Emergera × usm

Founding cohort | 4-week live program

Building AI Agents

Go from using AI tools to building AI agents that complete real-world tasks.



Starts Fri 9 Oct 2026, live to Sun 1 Nov
Live on weekends, Sat & Sun 11:00 AM–12:30 PM ET, with Jay Bobba

$99 Founding cohort

Reserve your seat
emergera.ai/register
Scan for full details and dates

Program at a glance

- **4 weeks** — 8 live sessions + kickoff
- **12 hours** — Live instruction
- **3–4 hrs/week** — Hands-on projects
- **Beginner to intermediate** — Basic Python needed

Weekly curriculum

1. **Week 1** Sat 10 – Sun 11 Oct
   Foundations and your first agent
   What an agent actually is, the agent loop, tools and schemas. Project: a research assistant that answers with sources.
2. **Week 2** Sat 17 – Sun 18 Oct
   Tools, APIs and workflows
   Tool design, external APIs, structured output and multi-step workflows. Project: automate a real, repetitive task.
3. **Week 3** Sat 24 – Sun 25 Oct
   Real-world agent systems
   RAG, memory, human approval, guardrails and evaluation. Project: a knowledge assistant with guardrails.
4. **Week 4** Sat 31 Oct – Sun 1 Nov
   Capstone: build, deploy and demo
   Architecture review, deployment and a clear README, then present your own agent at Demo Day.

Who should attend

- **Students and graduates** building a real AI portfolio
- **Working professionals** automating tasks in their role
- **Developers** ready to build reliable agents
- **Career changers** who can write basic Python

Learning outcomes

- **Pick the right design** LLM call, workflow or agent
- **Build an agent loop** from scratch in Python
- **Use tools and APIs** with structured output
- **Add retrieval and memory** over your own data
- **Make it reliable** guardrails and evaluation
- **Deploy and present** a working agent app

Capstone project

Build your own agent for a real user and a real problem: at least two tools, a guardrail or approval step, an evaluation set, deployed and documented. Solo or in a small team.

Capstone: a deployed AI agent, presented at Demo Day on Sun 1 Nov.

Live instruction

8 live sessions, Sat & Sun 11:00 AM–12:30 PM ET, all recorded. Kickoff Fri 9 Oct, 8 PM ET.

Credential

Certificate of Completion, with a Distinction tier. Eligible learners can be considered for career opportunities through USM Business Systems.