

■ CAREER ■

Artificial intelligence (AI) has been around for a while but is only recently gaining more popularity because of the influx of AI apps being constantly released.

Rise of AI and leveraging it for EMPLOYABILITY

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Most AI tools we use today are Generative AI. This AI model can take what it has learnt and generate new content like ChatGPT. Another term thrown around a lot is Large Language Model (LLM) – a generative AI that combines and predicts text to produce natural-sounding language output.

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Dr Lamia Iftekhar, an Associate Professor at the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, North South University (NSU) shares, “Since AI can replace many mundane and manual tasks, future jobs will not particularly require you to have these skills, but you must know how to make AI work for you. For that, you must understand prompt engineering.”

Prompt engineering means developing prompts for interacting with LLMs

to create clear, concise, and effective prompts for communicating the desired task to the LLM and getting the required output.

In the tech industry, developers are already using AI to aid their workflow. “LLMs can be a great tool to assist developers to search for various resources and save them a lot of time in the process. And while I don’t think it will replace developers in the future, I do think it will bring a change to the industry, but a much-needed positive one,” shares Salman Sahel, a software engineer at Samsung R&D.

Dr Tanzilur Rahman, another Associate Professor at NSU adds, “A professor suggested that keeping 4IR in mind, we should focus more on teaching industry-oriented, applied side of the topics.”

Salman elaborated on what it would take to build a career on the technical side of the domain, “The best skill to have as a fresh CS grad is versatility. For that, we require a more intimate understanding of the fundamentals of CS.”

Developing AI skills will make you more marketable in the job market and give you a competitive edge, so you need to be open to change and willing to adapt to new technologies.

Mashiyat Nayeem is a student at North South University.

Is AI here to take over YOUR JOBS?

A Forbes survey revealed that 77 percent of Americans were concerned that AI would lead to job losses. However, it’s unclear how AI will actually transform the workforce and job market.

Due to labour concerns, a quarter of US companies are adopting AI according to an IBM report. AI fills in the gaps created because of the labour shortage and helps businesses optimise their daily operations despite the lack of human resources.

According to a McKinsey study, 15 percent of workers or 400 million workers could be displaced because of AI by 2030. Wide AI adoption could increase that number to 30 percent.