



# SNF Nostos Hackathon

## **SNF Nostos Coder Hackathon**

*Humanizing Technology - Enhancing Our Humanity in the Digital Age*

Are you concerned about the effects of the downside of technology on society? Do you feel that technology should be better designed? Do you feel under pressure in your work to drive growth at all costs?

Help society transform its relationship with technology so people live healthier, more fulfilling, and purposeful lives.

COVID-19 has made everyone more dependent on technology, which is proving problematic for individuals and society. Whilst technology has significant benefits, some aspects of technology are 'downgrading' us as humans - driving shorter attention spans; mental health decline; and extremism. Furthermore, this downgrading is happening at a time when the complexity of the critical problems we face – especially climate change - is rising sharply.

Humanizing Technology invites you work out how we can reshape technology to operate for the common good and strengthen our capacity to tackle our biggest global challenges.

### **Why Should You Participate?**

This hackathon will help you influence, design, or build more humane technology.

Key questions that will be addressed include –

- How can we develop technologies that help build a healthier, sustainable, and more equitable world?

- How does AI work, and how can we ensure it is ethical and that its benefits are widely shared?
- Can we use technology to overcome human limitations and not simply reinforce them?

### What Will You Learn?

- The role of Big Data, AI, and Machine Learning in social media and beyond
- How Machine Learning works
- Bias in data and algorithms
- Ethical and Explainable AI (XAI)
- Applying principles for humanizing technology

Key topics include:

- Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning
- The misuse of psychographics in social media
- Why 'search' is really 'sort'
- How recommendation engines work
- How Natural Language Processing (NLP) works
- Decision Trees
- Segregation modelling
- How technology can be redesigned for the common good

### How Will You Learn?

The hackathon assumes no prior experience or knowledge coding or AI. It will involve practical exercises including introductory level coding challenges, designing, team-based problem solving, discussion, and reflection.

Here's what you can expect to do on the hackathon:

- **Explore.** You will be given scenarios to analyze and scope
- **Build.** Structured, entry-level coding exercises
- **Solve.** Each section has a technical problem that your team will be asked to solve

### What Is On The Agenda?

The "Great Downgrade"; Psychographic Analysis; The Magic of Maybe; Surveillance Capitalism; The people vs AI; The People vs the People; The Outrage Engine; Are You Scared Yet Human?; Dismantling Mass Dishonesty; Taking Back Control

**Please watch [this](#) video before you join the hackathon.**

### Dates: 28, 29 August

Participation to one of the above dates, from 09:00 to 17:00.

The event will be delivered in English.

*The event is organized in partnership with Microsoft and learn-tech.io.*