks and Their Layered Structure Explained
- CNNs and RNNs: Image-Oriented Networks Compared with Sequence-Oriented Networks
- Predictive Analysis Lab: Framing and Testing a Simple Prediction Model
- Advanced Technique Cases: Model Applications in Business Planning and Innovation

Day 3: Data-Driven Decisions and AI-Supported Planning

- Intuition-Led vs Evidence-Led Decisions: Where AI Outputs Change Leadership Choices
- Data Management Plan: Purpose, Owners, Sources, Standards and Access Rules
- Planning KPIs: Choosing Measures That Show Innovation Progress and Business Results
- Trend Forecasting and Scenario Analysis: Testing Plans Against Alternative Futures
- Lessons Learned Discussion: Successes and Failures of Data-Driven Strategies

Day 4: Collecting, Storing and Securing Data

- Databases vs Data Warehouses vs Cloud Storage: Fit for Transactions, Reporting and Scale
- Data Collection and Cleaning: Gathering, Correcting and Standardising Records from Sources
- Data Integration: Merging Sources with Common Keys and Reference Data
- Data Security and Compliance: Access Controls, Encryption and Recognised Standards
- Innovation Data Framework Exercise: Designing Roles, Flows and Controls for One Unit

Day 5: Responsible AI and Use Case Planning Practice

- Bias vs Error: Systematic Unfairness Compared with Random Model Mistakes
- Transparency, Accountability and Future Roles: Decision Ownership, AI Product and Data Managers
- Responsible AI Review Exercise: Applying Bias and Transparency Checks to a Use Case
- Use Case Selection: Applying Data Quality, Model Family and KPI Choices Together
- Data Management Plan and Action Plan: Completing the AI Use Case for One Unit

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A graphic of a chessboard with several chess pieces (a king, a queen, a rook, and a knight) positioned on it. The board is white and black, and the pieces are gold and silver. The graphic is located in the bottom right corner of the page.

Skills You Will Gain

- Data Governance Basics
- Data Quality Assessment
- Machine Learning Model Selection
- AI-Supported Forecasting
- Scenario Analysis
- Data Storage Selection
- Responsible AI Review

Why Attend This Course

- From planning on instinct and partial reports to forecasts and scenarios built on governed data
- From hearing AI terms used loosely to choosing between model families for a defined question
- From data scattered across systems to a framework of owners, flows and controls for one unit
- From interest in AI without a starting point to a data management plan and action plan for one use case

Conclusion

Leading innovation with AI depends on data that is owned, trusted and protected before any model is trained on it. The course makes three distinctions clear: data management against data governance, supervised against unsupervised and reinforcement learning, and bias against ordinary model error. In one week it suits managers who set plans or sponsor new initiatives and need a compact grounding to commission AI work responsibly, rather than the longer series of sessions of an extended course.

Course FAQs

What is AI and data management for innovation leaders?

It is the leadership practice of governing an organisation's data, keeping its quality fit for analysis and applying artificial intelligence to planning and innovation decisions, while managing bias, security and accountability.

What is the difference between supervised and unsupervised learning in AI and data management?

Supervised learning trains a model on examples with known answers, such as past sales, to predict new cases. Unsupervised learning finds patterns in data without known answers, such as customer groups, which leaders then interpret.

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A graphic illustration of a chessboard with several chess pieces. A large gold king piece is prominent in the foreground, with a silver pawn and a gold pawn nearby. The background shows concentric circles emanating from behind the king piece, suggesting a strategic or technological theme.

Which frameworks does the AI and data management for innovation leaders course follow?

The course follows the data lifecycle for governance and quality, the three families of machine learning for model choice, and responsible AI principles of fairness, transparency and accountability for safeguards.

Is the AI and data management for innovation leaders course right for a strategy manager?

Yes. Strategy managers learn when AI forecasts and scenarios can be trusted, what data a plan needs and how to set KPIs for innovation, without needing to write code.

What do delegates produce in the AI and data management for innovation leaders course?

Delegates produce a data management plan for one AI use case in their own unit, covering owners, sources, quality checks, storage and safeguards, together with an action plan for introducing it.