



**GRAY**  
ASSOCIATES

## Five Emerging Programs for 2023

January 12, 2023



## Today's presenters



**Ned Caron**  
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Principal



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Principal



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Regional VP, Bus Develop



**Lisa Piatek**  
Partner & SVP, Bus Develop

**Early Stages**

**Forming**

**Speculative**



**When evaluating emerging fields, consider these elements:**

**TIMING**

**SIZE**

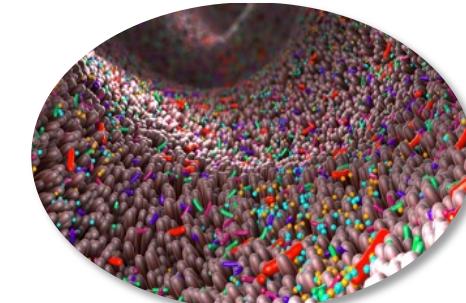
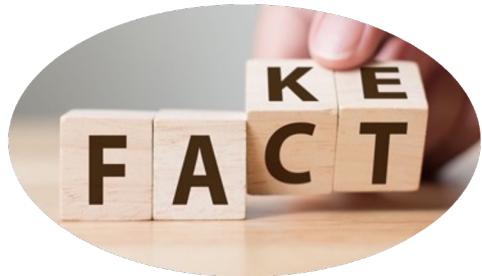
**MISSION**

