

DSCOURSE

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The Job Skills of 2024

Key Trends and Emerging Priorities



DISTED College aligns its programmes with emerging job trends, focusing on AI, cybersecurity, and leadership, ensuring students are prepared for future workforce demands.

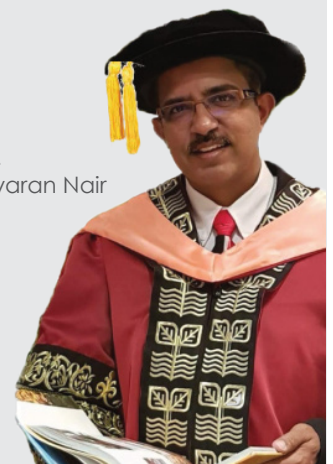
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Remarks from the President

The cover story for this issue discusses the changing trend in the job market that every institution of higher learning must adapt to prepare the future workforce. The job market is rapidly evolving, driven by technological advancements, digital transformation, and shifting economic landscapes. The demand for skills such as data literacy, digital communication, and sustainable practices is surging in this dynamic environment. Companies are increasingly prioritising employees who are adaptable, tech-savvy, and capable of innovative thinking.

DISTED College plays a crucial role in preparing students to meet these demands. Through its forward-thinking curriculum and emphasis on industry collaboration, DISTED College equips learners with the critical skills needed for the future workforce. The college's focus on integrating practical experience with academic learning ensures that graduates are job-ready and adaptable to various industries. The College continuously shapes a competent and resilient workforce for the future by fostering a culture of continuous learning and skill enhancement.



Prof. Dr.
Vikneswaran Nair
President

**Cover
Story**

The Job Skills of 2024: Key Trends and Emerging Priorities

The "Job Skills of 2024" report by Coursera offers a comprehensive look at the fastest-growing job skills across various sectors, underscoring the importance of equipping the workforce with relevant and evolving competencies. Based on data from five million enterprise learners, the report identifies key trends in leadership, AI, cybersecurity, business, and data science skills.

Leadership skills have surged in importance due to the rapid changes in macroeconomic conditions and the rise of AI. Key skills such as people management, negotiation, and influencing are vital for navigating organisational change and driving team success.

AI-related skills are witnessing unprecedented growth. Courses like "Generative AI for Everyone" highlight the increasing demand for skills in reinforcement learning, Bayesian networks, and deep learning. These skills are essential for leveraging AI to boost productivity and innovation.

Cybersecurity remains a critical focus, with system security and incident management skills topping the list. The growing frequency of cyberattacks and the global shortfall of cybersecurity professionals underscore the need for robust security skills.

Business skills, particularly in e-commerce, digital marketing, and customer success, are in high demand as the marketing and advertising industry expands. Skills in media strategy, search engine optimisation, and Power BI are crucial for driving business growth and enhancing customer experiences.

Data science skills, including data visualisation, business intelligence, and Power BI, are essential for making data-driven decisions. These skills enable organizations to interpret complex data and drive strategic initiatives effectively.

In conclusion, the report emphasises the need for a strategic focus on emerging technologies and leadership skills. DISTED College is prioritising these areas in the curriculum to ensure students that are joining the future workforce are prepared for future challenges and opportunities, fostering a culture of continuous learning and adaptability.

Prof. Dr. Vikneswaran Nair
President

The
**Fastest-
Growing
Skills:**
Overall

The
**Fastest-
Growing
AI Skills**

E-Commerce

Media Strategy & Planning

System Security

Search Engine Optimisation

Customer Success

Reinforcement Learning

Develop a well-rounded machine learning model with reinforcement learning. 1

Bayesian Network

Understand the relationships between random variables to causal probabilities. 2

Problem Solving

Tackle and overcome challenges with logic. 3

Big Data

Process, generate, and analyse the largest datasets. 4

Deep Learning

Use supervised and supervised machine learning to analyse huge amounts of data. 5

The Importance of Work-Life Balance for Educators

Work-life balance is vital for educators to prevent burnout, enhance job satisfaction, and promote personal well-being. The demanding nature of their profession often leads to immense stress, impacting their physical and emotional health. Educators risk chronic exhaustion without proper balance, hindering their effectiveness with students. Prioritising self-care and setting boundaries between work and personal life is essential. Engaging in hobbies, spending time with family, and maintaining healthy habits can help recharge educators. A healthy work-life balance increases classroom motivation, enthusiasm, and productivity, fostering a positive working environment and ensuring educators' overall well-being.

Noriah Kallanjiam
 Lecturer, School of Pre-University Studies



Empowering Students for Higher Education

Tertiary school life can be stressful for secondary students stepping outside their comfort zones, making it crucial to choose the right school. On July 4th, DISTED College hosted a campus tour and education fair for around 1,000 secondary school students from Penang. DISTED's staff and students provided insights into college life, academic programmes, and campus facilities, helping students understand "What's Next?" after secondary school. The visit offered firsthand experience and informed decision-making skills, including admissions, scholarships, and financial aid. This event was valuable in preparing students for their educational journey, enhancing their ability to choose the right college and course for a smooth transition to higher education.

Kaitlyn Khoo Rui Ern
 Student of Cambridge A-Level
 Student Editor (DISTED Discourse)



A Heart-warming Father's Day Volunteer Experience with Special Needs Children

On 13 June 2024, DISTED College Psychology students volunteered with Penang Shine Like Stars, an NGO for special needs children, in a Father's Day programme. Ms. Lim, the NGO's Dean, provided guidelines before the event. The session began with brain gym activities to enhance cognitive functions, followed by craft-making where children, assisted by parents and students, created gifts for their fathers. The

NGO teachers' affectionate term "baobei" reflected their caring attitude. DISTED students found the experience both challenging and rewarding, learning patience and tolerance while guiding special needs children, and felt accomplished seeing the children's smiles during the programme.

Lee Si Qin
 Student of Bachelor of Psychology (Hons)



The Rapid Advancement and Integration of

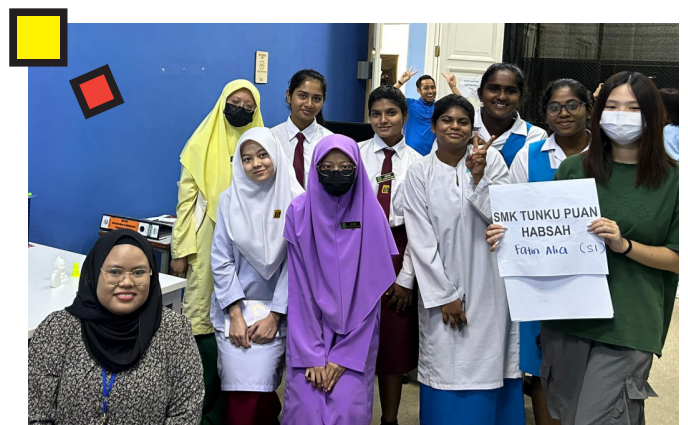
Artificial Intelligence

Trends and Impacts



Artificial intelligence (AI) has rapidly advanced, transforming multiple sectors and changing how we live and work. Key trends like machine learning and deep learning enhance productivity by allowing systems to learn and improve. AI aids in disease diagnosis, financial risk management, and autonomous vehicles. Predictive analytics leverages data for business insights, optimising operations. Embracing AI trends unlocks transformative potential. DISTED College integrates AI into all computer and IT courses across its programmes.

Nurul Annisa binti Azhar
 Lecturer, School of Computing and Engineering



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the
FULL
 article

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