

20 Frequently Asked Questions

1. Who is eligible for the program?

The program starts from ground zero, making it accessible to enter and succeed to any person even if they have no background in any of the topics in the program. However, candidates with experience and prior basic knowledge in mathematics would be more comfortable with the program's content.

2. Are all courses mandatory or I can register for some courses?

If you desire to obtain the "Diploma" then all the courses are mandatory. However, registering for one or more courses separately is an alternative in case your interest is focused on a particular domain. In this case, you shall be awarded a Verified Certificate once you succeed in the quizzes and the projects of this course. Moreover, if your interest is to attend the course only without any quizzes or projects, then you will be awarded a Certificate of Completion instead.

3. What if I have a previous degree in Statistics, Computer Science, or alike?

The Diploma will only be awarded once the completion of all SAS Viya projects and e-learning requirements in parallel to all other requirements. This makes it then obligatory to assist and pass all the courses as defined in the program in order to obtain the Dual Diploma from LAU and SAS International.

4. Is R included in the program in parallel to Python?

R is not included in the program. Courses include projects only on Python and SAS Viya.

5. What if I am new to coding and Python?

A Python Bootcamp of 4 sessions (2h) is addressed to total beginners before the start of the program. This Bootcamp will allow acquiring all the basic and necessary Python coding skills that will facilitate the learning and applying of all the codes to come in the courses.

6. Is the SAS Viya Free to use during the program for all the participants?

SAS Viya will be available for FREE to all participants during the 15 months of the program.

7. When does the course start?

The program starts on the 3rd of January 2023 with the Python Bootcamp.

8. What are the rules to obtain the Diploma?

To obtain the Dual Diploma from LAU and SAS, participants should reach a Final Grade of 60 over 100. For more details, refer to the Grading Rules and Regulations document.

9. Duration of the complete program

The program spans over a period of 15 months and is scheduled to finish in mid-May 2024.

10. How is the program scheduled?

Courses are planned on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays from 5 PM to 7.30 PM. A 10-day break is scheduled between every two courses. Two other 10-day breaks are scheduled for the summer holiday.

11. Should I pass all the courses to get the Dual Diploma?

The grading system of the program is based on international standards. Further to the Grading Rules and Regulation document, the lowest two courses' grades will be excluded from the total ten courses' final grades, thus allowing the participants to focus on the other eight favorite courses for their success. On the other hand, the Final project grade should not be less than 60 over 100.

12. What are the rules of presence?

Since the diploma is addressed to already life practitioners, some flexibility is taken into account regarding the presence during the sessions' progress. However, some limits are to respect, and details are in the Grading Ruled and Regulation document as well.

13. Will all courses be delivered as Virtual Learning via Zoom?

The courses are delivered Live on zoom. However, some sessions, quizzes, and project presentations might be in-person and scheduled accordingly.

14. What if I travel a lot?

The schedule is designed to help frequent travelers in the ME in order to avoid missing sessions. This is made possible by scheduling the projects on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays.

15. What if I live outside Lebanon?

Since all courses are delivered online with Live sessions, there is no constraint at all in assisting the complete program.

16. How likely will I find a job after completion of the program?

This comprehensive program of **450h** is intended to breed the "best" generation of Data Science and AI practitioners, that most prestigious companies will be looking for in that field. Moreover, 5 guaranteed jobs are confirmed by AI Ventures in Dubai for the Top 5 graduated participants.

17. Is there any code of Honor regarding the conduct of participants?

Similar to worldwide online diplomas from the most prestigious universities (MIT – Harvard - ...), participants should abide by the strict rule of running their quizzes and projects by themselves exclusively. Any misconduct, such as copying, sending results, or alike between any two or more participants will

endanger their diploma graduation. Penalties can start with written warnings but can reach their full exclusion from the complete program in case of a serious breach of the code, without any financial reimbursement.

18. What if I couldn't finish the whole program?

If for any reason you cannot finish the complete program, you can join the next class and finalize the remaining ones and obtain the Dual Diploma.

19. Is the diploma accredited by the Ministry of Education?

Yes, it is.

20. Cost of the program, methods of payment, and registrations.

Fees and facilities of payments can be explained by:

- Mr. Simon Sahyouni: +961 3 803 805.

You can always contact LAU Academy of Continuing Education for more info and registrations on:

- ce.beirut@lau.edu.lb
- +961 1 786 456, ext. 1390, 3069