**DEGREE FIT**

**DIFFICULTY**

**FUNDING**

## Where are they now?



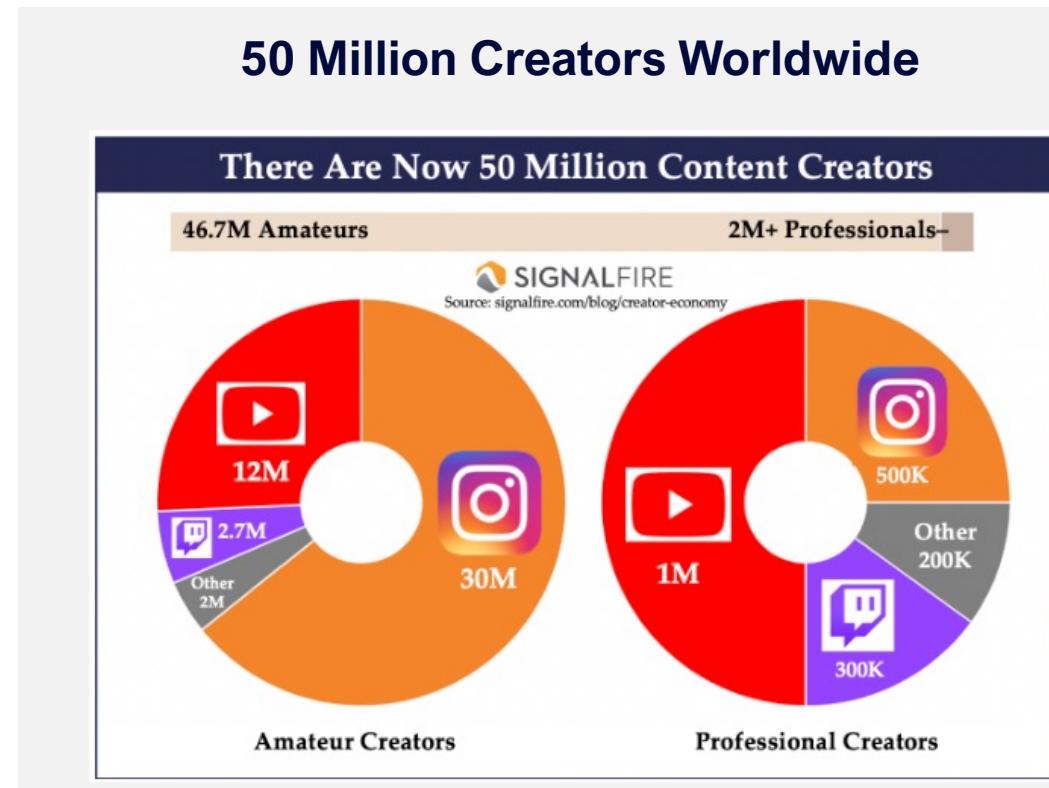


# Creator Economy

## The creator economy is driven by the rise of social media commerce.

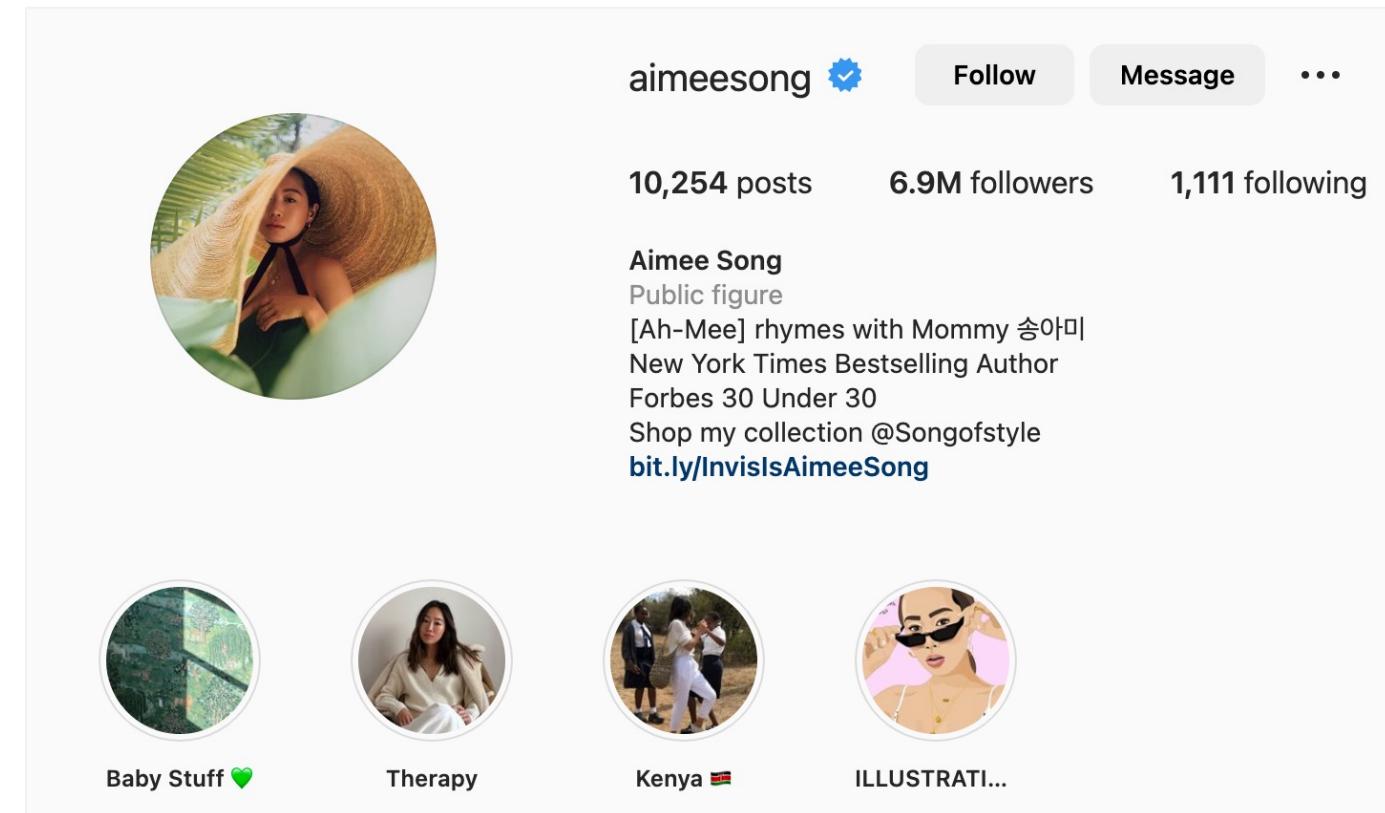
- The creator economy was estimated at **\$104B** in 2022.
- 84% of 18-29-year-olds use social media.
- 68% of consumers purchased through social media.
- Social commerce is growing 3X faster than traditional channels.
- Social commerce expects to reach **\$80B** in the US by 2025 and \$2T worldwide.

***“Their posts seem frivolous. Their business isn’t.”***  
– The Economist



## Social media commerce is driven by independent creators.

- These include “influencers,” bloggers, vloggers, writers, gamers, artists, and other content builders.
- Creators monetize content, activities, skills, knowledge, and personal brands.
- They earn income from consumers, advertisers, and affiliate partners.
- **Media platforms** such as Instagram, YouTube, TikTok, and Twitch connect creators with their audiences.
