GSDC

GLOBAL SKILL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

THE SKILLS-TO-SUCCESS JOURNEY · READBOOK

From stuck to leading the next move.

A 28-PAGE READER · CGAISCM · CERTIFIED GENERATIVE AI FOR SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT

Maya’s complete 90-day arc. Plus the 15-module syllabus map, the 17 Learn-by-Doing challenges by category, an honest competitor comparison, and the sample certificate. The brief most professionals say they wish they’d read before enrolling.

INSIDE THIS READBOOK

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

What this readbook actually is

This is not a brochure. It is the document the brochure should have been: an honest, end-to-end look at what the Certified Generative AI for Supply Chain Management (CGAISCM) program asks of you, and what it gives back.

Most decisions about certifications are made on a pricing page, in ninety seconds, with half the facts. That is exactly the wrong way to choose how you spend the next ninety days of your professional life. So we have done something different here. We have built the case the way you would build it for yourself if you had the time — through a real-shaped story, a transparent map of the curriculum, the hands-on work you will actually do, a fair comparison with the alternatives, and proof of what you walk away holding.

> **How to read it.** Start with Maya. Her 90-day arc is the spine of everything that follows — every module, every Learn-by-Doing challenge, and every claim in the comparison shows up in her story first, in context, before we lay it out as reference. If you only read one section, read that one.

The numbers and facts throughout — the 15 modules, the exam structure, the five-year validity, the daily live sessions — are drawn from the live CGAISCM program. The story of Maya is a composite, representative of the journey the program is built to create. We have kept it honest on purpose, including the part around day fifty where she nearly walked away.

A 28-page reader, in five movements:

1) Maya's 90-day arc 2) The 15-module syllabus map 3) The 17 Learn-by-Doing challenges 4) The honest comparison 5) Certificate, badge & the details.

One ground rule for your side of the deal: this credential rewards doing, not watching. Read what follows with that in mind, and the ninety days will return far more than they cost you.

THE COVER STORY · PROLOGUE

Ninety days that changed how Maya runs a supply chain

On a grey Tuesday in March, Maya Fernandes stared at a spreadsheet that had quietly become the most important document in her company — and the least trustworthy. She was a demand planner at a mid-sized consumer-goods firm, six years into a career she once found thrilling and now found exhausting. The numbers in front of her were last week's forecast. They were already wrong, and everyone downstream of her was about to find out.

This is the story of the ninety days that changed how Maya works. Not a fairy tale — there were late nights, a failed first attempt at the capstone, and a moment around day fifty when she nearly quit. But by day ninety she had earned the Certified Generative AI for Supply Chain Management credential, rebuilt the way her team forecasts demand, and walked into a promotion conversation she had been avoiding for two years.

Most professionals who enrol say they wish they had read an honest account first — not the marketing, the actual experience. This is that account, start to finish. Read it before you decide.

> **Why a story?** Because supply chains don't break in theory — they break on a specific grey Tuesday, in a specific spreadsheet, for a specific person. The curriculum that follows only matters insofar as it changes that Tuesday. Watch where it does.

Day 0 — The decision

Maya did not consider herself an “AI person.” She considered herself a supply-chain person who happened to live inside an era of AI. The distinction mattered to her. She had watched colleagues chase every new tool and end up with a graveyard of half-finished pilots and dashboards nobody opened. She was sceptical, and she was tired, and those two feelings had fused into a kind of professional inertia that looked, from the outside, like competence.

What broke the inertia was a single bad quarter. A supplier in another hemisphere went dark for eleven days — no notice, no warning in any report Maya ran. Her forecasts, built on the same statistical models she had trusted since university, had no language for that kind of shock. The models did what they always did: they smoothed, they averaged, they assumed tomorrow would resemble yesterday. Tomorrow did not resemble yesterday. The company ate the cost, the shelves ran thin, and Maya ate the blame in a meeting she replayed for weeks afterward.

Her manager was kind about it, which was worse than if he had been harsh. “The tools you have can’t see around corners,” he said, not unkindly. “Maybe it’s time we got tools that can.” He slid a link across the table. It pointed to a certification she had skimmed past a dozen times: Certified Generative AI for Supply Chain Management, run by the Global Skill Development Council. Forty exam questions. Thirty-six-plus hours of training. A capstone project. And a promise she didn’t believe yet — that generative AI could be placed directly inside planning, sourcing, and logistics decisions, rather than bolted on afterward as one more reporting layer.

That night she read the syllabus properly for the first time. Fifteen modules. It opened with the foundations — GANs, VAEs, transformers — words she half-knew and had never had to truly understand. It ended somewhere she didn’t expect: agentic AI, systems that don’t merely generate text but take action inside a supply chain. Between those two poles sat the things she lived and breathed every day: demand forecasting, inventory, logistics, suppliers, production, risk, sustainability. The course wasn’t asking her to abandon supply chain for AI. It was asking her to fuse the two into a single way of working.

