

San Francisco State University (SF State), San Francisco, California
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Customized International Certificate Program | July 2026

- This proposal outlines the Customized International Certificate Program at San Francisco State University (SF State) in collaboration with US Work Study (USWS). The program offers students a hands-on, credit-bearing academic experience and professional exposure in San Francisco and Silicon Valley.

About San Francisco State University

- San Francisco State University (SF State), located in one of the world's most dynamic and diverse cities, is a global leader in higher education. With over 23,000 students, the university excels in fields like Business Administration, Engineering, and Computer/Data Science. Its strong ties to government, industry, startups, and academic partners create a vibrant ecosystem where innovation and learning flourish. Students benefit from access to expert faculty, cutting-edge facilities, and a transformative learning environment designed to elevate their careers.

Course Title

Data Analysis with AI & Machine Learning Applications

(Recommended for students from all professional disciplines)

Program Overview

- Format & Duration: 24-day intensive, immersive program hosted at San Francisco State University (SF State), USA. Participants will enter the U.S. on a J-1 visa.
- Academic Credit: Successful participants earn three transferable academic credits, recorded on an official SF State transcript recognized worldwide.
- Core Focus: Integration of advanced data and AI-driven analytic with essential leadership and problem-solving skills for global career success.

Value Proposition & Key Learning Outcomes

This program goes beyond conventional data analysis. Participants will gain expertise in:

- AI & Gen-AI Technologies: Exploration of Artificial and Generative AI, including prompt engineering and practical implementation.



- **Model Assessment & Optimization:** Techniques for evaluating accuracy and optimizing AI/Gen-AI models.
- **Addressing AI Limitations:** Insight into AI challenges such as hallucinations, bias, and errors, with an introduction to Explainable AI (XAI).
- **Ethical & Trustworthy AI:** Frameworks and tools for ensuring ethical, transparent, and compliant AI/Gen-AI systems.
- **Capstone Implementation:** Develop a complete AI pipeline, culminating in a trustworthiness audit of a real-world AI application.

Program Components

- **Coursework:** Faculty-led classes with practical training, assignments, quizzes, and final evaluations for comprehensive learning.
- **Immersive Learning:** On-site corporate and institutional visits across San Francisco and Silicon Valley's dynamic tech ecosystem.
- **Networking:** Dedicated events to connect with peers, alumni, and industry professionals.
- **Cultural Exploration:** City tours, a scenic bay cruise, and visits to major cultural landmarks and museums.
(Refer to the SFSU flyer for additional details.)

Key Student Benefits

- Earn an official Certificate and Transcript from San Francisco State University, enhancing your professional credentials and resume.
- Gain high-demand expertise in Data Analytic, AI, and ML, making you highly competitive in the global job market.
- Engage in hands-on learning, corporate visits, and innovation experiences in the world's leading hub of technology and entrepreneurship.
- Build valuable connections with students, alumni, and industry professionals across the Bay Area's thriving tech ecosystem.
- Become part of SF State's distinguished international alumni network—a lifelong advantage for career advancement.
- Enjoy a 25-day stay in downtown San Francisco, near the Financial District and major business and cultural landmarks.

Admission Requirements:

- ✓ **English Language Proficiency** (equivalent to IELTS 6.0 or higher).
- ✓ **Minimum of two years of undergraduate study**, including an elementary statistics course.
- ✓ **Age 18 or older.**

Timeline for Participation:

November 2025 – Application Stage

- Students submit their online application to SFSU (no application fee required).
- Home institute to issue a Sponsorship Letter certifying English proficiency and financial capability.
- SFSU confirms admission upon receipt of the complete application.

December 2025 – Visa Application Preparation

- SFSU issues the DS-2019 form for J-1 visa application.
- Students submit the Visa Information Form and a copy of their passport to US Work Study (USWS).
- The USWS Visa Team processes and submits the J-1 visa application to the U.S. Embassy.
- Students pay ₹12,000 each for visa processing services.

January 2026 – Visa Application Submission

- Students pay the U.S. visa application fee (US \$185).
- The USWS Visa Team will try to schedule the U.S. Embassy interview as early as possible.