- **Content creation tools** like iMovie, Adobe, and Anchor help creators produce professional content.



## The creator economy is driving demand for new skills and creating new jobs.

- Over 18,900 firms provide influencer marketing services.
- 77% of marketers had an influencer marketing budget in 2022, compared to 37% in 2017.
- Marketers need employees with digital and social media marketing skills.
- Creators need a wide array of skills.

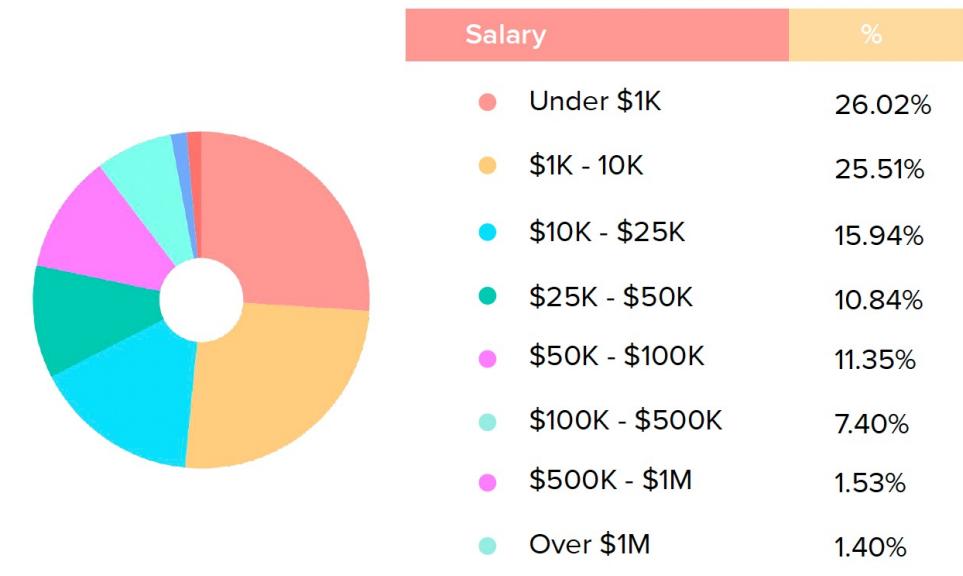


**21% of creators earn at least \$50k.**

NEOREACH

### Earning Power

1.40% of Influencers Make Over \$1M

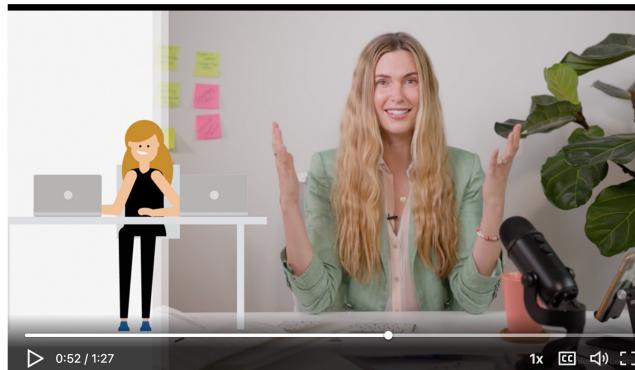


**More kids want to be YouTube stars than astronauts.**

**Creators, marketers, and employers want to teach them how.**



## Launching Your Creator Business



Source: linkedin.com/learning/launching-your-creator-business



## Creator Accelerator

Investing in the next generation of NBCUniversal talent now.