She almost closed the tab. The old inertia made one last argument: you are too busy, you are too far behind, the people who do this are younger and more technical than you. Then she thought about the eleven dark days, and the meeting, and the shelves. She enrolled at 11:40 p.m., half-expecting to regret it by morning. Day zero. The clock started.

Before she slept, she did one more thing that felt small at the time and turned out not to be: she wrote down, on an index card, the single sentence she wanted to be true in ninety days. “I can put AI inside a real planning decision and defend it.” Not ‘understand AI,’ not ‘get certified’ — defend it. She propped the card against her monitor. It would still be there, softened at the corners, on the morning the credential arrived.

Days 1–15 — Foundations, and the unlearning

The first surprise was how little of the early material was about supply chain at all. Module one — Introduction to Generative AI and Supply Chain Management — made her sit with the actual mechanics: what a generative adversarial network is really doing when it pits two models against each other, why a variational autoencoder compresses reality into something it can reimagine, and why transformer architectures turned out to matter so much for sequences — of words, yes, but also of orders, shipments, and demand signals stretched across time.

Maya had expected to skim this. Instead she found herself re-watching the self-paced videos, pausing to scribble notes she hadn't taken since university. The GSDC platform paired each lesson with a Learn-by-Doing challenge on the same screen, so the moment a concept landed she was asked to use it on something real. No coding required — the challenges ran through tools she could actually reach: ChatGPT, Claude, Google AI Studio, and a rotating cast of more than thirty others she'd previously dismissed as toys for other people.

Her first real jolt came in module two, Generative AI Techniques and Models. The idea that you could generate synthetic data — plausible, structured, useful data that never actually happened — cut against everything her training had told her. Forecasting, she had always believed, was about respecting the data you had and being honest about its limits. Here was a discipline built on responsibly inventing the data you lacked: rare disruption scenarios you'd never lived through, demand patterns for a product that didn't exist yet, supplier-failure paths for which she had no history at all. It felt, at first, like cheating. By the end of the module it felt like a superpower she'd been refusing to pick up.

She almost gave up on day nine. The hybrid-model material — combining transformer models with simulation for joint demand-and-logistics problems — went over her head twice, and the second time stung more than the first. What saved her was the GSDC AI Studio. She had assumed the 'daily live sessions' were marketing language, the kind of feature that sounds good and never materialises. They were not. Four sessions a day, forty-five minutes each, run by practitioners from real companies in real time zones. She dropped into an evening session, typed her confusion into the chat almost out of spite, and the instructor stopped and walked the room through the exact thing she'd been stuck on, using a worked supply-chain example rather than an abstract one.

She closed her laptop that night not fixed, but unstuck. There is a difference, and over ninety days she would learn that the difference is everything. Fixed is a state you reach and lose; unstuck is a direction you can keep moving in. The Studio, she realised, wasn't there to spare her the struggle. It was there to make sure the struggle never became a dead end.

By day fifteen she had stopped thinking of generative AI as a black box that produced answers, and started thinking of it as a colleague that produced options. That reframe — answers versus options — would turn out to be the whole game. A planner who wants answers is forever at the mercy of a model's confidence. A planner who wants options stays in charge of the decision. Maya had spent six years wanting answers. She was done.

She also made a private peace with being a beginner again, which at thirty-four was its own quiet hurdle. For six years she had been the person others came to with questions; now she was the one typing them into a chat window at nine at night, hoping they weren't too basic. The Studio sessions, full of people doing exactly the same thing from a dozen countries, made that bearable. Nobody there cared that she'd once smoothed time series by hand. They cared whether she could do the new thing. So she stopped protecting the old expertise and started spending it — trading what she knew about supply chains for what they knew about models, and coming out ahead on the exchange.

Days 16–30 — Forecasting and inventory, rebuilt

Modules three and four were home turf, and that made them harder, not easier — because Maya had to watch her own expertise get quietly reorganised in front of her. Module three, Generative AI for Demand Forecasting and Planning, introduced multi-scenario forecasting: instead of one number wrapped in a confidence interval she barely trusted, she learned to generate a fan of plausible futures and then stress-test each decision against all of them at once.

She modelled consumer-behaviour shifts with a large language model — feeding it the messy qualitative signals her statistical models had always discarded as noise: a viral product complaint, a competitor's sudden price cut, a heatwave in the forecast, a shift in how a whole demographic talked about a category. For the first time, the soft signals and the hard numbers lived inside the same workflow rather than in two separate worlds that never spoke. She built a seasonal demand plan for a retail line as her Learn-by-Doing exercise and, almost as an afterthought, ran the same plan past the model as a perishable-goods problem. The food-and-beverage framing exposed an assumption about shelf life she'd quietly carried for years. She felt slightly embarrassed. She also felt, for the first time in months, genuinely useful.

