Google DeepMind Research Ready Programme

at Queen Mary University of London
from 17 June – 26 July 2024

If you are excited by the revolution in AI and would like to play a part in it, we would love to hear from you!

Apply for the Research Ready Programme and embark on an exciting learning experience this summer.
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Introduction

Get a taste of life as an AI specialist on the Research Ready Programme at Queen Mary University of London

The Research Ready Programme is a paid, 6-week programme which will introduce you to the fundamentals of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Data Science research skills and techniques.

Learn how AI works and understand the implications of AI from leading academics in the field. Learn valuable research methods and how to apply them in a supportive learning environment. Build career-enhancing skills and explore the role of AI in various industries.

The programme is aimed at 2nd and 3rd year undergraduate students in Computer Science, AI, or a closely related academic area, such as Data Science, Physics, Maths, and Neuroscience.

You should have a basic understanding of computer programming, a desire to challenge yourself, be ambitious to learn new skills, and enjoy independent study and working collaboratively.

The programme is created by Queen Mary University of London to help solve some of the critical challenges leading to under-representation in the field of AI. In this context, we are looking for applicants for the programme who are from Black, Asian, and ethnic minority backgrounds, or who identify as female, or students from low-income backgrounds, each being under-represented groups in AI. Support for the programme is received via the Google DeepMind Research Ready funding stream.
**About the programme**

This is a 6-week intensive programme on the fundamentals of AI and Data Science, which will include:

- A two-week bootcamp which will provide a comprehensive introduction to Data Science, Generative AI, Research Methods, and the ethical issues surrounding AI and Machine Learning technologies.

- A series of lectures, demonstrations, practical sessions, industry talks, and social activities.

- Teaching from leading academics in the field of AI research and development.

- Four weeks of supervised research and development supported by trained PhD students and researchers at Queen Mary University of London.

- Access to a network of students and researchers working in AI technologies.

You will be based at Queen Mary University of London for the duration of the programme, and accommodation will be provided for you on campus.

You will also be paid while you are on the programme. You will receive a weekly stipend of £393 and a £40 weekly travel allowance.

**Why should you apply for this programme?**

* Be part of the AI revolution and learn about cutting edge generative AI
* Improve your technical skills (it could lead to better grades in your final year of study!)
* Increase your confidence and get ready for postgraduate research or employment
* Benefit from a peer support network, including researchers at the forefront of AI development
* Present your research at the Google DeepMind headquarters in London
* Contribute to your first research paper, Open-Source repository, or research project
* Build a toolkit of skills and experience to support your chosen academic and career path.
Who is this opportunity for?

Queen Mary University of London aims to encourage students from diverse backgrounds to consider a future in AI and related disciplines and to increase the number of people from groups currently underrepresented in the field.

We hope to help build an AI community where everyone can participate and thrive - irrespective of their backgrounds.

In the spirit of this ambition, applications will be considered from students who identify as female, students from Black, Asian, and ethnic minority backgrounds, and students from low-income backgrounds.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible to apply for the Research Ready Programme at Queen Mary University of London, you must be:

1. A United Kingdom citizen or be normally resident in the United Kingdom.
   Applicants must have been resident in the UK for at least 3 consecutive years immediately prior to undertaking undergraduate studies in the UK and must have ‘Home’ tuition fee status.

and

2. From one or more of the following underrepresented groups in the field of AI:
   - Identify as female
   - From a Black, Asian, or mixed ethnicity background
   - From a low-income background with a household income less than £35,000 (as assessed via the UK government student finance application or Student Support Notification of Entitlement letter).

and

3. Currently enrolled in the 2nd or 3rd year at a UK University and studying a degree programme in Computer Science, AI or a closely related academic area, such as Data Science, Physics, Maths, Neuroscience.

You should meet all three criteria to be considered for this programme.
Selection Criteria

Thank you for your interest in the Research Ready Programme.

If you are excited by the revolution in AI and would like to play a part in it and learn about cutting-edge generative AI, we would love to hear from you!

We are looking for applicants who meet the eligibility criteria listed above and who can demonstrate the following attributes in their application:

- A strong academic record at university, achieving module results with an average mark of above 60%.
- An interest in innovative technologies and applications - this could be demonstrated through academic study, employment, or extra-curricular activity.
- Enjoy independent study, self-reflection, and working collaboratively to achieve results.

How to apply

Complete and submit the online application form by 5 April 2024.

**Applicant Information Webinar – 3pm, 28 February 2024 - sign up to attend.**

An application information session will be held online on 28 February 2024. You will have the opportunity to ask any questions about the placement programme and the application process.

Selections will be made by 29 April 2024.
Please note: this is a template of the application form for reference. Please complete and submit the form online.

Application Form

SECTION 1: Applicant summary and declarations

1. Contact Details

First Name: 
Surname: 
Home/Permanent address: 
University email address: 
Personal email address: 
Phone number: 

How did you learn about the Google DeepMind Research Ready Programme?

2. Declarations - I confirm that:

I am a United Kingdom citizen [   ]
or
I am normally resident in the United Kingdom [   ]
To be eligible in to apply, applicants must have been resident in the UK for at least 3 consecutive years immediately prior to undertaking study in the UK at university and are eligible for ‘Home’ tuition fees.

and

I identify as belonging to one or more of the following under-represented groups in the field of AI:
- I identify as Female [   ]
- I am from a Black, Asian, or an ethnic minority background [   ]
(list out the different options and use QM equal ops form as a template for this)
- I am from a low-income background, where the household income is less than £35,000 as assessed via the UK government student finance application. [   ] (if you are not a Queen Mary student, you will be asked to provide a copy of your Student Support Notification of Entitlement letter if selected to participate in the programme).

and

I am studying a degree programme in Computer Science, AI, or a closely related academic area, such as Data Science, Physics, Maths, Neuroscience. [   ]
and

I am enrolled in the 2nd or 3rd year in the current academic year (2023-2024) [ ]

I confirm that I have read the applicant information pack and I satisfy all the eligibility conditions [ ]

SECTION 2: Education

Which university you are currently studying at? [dropdown options]
Queen Mary University of London
Other (please state)

If you are a Queen Mary University of London student, please provide your student ID number:

Please state your degree programme title in full: (e.g., BSc in Computer Science)

Please state your mode of study: (e.g., full time, part time)

Which academic year you are currently enrolled in:

Please provide your module mark average for your 1st year or 2nd year:

You will be asked to provide a copy of your results transcript if you are selected to participate in the programme.

SECTION 3: Employment Details

Please summarise any employment, work experience or internships you have undertaken.

(include: dates (from/to), the organisation name and location, and main activities, duties, notable achievements.)
SECTION 4: Application Tasks

1. Select a module you have studied as part of your degree programme that has made an impression on you. Describe the module briefly and explain your reasons for choosing to write about it. (max. 150 words).

💡 Tip! For example, what did you enjoy about it, did what you learn surprise you, did it involve teamwork, did you learn anything about yourself. We are looking to see how you reflect on your experience.

2. What has sparked your interest in the Google DeepMind Research Ready Programme and what has motived you to apply? (max. 100 words)

3. What area of technology excites you? (max. 200 words)

💡 Tip! When writing your answers to these questions, remember to keep in mind our selection criteria and the attributes we are looking for in candidates.

4. Please tell us about your experience of or interest in computer programming (max. 100 words)

SECTION 5 – Reference

If you are selected for the programme, we may contact someone who is able to vouch for your academic progress or employment/work experience. This person could be a tutor, a schoolteacher, a manager at work, or someone from a community group for example. Please provide the name and contact details for your referee: