

URP Urban AI

This interdisciplinary course will guide students to learn the costs (e.g., regulatory framework, environmental costs, technology development, equity and safety concerns) and benefits (e.g., improved efficiency, broadened engagement, innovation) of emerging AI applications in urban contexts. Students will develop the skills to interact with GenAI tools and think critically about how urban planners and urban technologists may position themselves in the era of AI. Topics include GenAI tools, basics of machine learning, natural language processing, and large language models, AI applications in urban contexts, AI governance, ethics, and environmental costs, and human-in-the-loop AI. The course is structured with weekly lectures and programming-based technical labs. Students will have opportunities to develop their own projects. Knowledge of a programming language is required for this course and Python will be the main language. Experience with AI or GenAI tools is not required.