February 2026 – Visa Appointment Scheduling

- Await confirmation of the U.S. Embassy interview appointment.
- Students pay the SEVIS Fee (US \$220).

March – April 2026 – Interview Preparation

- Participate in Visa Interview Training Sessions conducted by USWS and expert advisors from the U.S.
Attend the U.S. Embassy interview on the scheduled date.

May 2026 – Post-Visa Approval - Upon visa approval, students will:

- Purchase return flight tickets as per the group itinerary coordinated by USWS.
- Pay the Program Tuition Fee, health insurance, and housing costs for 25 days in San Francisco.



July 2026 – Travel and Program Commencement

- July 3, 2026: Group departure from India and arrival in San Francisco, California.
- Begin the International Certificate Program at the SFSU campus.
- **Note:** A cohort of 20 students is planned for the program. Admissions will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Early application is strongly encouraged to ensure timely admission, visa processing, and interview scheduling.

Tentative Schedule (July 2026)

July 3, 2026: Arrival and check-in, SF State orientation, and city tours.

July 4, the U.S.A. Independence Day

July 6-10: Coursework begins, campus tour, and a welcome mixer.

July 11-12: Museum visits and shopping in downtown San Francisco.

July 13-17: Continued coursework and Silicon Valley tour.

July 18-19: Exploration of the Financial District, Salesforce Park, Fisherman's Wharf, and other city landmarks.

July 20-26: Final coursework sessions, an art and culture tour, a closing ceremony, exploration of Golden Gate Park, and free time.

July 27: Check-out and departure from San Francisco Airport.

Note: Schedule is subject to change based on university faculty availability.

Program Fees, Cost Breakdown & Payment Schedule

The total estimated cost for the program is approximately ₹5.30 lakh (or \$6,000) per student. Below is a detailed breakdown of expenses and payment timing:

◆ Costs payable in India (after admission in January 2026)

- J-1 Visa Fee to US Embassy (\$185 + 220)=\$405 or ₹36,000
- Visa Processing & Interview Training: ₹12,000
- Round-trip flight ticket (after visa approval): ₹120,000

Total cost payable in India: ₹168,000

◆ **Costs payable in the USA** (after visa approval in May 2026)

- Program Tuition Fee: \$2,700 or ₹238,000 (course materials and books included)
- Healthcare Insurance: \$204 or ₹18,000
- Housing in San Francisco: \$1,180 or ₹104,000

Total cost payable in the USA: ₹360,000

Estimated Total Program Cost: ₹528,000 (\$6,000) for each participant.

Note: Program fee does not include personal expenses. Participants will receive a transport pass for free travel on public transportation in San Francisco.

Visiting Student Agreement (VSA): The Indian university must sign a Visiting Student Agreement (VSA) with San Francisco State University by October 2025

In Brief: This customized program, scheduled for July 2026, offers an outstanding opportunity for your students to earn an international academic credit certificate from a respected U.S State university while immersing themselves in American culture and professional life. It is a strategic investment in their future—equipping them with globally relevant skills, recognized credentials, and a powerful alumni network through San Francisco State University—all essential for thriving in today's competitive world.

US Work Study is fully authorized to manage every aspect of the program, from visa processing to on-the-ground support, ensuring a smooth and enriching experience for both students and your institution.

We look forward to partnering with you in shaping the next generation of global leaders.

Contact Information

Prof. Sunil Garg (IIT & IIFT Alumnus)
President – US Work Study Pvt. Ltd., India (<https://www.usworkstudy.in/>)

WhatsApp: +91 88106 02060
Email: apply@studyinusa.work / prof.sunil.garg@gmail.com



**SAN FRANCISCO
STATE UNIVERSITY**

COLLEGE OF PROFESSIONAL & GLOBAL EDUCATION

1600 Holloway Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94132

415/338-1438

email: globaled@sfsu.edu

web: cpage.sfsu.edu/global

<https://www.usworkstudy.in/post/mait-students-embark-on-a-data-science-journey-at-san-francisco-state-university>

<https://www.usworkstudy.in/visiting-students-program-2025>