Source: nbcuniversal.com/creatoraccelerator



## Creator Accelerator Program

- 01 Master the Art of Social Media Storytelling
- 02 The Basics of Mobile Video Creation for All Social Platforms
- 03 Create Better Videos and Get More Views
- 04 Grow Your Channels and Build Your Community
- 05 Make Money With Content Creation and Get Job Opportunities

Source: nascademy.com

## Colleges and universities are beginning to take notice.

### Institutions are including digital marketing and social media in the curriculum.

- Some are launching standalone programs across award levels.
- Others are adding concentrations to existing marketing and business programs.

### 2022 New Program Announcements

Award Level	Institution	Program
Undergraduate Certificate	Central Lakes College	Digital Marketing
	County College of Morris	Social Media and Digital Marketing
	Kansas State University	Digital and Social Media
	Lock Haven University	Social Media Management
	Mount Saint Mary's University	Digital Marketing
	Wayne Community College	Digital Marketing Communication
Associate	Davis College	Digital Marketing Analytics
	Northeast Lakeview	Digital and Social Media Communication
	Northwest College	Social Media Producer
	Belmont University	Social Media Marketing and Communication
Bachelor's	Mount Vernon Nazarene Univ	Social Media Management
	Paier College	Social Media Marketing
	Montclair State University	Digital Marketing
Master's	University of West Georgia	Social Media and Entertainment

Institutions are starting to offer programs for creators themselves.

Owens Community College launched a Media Influencer Certificate.

## Media Influencer Certificate

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### 1st Semester

- ENG 111 - Composition I \*Ohio Transfer Module Course Credits: 3(Lec: 3)  
or
- ENG 111P - Composition I Plus \*Ohio Transfer Module Course Credits: 4(Lec: 4)
- IST 126 - Introduction to HTML Credits: 2(Lec: 2)
- SPE 110 - Intro to Mass Media Credits: 3(Lec: 3)
- BMT 135 - Introduction to Digital Video Credits: 3(Lec: 2 Lab:3)
- BUS 101 - Contemporary Business Credits: 3(Lec: 3)
- CRT 105 - Micro Concepts & Apps for Mac Credits: 1(Lec: 1)
- IST 124 - Internet Research Basics Credits: 1(Lec: 1)

### 2nd Semester

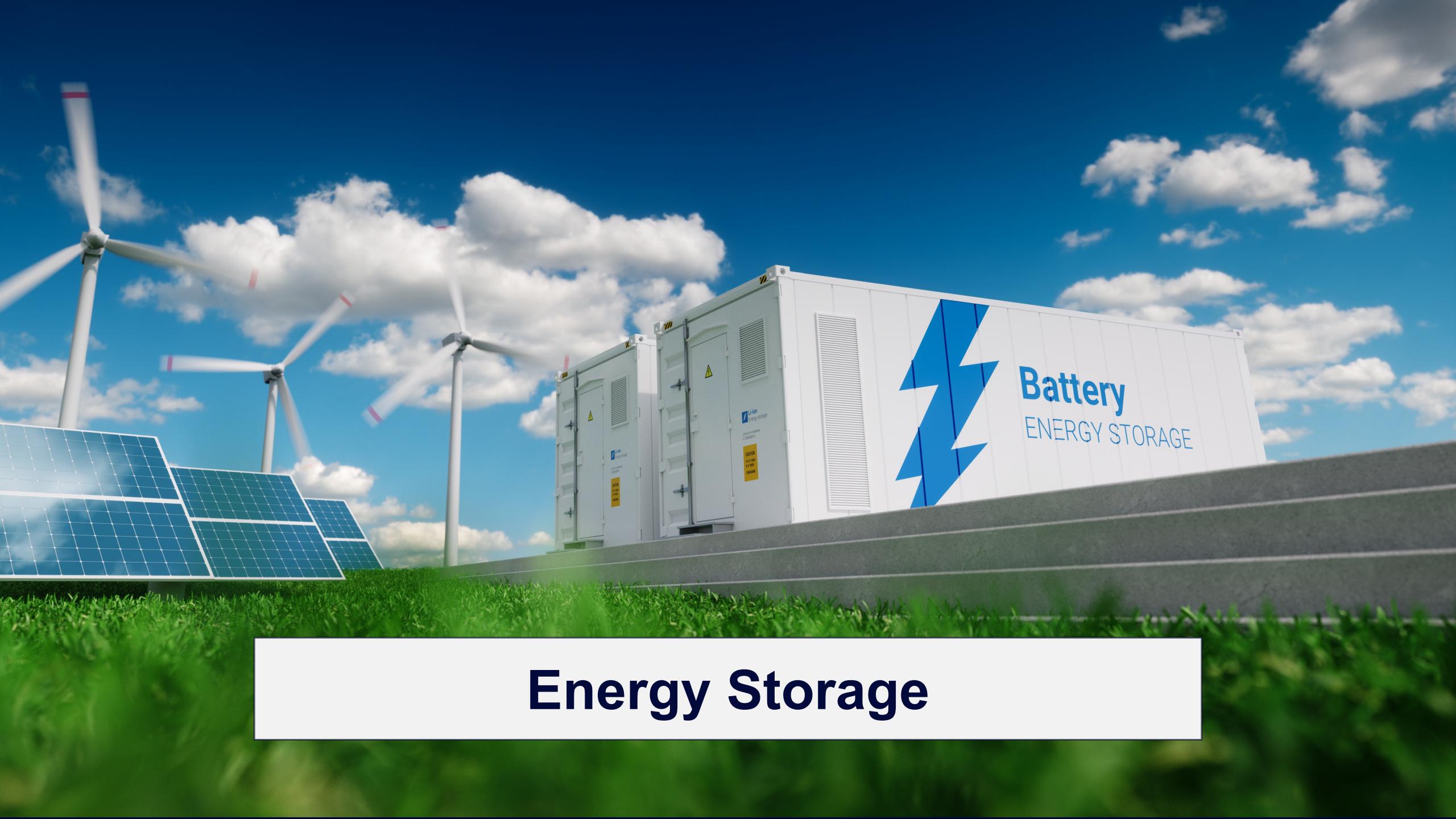
- BMT 111 - Media Writing Credits: 3(Lec:3)
- SPE 101 - Public Speaking \*Ohio Transfer Module Course Credits: 3(Lec: 3)
- PHO 245 - Visual Storytelling Credits: 3(Lec: 2 Lab: 3)
- IST 228 - Web Imaging Credits: 3(Lec: 3)
- IST 267 - Web Development Tools Credits: 3(Lec: 3)
- COM 101 - Principles of Advertising Credits: 3(Lec: 3)
- IDS 270 - Media Influencer Capstone Credits: 2(Lec: 2)

