

CMST 396:

Speaking the Language of AI



3 credits, Spring Quarter 2026

Unlock the power of Artificial Intelligence through the lens of communication. In this introductory course, you will learn to speak the language of AI, giving you the fluency to effectively communicate technical ideas to colleagues and clients. You will explore how AI boosts productivity and transforms professional workflows, while learning to critically evaluate AI content for limitations and bias. By mastering and applying these tools responsibly, you will gain a competitive edge and become a more effective professional ready to lead in your future career, which is necessary in any industry.

Skills from CMST 396 That Give Students a Competitive Edge:

- Critical thinking & decision-making skills
 - Example: Using AI as a tool
 - analyze datasets
 - predict trends
 - gain valuable insights for better data-driven choices
- Productivity & efficiency
 - Example: Automating repetitive tasks results in more complex work.
- Data literacy
 - Example: exercising analysis, interpretation, and evaluation techniques to promote actionable insights.
- Creative problem-solving
 - Example: exploring real-world applications of current models, tools, and other AI resources, as well as understanding limitations and how to use AI responsibly.

Additional Information:

1. CMST 396 is an applied AI career-oriented course to make Eastern students more effective employees in their first professional positions.
2. This course is a prerequisite for additional applied AI courses. The following courses will be 2-3 credit courses that will appear in the 2026-2027 academic school year. The courses will include topics such as budget-friendly content creation using AI to edit and enhance, AI-assisted professional communication, AI for productivity, etc.
3. Also designed for professional development students to help them stay current as their roles evolve in the workforce.
4. Unlimited seating – Open until registration closes. No waitlists or prerequisites, so anyone can join! Classes will be divided into groups of 25 students to ensure a good professor-to-student ratio.
5. Professional University Level teaching Instructors who have mastered using AI in the workforce industry.
6. Course Learning Objectives:
 - Evaluate the uses and limitations of AI content.
 - Learn the role of AI in productivity.
 - Use the language of AI to effectively communicate.