

● NOW RECRUITING · FOUNGING COHORT

Research Internship

Summer 2026

A two-month, fully remote research program for students headed into high finance — learn how AI is really reshaping the industry by researching it yourself.

AT A GLANCE

COHORT

6–10 students

DURATION

2 months · 8 weeks

FORMAT

Fully remote

COMMITMENT

8–10 hrs / week

The future of finance learns AI first.

Independent · student-founded · not affiliated with any university, employer, or fund.

● WHY JOIN

Get in early on the question every firm is asking.

Learn it before your peers

Walk into VC, PE, banking, or wealth management already fluent in how AI is actually used there.

Real research, not busywork

You own a focus and produce work that gets published — no coffee runs.

Shape it from day one

As founding-cohort members, you help set the research agenda.

Work with the founder

A small cohort means close mentorship and weekly time to share findings.

● WHAT YOU'LL WORK ON

One question: how is AI really used across finance?

You'll choose and own a focus inside it — then research, write, and present what you find.

01

Efficient uses

Where AI genuinely creates an edge — in research, diligence, and dealmaking.

02

The ROI gap

Where the cost and the hype run ahead of the real payoff.

03

Real workflows & systems

How investors and bankers actually use AI day to day, behind the headlines.

EACH WEEK YOU PRODUCE

A 300-word research brief · a LinkedIn post excerpt · a research deck you present to the cohort — using AI tools to gather, compile, and visualize what you find.

● WHERE YOU MIGHT FOCUS

Eight directions — pick one, blend them, or bring your own.

Starting points, not assignments. Each maps how AI is actually used across finance, and is grounded in primary research with the people doing the work.

01 Search & sourcing

Is AI surfacing better opportunities — or just more noise?

02 Document analysis & diligence

Where data-room and filing AI saves real hours vs. where it can't.

03 Drafting & generation

Memos, CIMs, decks, comms: speed vs. narrative and credibility.

04 Modeling & quantitative analysis

What holds up in valuation and forecasting vs. where it breaks.

05 Research & market intelligence

Differentiated insight, or commoditized summaries?

06 Client & advisory work

Adoption in wealth and advisory vs. fiduciary and trust limits.

07 Risk, compliance & operations

Where AI quietly works best — and is least hyped.

08 The tooling & adoption map

Which tools are real and sticky vs. vaporware.

● HOW WE RESEARCH

We don't recycle hot takes. We go to the source.

Three tiers of evidence — original research first; social signals only as leads we verify.

- 1** Talk to the people doing the work
Interviews with practitioners across banking, PE, venture, and wealth — plus surveys and hands-on testing of the tools they use.
- 2** Ground every claim in real data
Industry research (McKinsey, BCG, the Evident AI Index), earnings calls, and company filings — sourced and cited, not rumor.
- 3** Watch where the conversation lives
LinkedIn, Reddit, X, and practitioner newsletters surface what to investigate next — leads we verify at the source before publishing.

● WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

Three things you can't get from a classroom.

How AI is reshaping finance

A grounded, hype-free view of where AI creates an edge across VC, PE, banking, and wealth — and where it doesn't.

How to run research solo

Scope a question, gather evidence, and produce sharp, defensible findings on your own.

How to build with AI tools

Use AI to research, compile, and generate illustrative, presentation-ready work you can stand behind.

You leave with a portfolio of published briefs, a final paper, and a presentation deck — proof you can think, research, and communicate.

● THE TWO-MONTH STRUCTURE

From picking a focus to presenting real research.

1 Week 1 · Onboard & Scope

Get the tools and the research approach. Explore the landscape and choose the focus area you'll own.

2 Weeks 2–6 · Research & Publish

The weekly rhythm: research your question and ship a brief, a LinkedIn excerpt, and a deck you present at the all-hands.

3 Weeks 7–8 · Synthesize & Present

Pull it together into a final paper — what you gathered, learned, and recommend — plus a presentation deck you deliver to the cohort.

● THE WEEKLY RHYTHM & WHAT WE EXPECT

A steady cadence — and what it takes.

What you'll be responsible for

- A 300-word research brief, every week
- A weekly LinkedIn post excerpt
- A research deck you present at the all-hands
- Networking toward — and landing — interviews with professionals and interns at the firms you study

Who we're looking for

- Undergrads headed for VC, PE, investment banking, or wealth management
- Genuinely curious about AI — not just the hype
- Able to work independently and manage ~8–10 hrs/week
- Any year, any major. Drive over resume.

● HOW TO APPLY

Founding-cohort applications open June 23.

Apply on our site and tell us what about AI in finance you're itching to dig into. We read every application.

APPLICATIONS OPEN

Tuesday, June 23

APPLICATIONS CLOSE

Sunday, June 28

FOUNDING COHORT STARTS

July 1

THE HONEST NOTICE

This is an unpaid internship with an independent, student-founded group. Applied Intelligence Collective is not affiliated with any university, employer, or fund, and participation does not imply or guarantee any offer of employment.