## The NIL ruling is creating opportunities for student-athletes...and institutions.

- Arkansas State University launched an undergraduate certificate for Athlete Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL) Promotion

***“Seemingly overnight, college athletes have found themselves sitting on a social media gold mine” – NBC News***





# Energy Storage

## Energy storage needs are everywhere.

- Cars
- Computers
- Internet
- Phones
- Homes
- Commercial buildings
- Hospitals
- Schools
- Stores
- Electronics



## Energy storage has been evolving for hundreds of years.

- Duration:
  - Short-term storage: Batteries
  - Long-term storage: mechanical, electrical, and thermal
- Reliability:
  - Available and easy to distribute
  - Safe to use
  - Rechargeable
- Size:
  - Optimized
  - Density
  - Scalability

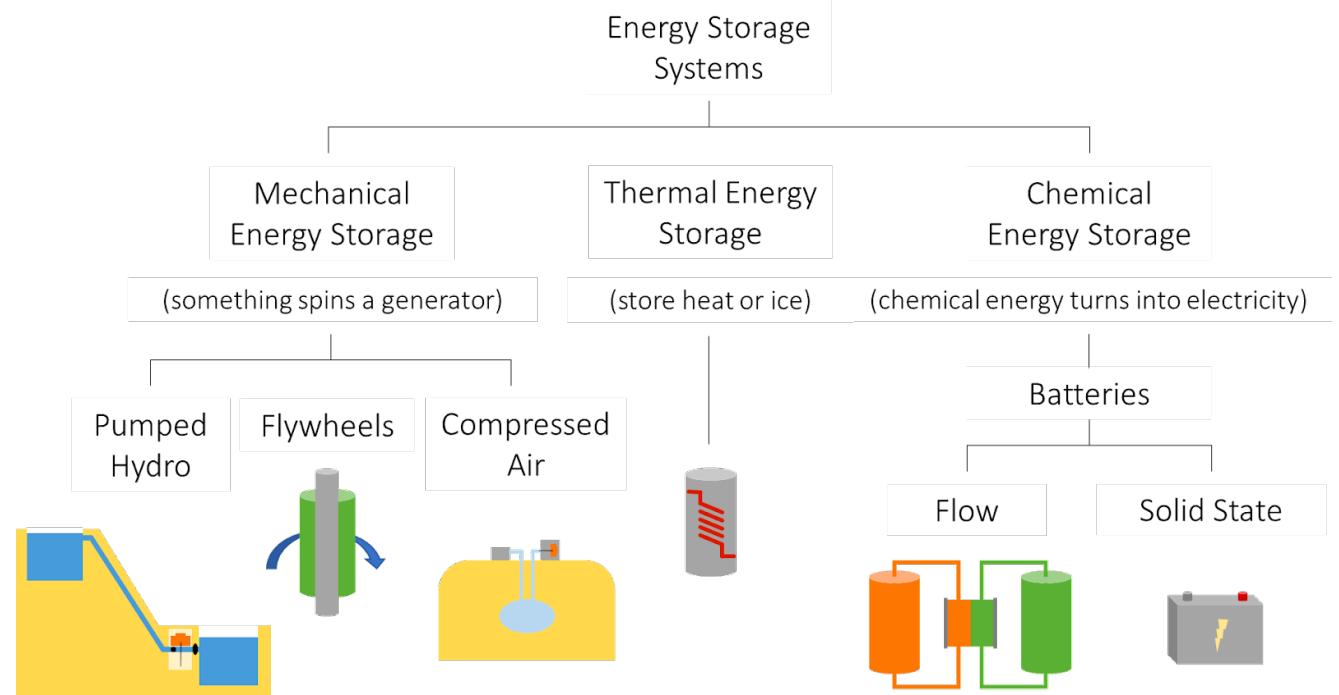


Image: <https://energy.ri.gov/renewable-energy/energy-storage-0>

## What might energy storage look like in the future?

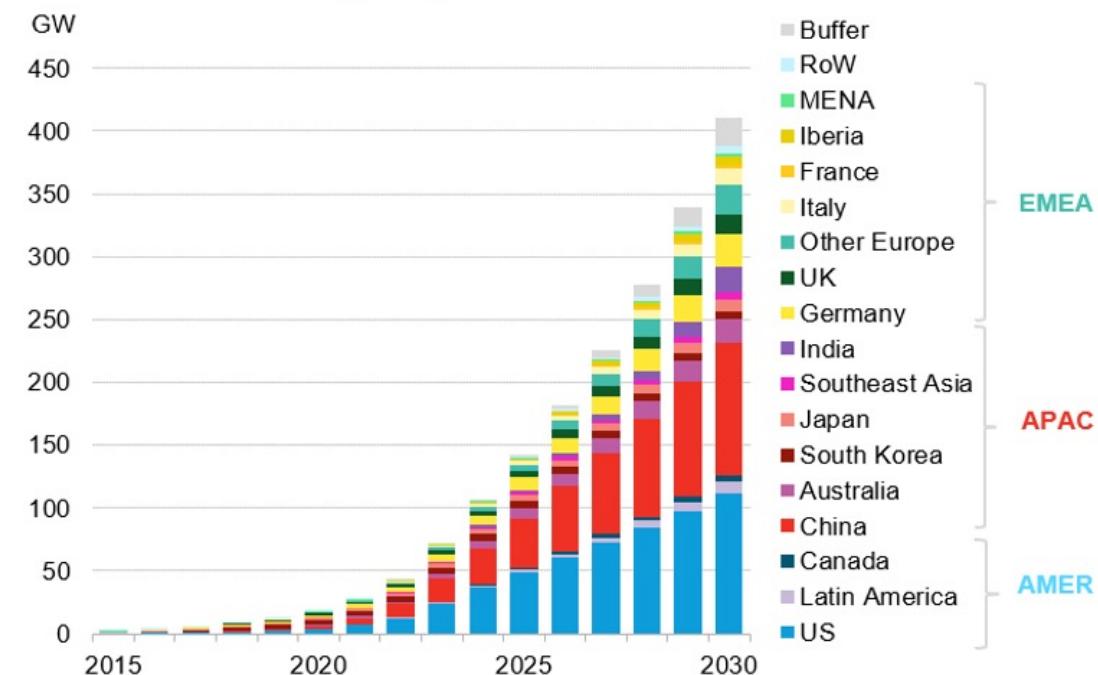


Image: Yonggang Huang / Northwestern University

## Improving energy storage is critical to transitioning to renewable energy.

- Globally, only 3-4% of power capacity is currently stored.
- Storage capacity must increase to meet growing demand.
- Battery demand is projected to grow 30% annually by 2030.
- Advanced storage capabilities can improve security, lower costs, and mitigate climate change.

Figure 1: Global cumulative energy storage installations, 2015-2030



Source: BloombergNEF. Note: "MENA" refers to the Middle East and North Africa; "RoW" refers to the rest of the world. "Buffer" represents markets and use cases that BNEF is unable to forecast due to lack of visibility.

## Governments and international organizations are sponsoring research.



- \$505 million initiative
- Aims to reduce energy storage costs by 90%
- Focus on wide range of storage technologies

