

# 1<sup>st</sup> DIGITAfrica Summer School in IT

The DIGITAfrica summer school in IT organised in Nairobi provides an opportunity for students and recent graduates to gain knowledge and hands-on skills that improve their employability and career advanced in the field of digital sciences careers. The summer school offers the Networking and Cloud Computing track, as well as the Artificial Intelligence track. Lectures and practical classes for the two tracks will be delivered by a team of experienced professors and researchers from Europe and Africa.

## **Dates:**

23 – 27 March 2026

## **Location**

The summer school will be held at Strathmore University, Madaraka Estate, Ole Sangale Road, Nairobi, Kenya.

Details of rooms will be provided closer to the start date.

## **Daily timetable**

- 9:00–13:00: Morning classes (Wednesday classes will start at 11H00)
- 14:00–16:00: Afternoon classes (Friday classes will end at 15H00)

Each block includes a short break for refreshment.

## **Arrival Day Activities – Sunday 22-Mar-2026**

- 15:00 – 16:00: Summer school facilitators meet at Strathmore University
- 16:00 – 17:00: Brief induction on facilities and services near Strathmore University and your hotel

## **Social Evening and Closing Ceremony**

- Day 1: The Social Evening takes place on Monday after the afternoon classes. It will bring together all participants to meet-and-greet.

- Day 5: The closing ceremony will be held on Friday at 15H30. During the ceremony, certificates will be issued to participants who complete the technical program.

### Panel Discussion

- Day 3: A panel discussion will be held on Wednesday at 9H00. The panel will comprise course instructors who will cover trends in technology, study paths, and global career pathways.

## Technical Program

The technical program consists of morning and afternoon lectures that include practical hands-on activities.

### Specialisation Tracks

#### 1. Networking and Cloud Computing

- Day 1 & 2: Network automation with Bash, Python, Ansible, Terraform (Dr. Vitalis Gavole/Humphrey Owuor (MSc)/Dr. Kennedy Ronnoh)
- Day 3: Cloud computing (Dr. Adam Belloum)
- Day 4 & 5: 5G networks (Dr. Damien Saucez/Prof. Serge Fdida)

### Day 1 – Monday 23 March 2026

08:30 – 8:50	Registration
<b>Settle in Class</b>	
09:00 – 11.00	Network automation with Bash, Python, Ansible, Terraform
<b>Tea Break</b>	
11:30 – 13:00	Network automation with Bash, Python, Ansible, Terraform
<b>Lunch Break</b>	
14:00 – 16: 00	Network automation with Bash, Python, Ansible, Terraform
<b>End of day Tea</b>	

16:20 – 17:30	Social evening event
---------------	----------------------

### Day 2 – Tuesday 24 March 2026

08:30 – 8:50	Arrival
<b>Settle in Class</b>	
09:00 – 11.00	Network automation with Bash, Python, Ansible, Terraform
<b>Tea Break</b>	
11:30 – 13:00	Network automation with Bash, Python, Ansible, Terraform
<b>Lunch Break</b>	
14:00 – 16: 00	Cloud computing
<b>End of day Tea</b>	

### Day 3 – Wednesday 25 March 2026

08:30 – 8:50	Arrival
<b>Settle in Microsoft Auditorium (STM Building)</b>	
09:00 – 10:30	Panel discussion
<b>Tea Break</b>	
11:00 – 13:00	Cloud computing
<b>Lunch Break</b>	
14:00 – 16:00	Cloud computing
<b>End of day Tea</b>	

#### Day 4 – Thursday 26 March 2026

08:30 – 8:50	Arrival
<b>Settle in Class</b>	
09:00 – 11.00	5G networks
<b>Tea Break</b>	
11:30 – 13:00	5G networks
<b>Lunch Break</b>	
14:00 – 16: 00	5G networks
<b>End of day Tea</b>	

#### Day 5 – Friday 27 March 2026

08:30 – 8:50	Arrival
<b>Settle in Class</b>	
09:00 – 11.00	5G networks
<b>Tea Break</b>	
11:30 – 13:00	5G networks
<b>Lunch Break</b>	
14:00 – 15: 00	5G networks
<b>End of day Tea</b>	
15:30 – 17: 00	Closing ceremony and certificate award

