Course Title: Visions of the Future: Artificial Intelligence, Cryptocurrency, the Metaverse, and Beyond
Course Code: FS 01
Course Director: John Robichaux, Director of Education, Stanford Institute for Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence (HAI)

Course Summary
A series of new emerging technologies—artificial intelligence, virtual reality, blockchain, the metaverse, etc.—stand poised to transform important dimensions of our everyday life. In the coming decade, these technologies promise to change how we diagnose diseases and receive medical care; how we educate students; how we organize our financial system and conduct commerce; how we communicate and interact with one another in virtual worlds; and even how we experience our everyday reality.

Join us this spring for Visions of the Future, a new online course co-developed with the Stanford Institute for Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence (HAI). During this four-week course led by HAI Director of Education John Robichaux, Stanford faculty members will explore the promise—and potential perils—of these emerging technologies.

These class sessions will be recorded.

Grade Options and Requirements
No Grade Requested (NGR): No work will be required, and no credit shall be received.

Due to its short format, this course may not be taken for Credit or a Letter Grade. Attendance certificates will be available upon request for anyone who attends all 4 sessions on Zoom. Please contact the Continuing Studies office after completing the class.

Tentative Weekly Outline
Optional readings are listed below each speaker’s name to provide an opportunity for students who want to go deeper into the week’s particular subject.

Week 1: Monday, March 28, 5:00 - 6:10 pm (PT)
JEREMY BAILENSON
Faculty Affiliate, Institute for Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence (HAI); Founding Director, Stanford’s Virtual Human Interaction Lab; Thomas More Storke Professor, Department of Communication; Professor, by courtesy, of Education and of Professor, by courtesy, of Symbolic Systems Program, Stanford; Senior Fellow, Woods Institute for the Environment; Faculty Leader, Center on Longevity, Stanford
Jeremy Bailenson will take us inside the developing world of virtual and augmented reality, all part of the so-called metaverse.

Recommended Reading
*Experience on Demand: What Virtual Reality Is, How It Works, and What it Can Do / Jeremy Bailenson (Norton, 2018)* Can read Chapter 2 here

Week 2: Monday, April 4, 5:00 - 6:10 pm (PT)
PETER NORVIG
*Distinguished Education Fellow, Institute for Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence (HAI); Director of Research, Google*

Recommended Readings
- [Artificial Intelligence Definitions (Stanford HAI, 2020)]
- [Norvig and Russell, "Introduction" (Chapter 1), *Artificial Intelligence: A Modern Approach*]
- Let’s learn about artificial intelligence
- [Wikipedia > Artificial intelligence]

Week 3: Monday, April 11, 5:00 - 6:10 pm (PT)
DAN BONEH
*Faculty Affiliate, Institute for Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence (HAI); Professor of Computer Science; Professor of Electrical Engineering; Senior Fellow, Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies, Stanford*

Dan Boneh, a leading cryptography researcher, will examine the good, the bad, and the future of cryptocurrencies and blockchains.

Recommended Readings
- Non-technical:
  - Computers that can make commitments
  - Crypto Cities
- Technical:
  - Bitcoin: A Peer-to-Peer Electronic Cash System
  - Moving beyond coin voting governance
  - What is Stablecoin?: A Survey on Its Mechanism and Potential as Decentralized Payment Systems

Week 4: Monday, April 18, 5:00 - 6:10 pm (PT)
RUSS B. ALTMAN
*Associate Director, Institute for Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence (HAI); Kenneth Fong Professor of Bioengineering, Genetics, Medicine, and Biomedical Data*
Russ Altman will take us on a tour of how powerful new technologies will transform medicine—from healthcare and drug discovery to scientific research, even your mobile device.

Recommended Reading
Colangelo. "AI In Healthcare Highlights & Milestones 2021" (Jan. 3, 2022)