Module four, Inventory Optimization and Management, was where the work started paying for itself inside her actual job. Dynamic inventory adjustment with AI, simulation models for stock optimisation, multi-channel strategies — she took the e-commerce stock-level use case from the course and quietly rebuilt one of her own reorder policies the following Monday. The result wasn't dramatic, and she was glad it wasn't; dramatic results are usually the ones that blow up later. It was simply better. Slightly leaner buffers, slightly fewer near-stockouts, slightly less cash frozen in inventory that wasn't moving. Slightly, repeated across a hundred SKUs and a full quarter, is a number that gets you noticed.

Around day twenty-four she booked her first one-on-one SME connect session. She had been saving it, the way you save a favour you don't want to waste. She brought a genuinely thorny problem — her multi-channel inventory was fighting itself, the warehouse and the online channel each hoarding safety stock against the other — and the subject-matter expert did something better than hand her an answer. He showed her how to make the model surface the trade-off explicitly, in language her own stakeholders would understand, so she could take the decision to them rather than impose it. She left the call with a screenshot, a plan, and the distinct, unfamiliar sense that she had stopped being a student and started being a practitioner who happened to still be learning.

The fortnight ended with a small, private victory. Her manager asked, in passing on a Thursday, how she'd tightened the reorder numbers. She explained it in two plain sentences — no jargon, no hedging. He paused, looked at her a beat longer than usual, then asked her to show the rest of the team on Friday. She said yes before the inertia could answer for her.

There was a quieter lesson buried in those two weeks, one the syllabus never stated outright. The model was only ever as good as the question Maya brought to it. A lazy prompt produced a confident, useless answer; a precise, well-framed problem produced options worth arguing about. She started keeping a running file of her best framings, the way a chef keeps a knife sharp — because the skill that was compounding wasn't 'using AI' in some general sense. It was asking the right operational question, in the right shape, at the right moment. That was a supply-chain skill. It had just found a new instrument.

She replayed the SME session twice that week, not for the content but for the posture. The expert had treated her like a peer with a gap, not a novice with a deficit — a distinction that did more for her confidence than any module. Somewhere in those two weeks Maya stopped asking the program to validate her and started using it to extend herself. It is a subtle shift, easy to miss from outside, but every learner who finishes a thing like this can name the week it happened to them. For Maya it was this one.

Days 31–45 — Logistics, suppliers, production

The middle third of the syllabus widened Maya's map past the edges of her own desk. Module five, Logistics and Route Optimization, took her into the world of fleets, real-time rerouting, and AI-powered GPS decisions — and, importantly, into sustainable logistics, where the optimal route is not always the cheapest one and the cheapest route is not always the one the company can defend. Module six, Supplier Management and Performance Optimization, hit the exact nerve that had started this whole journey: predicting supplier risk and reliability before the supplier goes dark, not after.

She built a supplier-reliability brief as a Learn-by-Doing task and recognised, with a small jolt, the precise shape of her own bad quarter sitting inside the exercise. If she'd had this framing eleven months earlier — the leading indicators, the diversification logic, the way the model weighted thin signals she'd have ignored — she might have seen the eleven-day blackout forming on the horizon. She didn't let herself dwell on it. Regret is a closed loop; she built the watchlist instead and moved forward.

Module seven, Production Planning and Quality Control, was the one she had mentally planned to coast through — production wasn't her remit, after all. It became the module that taught her the most about how AI actually reasons. Anomaly detection for quality control, predictive maintenance, schedule optimisation: the same generative reasoning she'd used to invent demand scenarios could be pointed at a production line to catch the defect nobody had thought to label yet. She finished the section convinced of something that would shape the rest of her year — that the walls between supply-chain roles were going to come down, and that the people who would thrive were the ones fluent across the whole chain, not just defending their own slice of it.

The logistics module left her with one image she couldn't shake. An instructor described a delivery network as a living thing that re-routes itself the way water finds a path downhill — not by central command, but by thousands of small, fast, local decisions made well. Maya had spent her career trying to control supply chains from a spreadsheet at the top. The module suggested a different posture: design the decision rules, set the guardrails, and let intelligence operate close to the ground where the information actually lives. It was the first time agentic AI — still two modules away — started to make intuitive sense to her, before she had the vocabulary for it.

