

SYNAPSE

VOL. 1, ISSUE 4

**AI INFORMED.
HUMAN LED.**

HOW MARINES ARE SHAPING
THE RESPONSIBLE EMPLOYMENT
OF AI ACROSS THE FORCE.

JULY 2026

THE HUMAN EDGE IN AI

FORT MEADE, Md. – Marines, civilians and personnel from across the Marine Corps participated in an advanced artificial intelligence pilot course at Fort Meade, June 2-5, 2026, aimed at preparing the force for the expanding use of AI-enabled tools in military workflows.

The Agentic AI Commander's Course introduced students to agentic AI concepts, coding harnesses, and practical methods for supervising AI agents in controlled environments. The pilot brought together personnel from Marine Corps Information Command, the Marine Corps Software Factory, the Service Data Office, and other local Marine Corps organizations.

Instruction framed AI employment through familiar military concepts, including marksmanship, commander's intent, left and right lateral limits, risk

management, and the observe-orient-decide-act loop. Students learned how AI agents operate, how harnesses give those agents access to tools, and how users can guide, limit, and validate the outputs those systems produce.

The course trained operators, analysts, developers, data professionals, and support personnel to employ emerging AI capabilities before broader fielding outpaces training and operational understanding. Students explored how AI agents can assist with technical tasks, automate repeatable processes, and translate broad intent into usable outputs while maintaining human oversight.

"We are teaching Marines how to partner with AI tools in order to take commander's intent and turn it into reality," said Kyle Moschetto, course instructor.



Unlike basic chatbot interactions, agentic AI can execute multistep tasks across approved environments. Students learned to direct AI systems, establish operational boundaries, evaluate outputs, and verify results before integration into workflow products.

The instruction emphasized transferable skills rather than proficiency with a single platform, bridging the gap between product-specific training and highly technical academic instruction.

“WE SEE AI AS A WEAPON SYSTEM THAT ENABLES EVERY MARINE...”

IN ORDER TO USE ANY GOOD WEAPON SYSTEM, YOU HAVE TO UNDERSTAND HOW TO USE IT.”

-Kyle Moschetto

Students entered the course with varying experience levels. Gunnery Sgt. Albert Opena, an administrative specialist and administrative chief with Marine Corps Cyberspace Warfare Group, said the training helped address manpower challenges in his section.

“We’re doing a lot of work with minimum staff. Having AI supplement those manpower deficits is an extreme help,” Opena said.

Opena added that the training also helped him compress time-intensive tasks without sacrificing oversight.

“I know how to fix it, but I need time to fix it. I used AI to help bridge that gap with the time it takes to improve a lot of our systems,” he said.

Staff Sgt. Alexander Korn, a senior host analyst with National Cyber Protection Team 83, said the pilot expanded his understanding of AI-enabled workflows and reinforced the need for human supervision.

“We still have to keep the human in the loop to make sure that everything we find is correct, but the efficiency and the speed will dramatically increase,” Korn said.

As a pilot, the course revealed areas for refinement. Students with limited experience in coding environments or command-line tools identified the need for foundational preparation to improve readiness for advanced AI employment.

The pilot also highlighted practical applications for administrative work, data organization, tracker management, and technical analysis while ensuring sensitive information remains protected.

For MCIC, the course supports a broader effort to prepare personnel for an information environment shaped by speed, data and emerging technology. The pilot will help inform future AI training requirements as the Marine Corps continues to evaluate how emerging tools can support operations, analysis, development and decision-making across the force.

As AI becomes more integrated into military environments, the course emphasized that access alone is not enough. The advantage comes from trained users who can apply the capability with discipline, oversight and judgment.

AROUND THE HORN