## 2. Artificial intelligence

- Day 1: Introduction to AI for researchers (Prof. Ulises Cortes)

- Day 2 & 3: Fundamentals of Deep Learning (Marta Barroso Isidoro (MSc))
- Day 4: Reinforcement Learning (Dr. Sergio Alvarez)
- Day 5: Big data and AI (Dr. Adam Belloum)

### Day 1 – Monday 23 March 2026

08:30 – 8:50	Registration
<b>Settle in Class</b>	
09:00 – 11.00	Introduction to AI for researchers
<b>Tea Break</b>	
11:30 – 13:00	Introduction to AI for researchers
<b>Lunch Break</b>	
14:00 – 16: 00	Introduction to AI for researchers AI and employability – Talk by Prof. Ulises
<b>End of day Tea</b>	
16:20 – 17:30	Social evening event

### Day 2 – Tuesday 24 March 2026

08:30 – 8:50	Arrival
<b>Settle in Class</b>	
09:00 – 11.00	Fundamentals of Deep Learning
<b>Tea Break</b>	
11:30 – 13:00	Fundamentals of Deep Learning
<b>Lunch Break</b>	
14:00 – 16: 00	Fundamentals of Deep Learning

**End of day Tea**

**Day 3 – Wednesday 25 March 2026**

08:30 – 8:50	Arrival
<b>Settle in Microsoft Auditorium (STM Building)</b>	
09:00 – 10:30	Panel discussion
<b>Tea Break</b>	
11:10 – 13:00	Fundamentals of Deep Learning
<b>Lunch Break</b>	
14:00 – 16:00	Fundamentals of Deep Learning
<b>End of day Tea</b>	

**Day 4 – Thursday 26 March 2026**

08:30 – 8:50	Arrival
<b>Settle in Class</b>	
09:00 – 11.00	Reinforcement learning
<b>Tea Break</b>	
11:30 – 13:00	Reinforcement learning
<b>Lunch Break</b>	
14:00 – 16: 00	Reinforcement learning
<b>End of day Tea</b>	

## Day 5 – Friday 27 March 2026

08:30 – 8:50	Arrival
<b>Settle in Class</b>	
09:00 – 11.00	Big data and AI
<b>Tea Break</b>	
11:30 – 13:00	Big data and AI
<b>Lunch Break</b>	
14:00 – 15: 00	Big data and AI
<b>End of day Tea</b>	
15:30 – 17: 00	Closing ceremony and certificate award

### Travel

For international participants, the best option is to Nairobi (NBO) Jomo Kenyatta International Airport. Then take a taxi (cab) e.g. Uber or hotel provided transport. For Uber you may want to select Comfort (2 pax with bags) or UberXXL (6 pax with bags). **Note:** Uber ChapChap is also available but uses ultra-light cars (1 pax with bag).

You can get to Strathmore University using taxi from any part of the city. Watch out for traffic jams in the morning and evening.

For local travelers, you can reach Nairobi and Strathmore University using various modes of transport.

### Accommodation

The following hotels are within easy reach of Strathmore University and are often used by visiting professors. However, hotels in other locations such as Upper Hill, West Lands etc. are suitable. Feel to ask for details.

1. Tamarind Tree Hotel (3.7 Km)
2. Eka hotel (7.1 Km)

3. Ole-Sereni Hotel (7.7 Km)
4. Emara Ole-Sereni Hotel (7.7 Km)
5. Radisson Blu Hotel, Nairobi Upper Hill (4.1 Km)

### **Sites and Activities**

1. Half day tour of Nairobi National Park (4x4 vehicle recommended)
2. Walking tour of Nairobi CBD (routes that pass KICC, Parliament buildings, Uhuru/Central Park, Holy family Basilica, All Saints cathedral, Jamia mosque, Koja mosque, Kipande house)
3. Kenya National Archives
4. Nairobi national museum

### **Medical Emergency Support**

The following private hospitals close to Strathmore University offer professional services (Contacts will be provided close to the start date).

1. Nairobi South Hospital
2. Nairobi West Hospital
3. The Nairobi Hospital
4. Strathmore University medical center (Out-patient only)

In case of other emergencies, your hotel is the best place to seek guidance from.