

OUP Computer Science Academics in Residence (AiR) Program Spring 2025 Cohort

Osage University Partners ([OUP](#)) is a venture capital firm founded in 2009 with over \$800M, currently investing out of its fourth fund, and partnered with over [100 academic institutions](#) in the U.S. to invest in their startup companies. OUP has invested in over 150 portfolio companies spanning AI/ML, cybersecurity, computing, robotics, as well as life science. OUP's recent investments in computer science spinouts launched by academic founders include [Cartesia](#), [RapidFire AI](#), [Tessera Labs](#), [Virtue AI](#), and other stealth startups. Part of OUP's mission is to provide resources to potential academic startups and their founders to create more successful opportunities.

To that end, OUP is offering a new program in 2025 focused on university faculty members, post-docs, and grad students interested in learning the fundamentals of university startups from the point of view of a venture capital investor. The goal of the program is for participants to learn how an investor considers its decisions on potential investments, and therefore provide the founder with the tools to set up their current or future startups with an eye towards successful fundraising from VCs.

The program will take place weekly (May 16th to June 20th) via Zoom from 1-2pm ET and will contain 6 sessions, including:

- Startup Basics – the why, when, where, what and how
- Building the Startup Team – the importance of the team, your role(s) as faculty founder, and your initial team members
- Product Development and How to Achieve Initial Product-Market Fit
- Funding Basics/VC101
- Founder's Equity and Cap Tables
- Pitching Basics – the deck and the pitch

In addition to the course elements, participants will:

- network across institutions and with the OUP team
- where relevant, have the chance to work with an OUP investor on diligence for one or more companies in your research area, taking a deep dive into how investors consider their investment decisions

Participants will be from select academic partner institutions from computer science and related departments. Sessions will be recorded for later viewing by the cohorts, but real-time participation is strongly encouraged. The instructors from OUP will be Marc Singer, Managing Partner, Manny Stockman, Partner, and Ajay Rayasam, Principal.

The application form can be found at <https://forms.gle/3eWHR8nqxVqVdiB4A> and should take less than 5 minutes to complete. Applications are due by April 18, 2025. Please contact Kirsten Leute at kleute@oup.vc if you have any questions.