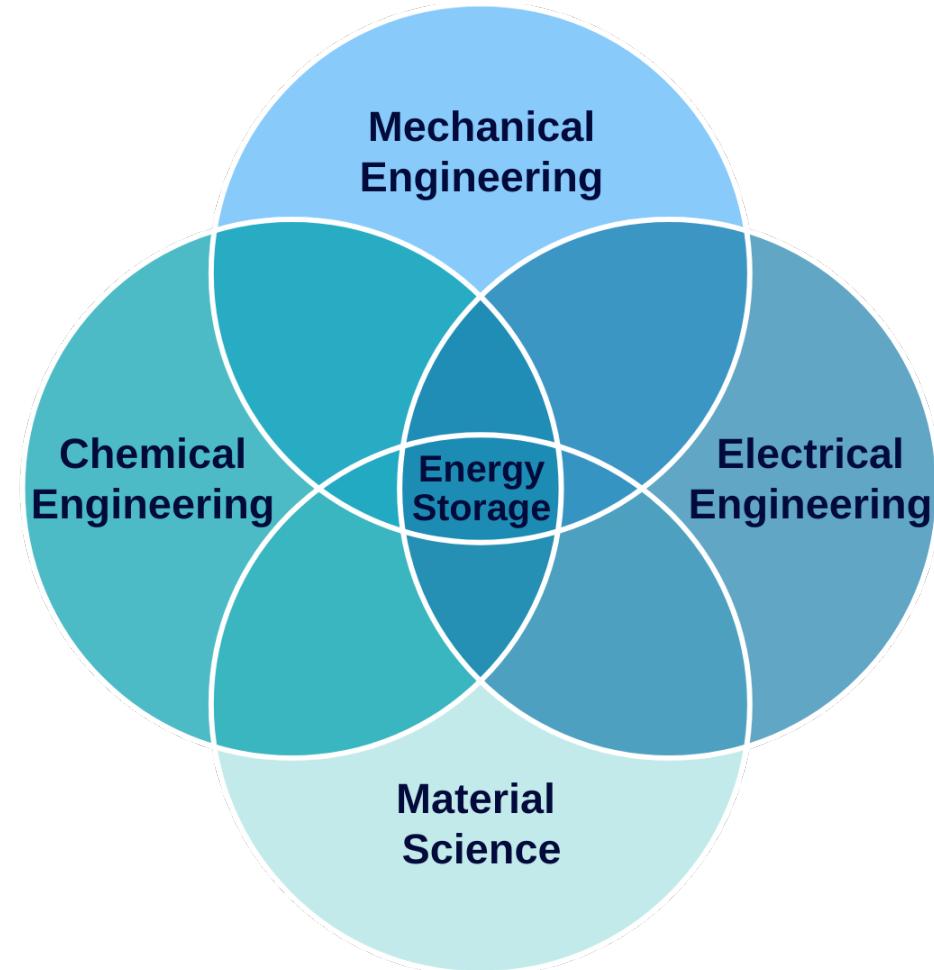
Department of Energy

### Biden-Harris Administration Announces Nearly \$350 Million For Long-Duration Energy Storage Demonstration Projects

NOVEMBER 14, 2022

## Implications for Higher Education

- University of Michigan: Certificate in Current Technologies and Emerging Technologies – **Electrical Energy Storage**
- University of North Dakota: **Energy Storage Systems** Graduate Certificate
- University of Texas at Arlington: Bachelor of Science **Resource and Energy Engineering**
- University of Nevada, Reno: Minor in **Batteries and Energy Storage Technologies**





NEW NORMAL

**Climate Change Adaptation**

**Not mutually exclusive...but both are necessary.**

## Climate Change Mitigation

Prevent climate change from happening (or getting worse) by addressing, and mitigating, its causes

## Climate Change Adaptation

Acclimate and adapt to the shifting environmental conditions brought about by climate change

## The threats are real.

- Sea level rise
- Extreme heat, lasting longer
- Drought and desertification
- Wildfire seasons getting longer
- More extreme weather (e.g., hurricanes)
- Floods and storm surge
- Rise in mosquito-borne disease
- Species threatened



## Structural and physical adaptation

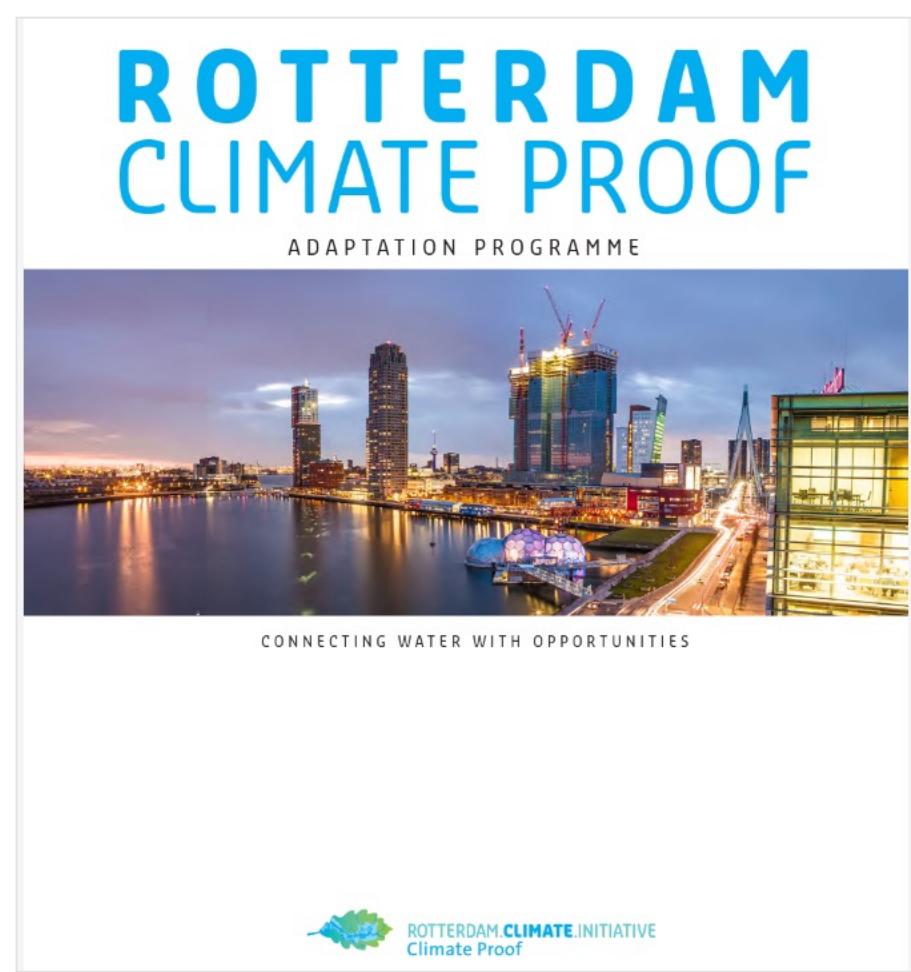
- Seawalls to protect against storm surge
- Green roofs to moderate urban heat islands
- Raised roads and highways
- Houses built on stilts
- Hurricane-proof buildings
- Adaptive building materials
- Early warning systems
- Reforestation and habitat conservation
- Drought-resistant crops



Image: <https://www.theverge.com/2014/10/1/6874925/can-a-massive-seawall-save-new-york-from-flooding>

## Institutional adaptation

- Local, state, and national adaptation plans
- Public health strategies
- Zoning regulations and building codes
- Economic and investment strategies
- Private insurance and reinsurance



The banner features the text "ROTTERDAM CLIMATE PROOF ADAPTATION PROGRAMME" in large blue letters, with "CONNECTING WATER WITH OPPORTUNITIES" below it. It includes a night photograph of the Rotterdam skyline and a small logo at the bottom.

