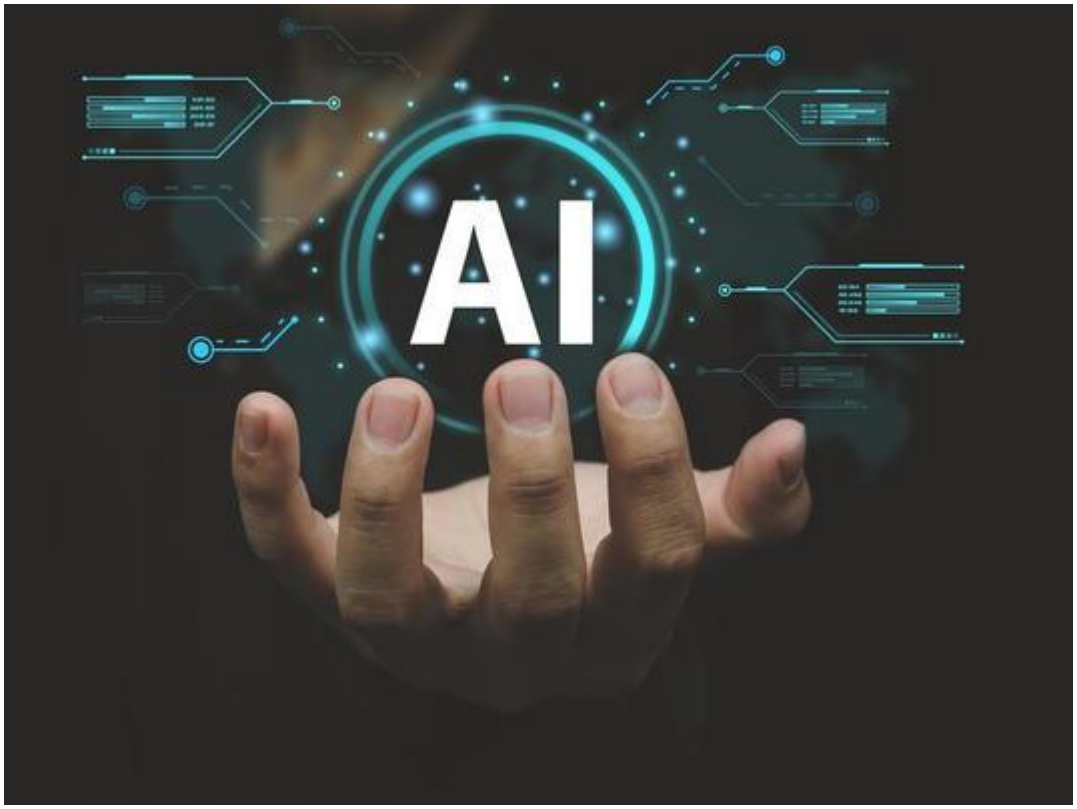
PETROLEUM GAS UNIVERSITY OF PLOIESTI

FACULTY OF ECONOMIC SCIENCES

AI & The Future of Economics: Navigating Growth, Markets, and Policy



Ploiesti, Romania

4-8 May 2026

Welcome to the AI & The Future of Economics: Navigating Growth, Markets, and Policy Program

We are thrilled to welcome you to the ***"AI & The Future of Economics: Navigating Growth, Markets, and Policy"*** program—an innovative initiative crafted by the Faculty of Economic Sciences at Petroleum-Gas University of Ploiești, in collaboration with our esteemed European university partners through the Erasmus+ program.

General information

The ***"AI & The Future of Economics: Navigating Growth, Markets, and Policy"*** program is designed to equip students and future professionals with the skills, strategies, and knowledge needed to drive sustainable transformation in organizations and communities. This course integrates key principles of AI & economics, AI and new skill demands, behavioral economics and AI-driven decision-making, AI business models, the digital divide.

Target group

The program is aimed at undergraduate students from Business Administration, Management, Marketing or other related study programmes.

This one-week course is designed for international students interested in exploring strategy, stakeholder engagement, policy tools, frameworks, and public-private partnerships, green business models and funding opportunities.

