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Universities aim to address shortage of tech workers

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Students have practical lessons at Hồng Bàng International University in HCM City. —Photo courtesy of the university

Gia Lộc

HCM CITY — HCM City is hopeful of mitigating its manpower shortage, especially in sectors related to Industry 4.0, over the next few years since many local universities plan to launch majors in artificial intelligence and such streams starting in 2020-21.

The University of Economics and Law under the Việt Nam National University-HCM City (VNUHCM) plans to offer a degree in digital business and artificial intelligence.

The VNUHCM's other members such as the University of Science, University of Technology and University of Information Technology plan to launch degrees in data science, applied mathematics, computer science focused on artificial intelligence, computer engineering focused on embedded systems and the internet of things, and robotics engineering

HIGHLIGHT

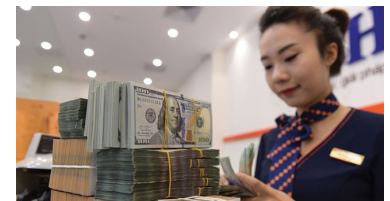
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robotics engineering.

The Banking University plans to launch training programmes in data science in business.

Candidates can apply for degrees in Internet of Thing (IoT) and embedded systems at the HCM City University of Technology and Education for the 2020-21 academic year.

Phùng Quán, head of information and communication at the University of Science, said: “The data science major is essential to train the workforce for Industry 4.0 because it will be applied in every sphere.”

The university’s new training programme in applied mathematics would find application in data science and other sectors like finance and banking, he added.

Hồng Bàng International University will launch several new majors, including AI.

Dr Nguyễn Thành Trung, head of its Information and Technology faculty, said: “AI is one of nine new areas with breakthrough technologies.”

The Ministry of Science and Technology regards AI as the first sector that needs to be developed followed by IoT and blockchain.

Trung said the university has the faculty required for teaching AI and would recruit more lecturers specialising in AI.

Assoc Prof Dr Hồ Thanh Phong, the university’s rector, said further investment would be made in facilities and infrastructure for teaching AI.

“Fifty candidates would be enrolled for the course. The city is seeking to become a smart city and requires many AI applications and workers. That is why the university is launching the AI degree.”

The Hà Nội University of Technology, FPT University and the HCM City University of Technology and Education have already offered programmes in data science, AI and robotics.

A Ministry of Information and Communications report shows that 149 out of the country’s 237 universities offered tech majors such as IT, electronics and telecommunications, and information security in 2019.

A 2018 report by Australia’s Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation said Việt Nam would need more than one million IT engineers by 2020.

The ministry targets having 1.3 million IT workers by 2025, most of them highly skilled.
— VNS

Việt Nam sends more than 650,000 workers overseas



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