ROTTERDAM CLIMATE PROOF  
ADAPTATION PROGRAMME

CONNECTING WATER WITH OPPORTUNITIES



ROTTERDAM CLIMATE INITIATIVE  
Climate Proof

## Social adaptation

- Behavioral changes
- Relocation
- Occupational change



## Opportunities for higher education

- University of Michigan College of Engineering:  
**Climate Change Solutions Graduate Certificate**
- University of Maryland School of Public Policy:  
**Graduate Certificate in Climate Policy and Action**
- University of Notre Dame: **Notre Dame Global Adaptation Initiative Research Center (ND-GAIN)**





# Science of Well-Being

## The “science of well-being” focuses on identifying, measuring, and nurturing behaviors and activities that promote positivity.

- Well-being encompasses physical and emotional health
- It includes **personal** and **societal** well-being
- Assessments can be **subjective** and **objective**
- It is hard to define and difficult to measure

***“wellbeing is measurable, but it depends on what you mean by measurement and by wellbeing.”***

- The Science of Wellbeing, February 2022



## Personal well-being

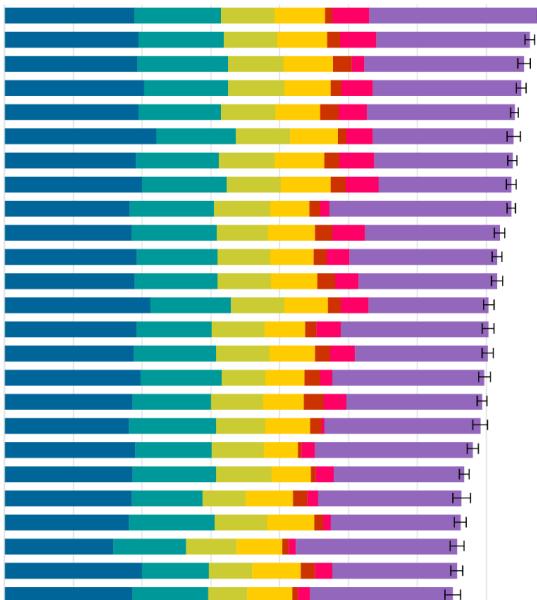


## Community well-being

**Figure 2.1: Ranking of happiness 2019-2021 (Part 1)**

1. Finland (7.821)
2. Denmark (7.636)
3. Iceland (7.557)
4. Switzerland (7.512)
5. Netherlands (7.415)
6. Luxembourg\* (7.404)
7. Sweden (7.384)
8. Norway (7.365)
9. Israel (7.364)
10. New Zealand (7.200)
11. Austria (7.163)
12. Australia (7.162)
13. Ireland (7.041)
14. Germany (7.034)
15. Canada (7.025)
16. United States (6.977)
17. United Kingdom (6.943)
18. Czechia (6.920)
19. Belgium (6.805)
20. France (6.687)
21. Bahrain (6.647)
22. Slovenia (6.630)
23. Costa Rica (6.582)
24. United Arab Emirates (6.576)
25. Saudi Arabia (6.523)

- Explained by: GDP per capita
- Explained by: social support
- Explained by: healthy life expectancy
- Explained by: freedom to make life choices

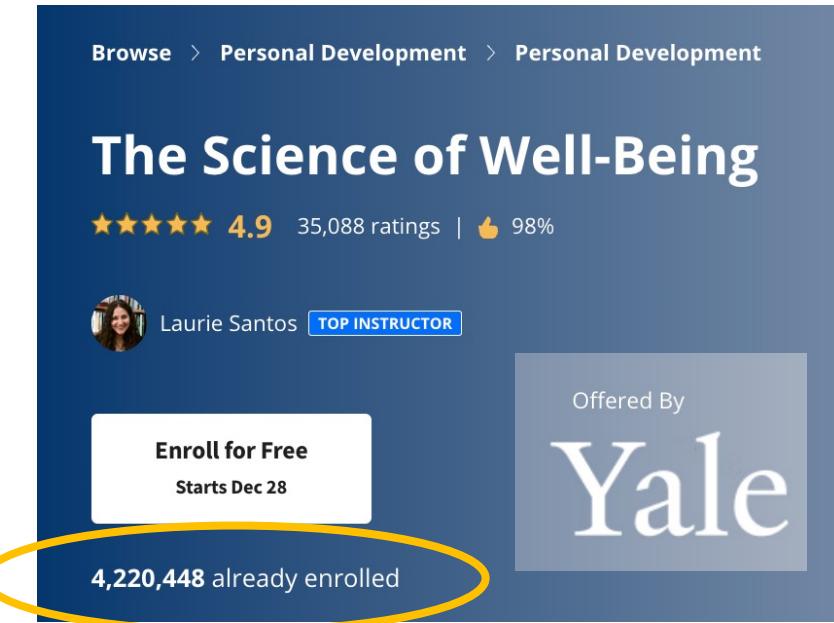


- Explained by: generosity
- Explained by: perceptions of corruption
- Dystopia (1.83) + residual
- 95% confidence interval

Source: WHO World Happiness Report 2022

## Interest in the science of well-being is growing.

- According to the World Health Organization, more than **300 million** people of all ages suffer from depression.
- People, researchers, and policy-makers are increasingly interested in identifying drivers of well-being, measuring it, and achieving it.
- The Science of Well-Being is the most popular course on Coursera, with over **4.2 million** enrolled.



The screenshot shows the course landing page for "The Science of Well-Being" on Coursera. At the top, it says "Browse > Personal Development > Personal Development". The course title "The Science of Well-Being" is prominently displayed in large white text. Below the title, it shows a rating of "★★★★★ 4.9" with "35,088 ratings" and a completion rate of "98%". A photo of the instructor, Laurie Santos, is shown with the title "TOP INSTRUCTOR". A large button labeled "Enroll for Free" with the note "Starts Dec 28" is visible. At the bottom of the main section, a yellow circle highlights the enrollment count "4,220,448 already enrolled". To the right, there's a "Offered By" section featuring the Yale logo.

