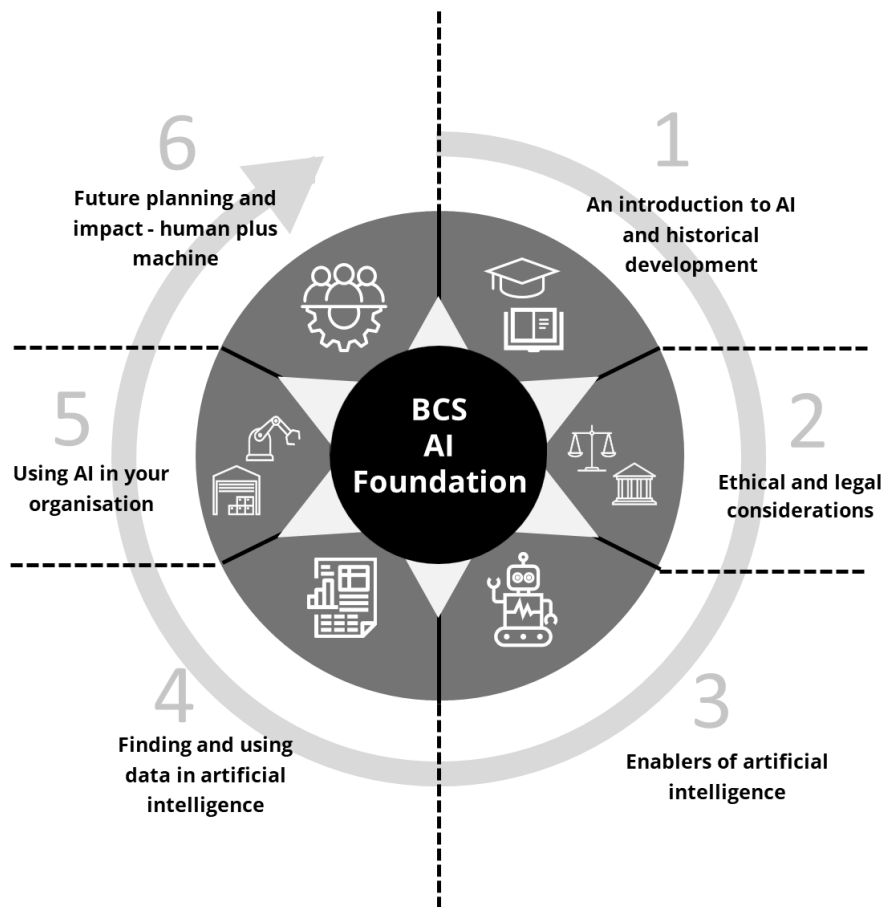# BCS* Foundation Certificate in Artificial Intelligence (AI)

British Computer Society

BCS Essentials Certificate in AI

Prerequisite

This course is designed to top up the knowledge gained following achievement of the BCS Essentials Certificate in AI and to prepare learners to undertake the BCS Foundation Certificate in AI examination. Drawing on the learning from both programmes.

Who is this for?

- Developers, project managers, product managers, chief information officers, chief finance officers, change practitioners, business consultants and leaders of people.
- Anyone with an interest in (or need to implement) artificial intelligence in an organisation, especially those working in areas such as science, engineering, knowledge engineering, finance, education or IT services.

Benefits for Students

- **Comprehensive AI Knowledge:** Covers history, principles, techniques, and real-world applications of AI.
- **Career Readiness:** Prepares learners for a wide range of roles both in AI and utilising AI
- **Ethical & Legal Awareness:** Builds understanding of AI governance, bias, privacy, and regulatory frameworks.
- **Practical Skills:** Teaches how to identify AI opportunities, build business cases, and manage AI projects.
- **Data Literacy:** Enhances ability to work with big data, machine learning, and generative AI tools.
- **Future-Focused Learning:** Explores emerging trends like artificial consciousness and sustainability in AI.
- **Recognised Certification:** Awarded by BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT—boosts employability and credibility.

Benefits for Employers

- **Workforce Upskilling:** Equips staff with foundational and practical AI knowledge to support innovation.
- **Strategic Implementation:** Helps teams identify and implement AI solutions aligned with business goals.
- **Improved Decision-Making:** Strengthens understanding of data quality, visualisation, and machine learning processes.
- **Ethical AI Deployment:** Promotes responsible AI use through awareness of ethical principles and legal compliance.
- **Cross-Industry Relevance:** Applicable to sectors including healthcare, finance, education, manufacturing, and IT.
- **Sustainability Focus:** Encourages environmentally conscious AI practices and energy-efficient solutions.

How will the programme be delivered?

Upon completing the Essentials Certificate in AI, learners will attend two half-day workshops delivered either online via Microsoft Teams or face-to-face at the ALS Training Centre in Ocean Park Way, Cardiff. Learners will also be required to complete self-study and sit an exam.

The programme includes:
- 1 × Half-day tutor-led knowledge workshop (online or face-to-face)
- 1 × Half-day exam preparation workshop, followed by the multiple-choice exam
- Approximately 11 hours of self-study/revision to prepare for the exam

When registering interest via the link provided, individuals or employers should indicate their preferred delivery method.

This certificate can be delivered at employer premises only where two groups of 15 learners can be provided, due to the self-study period required between sessions. A typical delivery schedule would be:
- Week 1: Group 1 – Monday AM, Group 2 – Monday PM
- Week 2: Repeat of the above schedule

Exam details*
- Length: 60 minutes
- Format: Multiple choice
- Number of questions: 40
- Pass mark: 65% (26/40 correct answers)

For remote examinations, learners will require a laptop with a built-in camera or a separate webcam.

To register your interest please [click here](#) or scan the QR code

Additional information for those attending the ALS Centre:
- Free on-site parking available

- On-site café for refreshments

Delivery Schedule

Session 1 – 3 Hours	
The history of AI's impact on society.	Charting how AI has positively benefited society as it has developed, the impact it is currently having on society and exploring the possible impact of AI in the future.
Sustainability, the environment and AI	Exploring the positive and negative impacts AI can have on the environment and how sustainability can be designed into the creation and use of AI systems,
Legal and Ethical AI	The role of ethical standards and robust legislation in guiding the development and use of AI. Managing risks associated with AI and developing strategies for addressing risks and ethical challenges in the organisations AI projects and day to day use.
Developing AI	An exploration of the elements comprising a functional generative AI tool, the machine learning and reinforcement processes used to train AI models and the difference between supervised and unsupervised machine learning approaches.
Planning an AI Project	How stakeholders are key to the success of a project to develop and implement AI solutions. How to construct and effective business case for committing resources to an AI project, including assessing the risks, costs and benefits of the proposed AI solution.
Ai in the future	Exploring the concept of Artificial General Intelligence (AGI) or broad AI. The technical challenges involved, the risks. The potential for AI consciousness, how consciousness is defined and what this might mean ethically for AI development and use.

Self-Study and Revision – at least 11 hours	
Self-Directed Study	Review the content of your workshop and the content of the AI Essentials workshops, the support material you have been provided and further research AI using online tools and resources.
Session 2 Exam Prep and Examination – 3 Hours	
Exam Preparation	Spend time with your tutor reviewing the course content and preparing for the examination.
Mock Exam	A chance to prepare further by completing a series of multiple-choice questions like those you may encounter in your exam.
Exam	60 minutes to complete 40 questions under exam conditions without access to notes or internet resources.