Course Overview

The rapid advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AI) is reshaping global economies, transforming industries, and redefining the future of work, competition, and policy. This program explores the intersection of AI and economics, equipping participants with the knowledge, analytical skills, and strategic insights needed to navigate this evolving landscape.

Through a blend of lectures, case studies, interactive discussions, and hands-on projects, participants will examine AI's impact on economic growth, labor markets, business models, and public policy. The course will also address critical challenges such as AI-driven automation, ethical considerations, market regulation, and sustainable development.

Key Components of the Course

1. Foundations & Economic Impact of AI

1.1 Introduction to AI and Economics

- What is AI? A brief history & key concepts
- The intersection of AI & economics

1.2 AI and Productivity Growth

- AI as a general-purpose technology

- Impact on labor productivity and economic output
- Case studies: AI-driven efficiency in various industries

1.3 Labor Markets & Automation

- Job displacement vs. job creation
- The future of work: AI and new skill demands
- Economic policies for AI-driven labor markets

1.4 AI and Market Structures

- AI-driven monopolies and competition
- Data as a new economic resource
- The role of regulatory frameworks in AI markets

1.5 AI in Financial Markets & Decision-Making

- Algorithmic trading & financial AI applications
- Risk assessment and AI in banking
- Behavioral economics and AI-driven decision-making

2. AI Policy, Ethics, and Future Perspectives

2.1 The Economics of Data & AI Business Models

- Data as an economic asset
- AI business models: B2B vs. B2C strategies
- Valuing AI-driven products and services

2.2 AI and Global Trade & Development

- AI in international trade and economic competitiveness
- The digital divide: AI's role in economic inequality
- Strategies for AI-driven economic development

2.3 Ethical and Social Implications of AI

- Bias and fairness in AI algorithms
- Privacy concerns in AI-driven economies
- The societal impact of AI-driven decision-making

2.4 Future Outlook & Capstone Projects

- AI's long-term impact on global economies
- Group presentations: AI-driven economic policy proposals
- Wrap-up and networking session

Learning Outcomes

After completing the course, participants should be able to:

- Understand AI's role as a general-purpose technology and its implications for economic transformation.
- Analyse the impact of automation and AI-driven decision-making on labor markets, productivity, and inequality.
- Evaluate AI's influence on market structures, competition, and data-driven business models.
- Explore AI applications in financial markets, global trade, and policy-making.
- Develop strategies for ethical AI deployment and regulatory frameworks to ensure sustainable growth.

Our partners

Universities Participating

Our participants come from a variety of academic backgrounds, enriching our program with a broad spectrum of expertise. This diversity ensures a rich exchange of ideas and perspectives, providing a dynamic platform for discussing the unique challenges and opportunities in leadership, change management and communication within the SME sector.

Group Formation

To ensure a truly collaborative and diverse learning experience, participants will be will be intentionally mixed, combining participants from different universities and academic backgrounds. This approach is designed to foster innovation and creativity, allowing to get a wide range of insights and solutions

Program Details

The program will have online and face to face sessions.

Online Sessions Overview

Before the participants meet in person, we will conduct two mandatory online sessions that will allow us to get in touch and to develop the first stage of the program. These sessions will be held in April (28 and 30 April).

Face-to-face sessions

Our program combines 5 days of face-to-face workshops in Ploiesti. The physical workshops will be held from 4-8 May 2026, featuring a total of 30 hours of interactive, hands-on training. Through case studies, discussions, and hands-on projects, participants will gain a holistic understanding of AI's economic impact and develop the skills to shape the future of business, policy, and society. During the stay in Ploiesti, the participants will also explore local companies and enjoy cultural activities, making this not only a learning opportunity but also an experiential one. The participants will be developing a case study in groups. The case study that we will be developing is linked with a local company.

Academic Information

Upon successful completion of the program, you will earn 3 ECTS credits, which can be accredited as an elective subject. We will provide further details on how these credits can be integrated into your current academic curriculum.