## Well-being in higher education

- University of Pennsylvania College of Liberal and Professional Studies: **Master of Applied Positive Psychology**
- Centenary University: **Master of Arts in Happiness Studies**
- Cornell University: **Wellness Counseling Certificate**
- Emory University: **Health and Wellness Coaching Certificate**





And now for something completely different...



# Smart Plants

## “Plantennas”

### Plants have natural sensing abilities.

- They can sense and react to, changes in environmental conditions.
- They send out visual signals when exposed to certain conditions or stimuli.
- Plants can even emit electrical signals that reach other plants.



## The “Wood-Wide Web”

### Can plants communicate with one another?

- Scientists are exploring the possibility of an interconnected, symbiotic “social network” under the forest floor.
- Plants and fungi are connected through a complex web of chemical interactions that are mutually beneficial.
- They exchange food and nutrients...and even communicate with one another on an information “super-highway.”



## Nature's Vacuum Cleaners

### Plants can even clean up messes.

- Some plants naturally remove pollutants and toxins from the soil.
- They can absorb, store, and even break down materials that are harmful to humans.
- Other plants can be genetically engineered to do so.

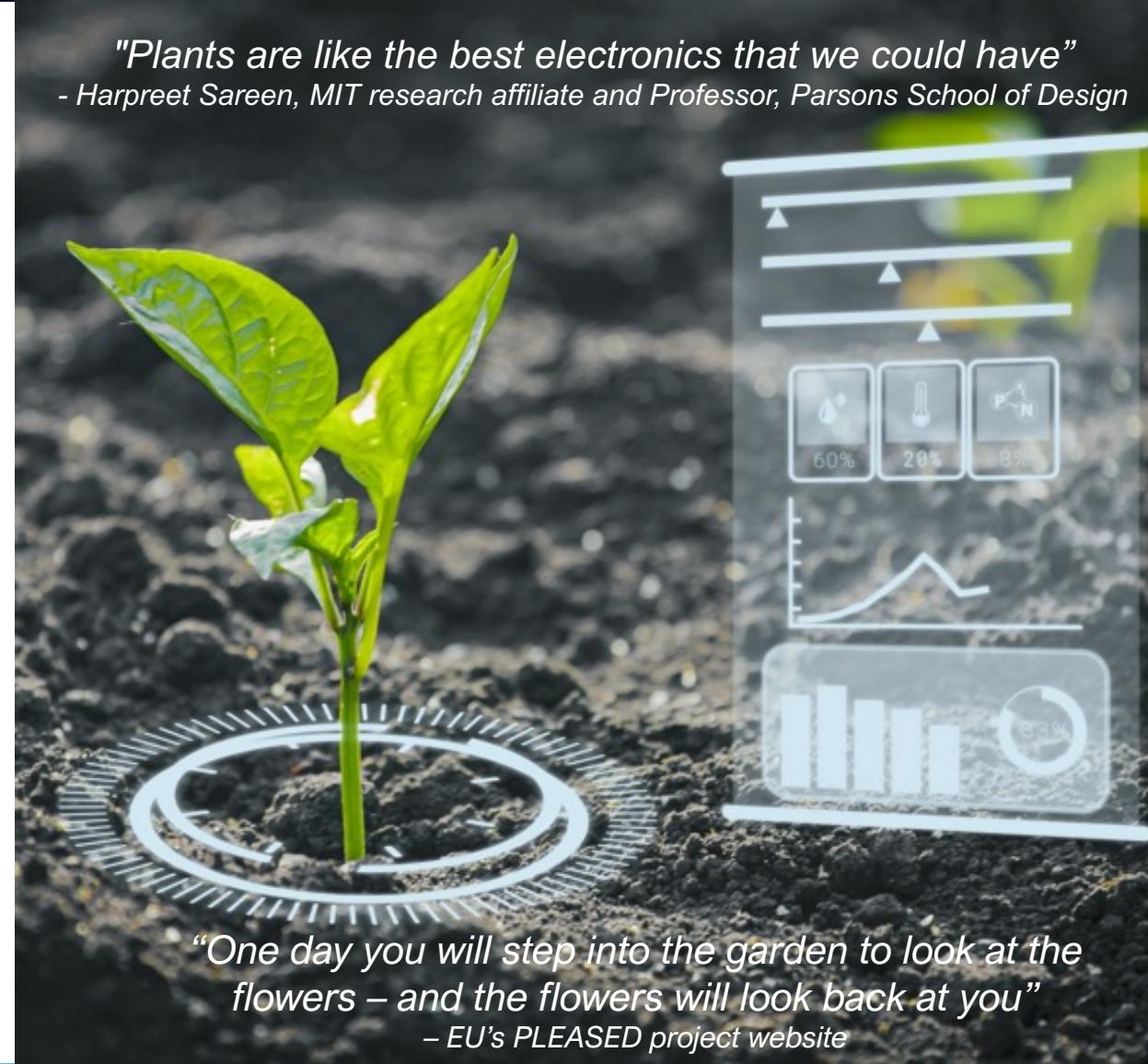


## An “Internet of Plants”?

**Humans, computers, and plants in an interconnected ecosystem.**

- Threat detection networks
- Agricultural sensing and monitoring
- Environmental clean-up
- In the future...plants as “service dogs”?

*“Plants are like the best electronics that we could have”*  
- Harpreet Sareen, MIT research affiliate and Professor, Parsons School of Design



## Opportunities in higher education

- Focused programs based on expertise
- Interdisciplinary programs: Agriculture, Plant Sciences/Botany, Mycology, Computer Science, Engineering, Environmental Studies



## What's next from Gray?

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- Exciting new content for community colleges
- Expert speakers on every Demand Trends webinar