By day forty-five the map in Maya's head looked nothing like the one she'd started with. Forecasting, inventory, logistics, suppliers, production — she'd always pictured them as a relay race, each function handing a baton to the next and hoping nobody dropped it. The middle modules redrew it as a single connected system that could be reasoned about, and increasingly designed, as a whole. A supplier risk wasn't a procurement problem; it was a forecasting problem and an inventory problem and a logistics problem wearing a procurement label. AI didn't just help inside each box. It dissolved the boxes. She found that both thrilling and slightly threatening to a career built on being excellent inside one of them.

Days 46–60 — The wall, and the way through it

Every honest learning story has a wall. Maya hit hers at day fifty-two, and it did not announce itself.

It wasn't any single module that did it. It was the accumulation — the day job hadn't paused to accommodate her ambitions, the live sessions were piling up unwatched in a guilty queue, and her first serious attempt at framing a capstone idea had collapsed under its own weight. She had tried, in classic Maya fashion, to redesign her company's entire risk posture in a single heroic stroke. The SME who reviewed it was gentle and completely devastating: "This is five good projects pretending to be one. Pick the one that would change a real decision next month, and build only that." She closed the call and didn't open the course for three days. The inertia, sensing weakness, made its case again.

Modules eight through ten didn't make the wall smaller, but they gave her somewhere to put the frustration. Module eight, Risk Management and Scenario Planning with Generative AI, was the direct antidote to her March disaster: AI for disruption planning, financial-risk simulation, geopolitical risk analysis. She ran a pharmaceutical-style continuity scenario and watched the model generate failure paths she would never have thought to fear on her own — and, more usefully, a handful she could now actually prepare for. For the first time, planning for the worst felt less like dread and more like craft.

Module nine, Customer Service and Experience Enhancement, reminded her of something a planner can forget at a desk full of numbers: a supply chain ends at a human being who wanted something and is now waiting. Predictive feedback analysis with LLMs turned a pile of unread customer comments into a ranked list of what was genuinely about to break. Module ten, Sustainability and Circular Economy in Supply Chains, reframed optimisation itself — carbon-aware routing, waste reduction, recycling loops — and drove home a point she'd been slow to accept: that the cheapest answer and the responsible answer are converging far faster than most companies are prepared to admit, and the planners who see it first will look like prophets in five years.

What got her over the wall, in the end, wasn't a module at all. It was the community. One of the daily Studio sessions happened to cover scenario planning the very week she was drowning in it. She stayed after, asked her question, and three other professionals stayed too — a logistics lead in one time zone, a procurement analyst in another, a planner like her in a third. They weren't classmates in any formal sense. They were people stuck on the same rock, and for forty unstructured minutes they pushed each other off it. Maya rewrote her capstone scope that night, smaller and sharper than her pride had wanted: one project, one decision, next month. The relief of finally aiming at something she could hit was almost physical.

Looking back, Maya came to believe the wall was the most important part of the whole ninety days — not despite being hard, but because it was. Anyone can watch videos when the work is easy and the wins are quick. The wall is where most people quietly let a course lapse into a tab they never reopen. What the program did right, she decided, was refuse to let the wall be solitary. The Studio, the SME, the strangers in three time zones — none of them carried her over it, but all of them made sure she wasn't standing in front of it alone. That, more than any single technique, was what she'd have paid for if she'd known to ask.

She also learned, the hard way, the difference between a model that is impressive and a model that is useful. Her abandoned five-in-one capstone had been impressive; it would have demoed beautifully and changed nothing. The single-decision version was almost embarrassingly modest by comparison, and it was the one that would end up earning her a promotion. The program kept nudging her toward useful over impressive at every turn — in the SME's questions, in the use cases, in the capstone brief itself. It was, she realised later, the most valuable bias a course could possibly have, and the rarest.

Days 61–75 — Ethics, the stack, and building for real

With the scope finally fixed, the course turned practical in a way Maya hadn't fully braced for. Module eleven, Ethics, Privacy, and Compliance in AI-Driven Supply Chains, was not the throwaway compliance lecture she'd cynically expected to half-watch. Bias and fairness, data privacy, GDPR, the emerging AI Act, ethical frameworks for deployment — she came to understand that the single most dangerous thing she could build was a model her stakeholders couldn't trust, couldn't question, or couldn't explain to a regulator. She drafted an ethical-deployment checklist as her Learn-by-Doing task and, slightly to her own surprise, kept using it long after the module had ended. It became the first thing she reached for whenever a new idea got exciting enough to be risky.

Module twelve, Technology Stack and Integration for Generative AI, was the bridge from idea to infrastructure. TensorFlow, PyTorch and Hugging Face turned from intimidating names into things she could at least reason about and ask intelligent questions about. The real, unglamorous question of integrating generative AI with the ERP and SCM systems her company actually ran moved from 'someone in IT's problem' to 'a conversation I need to be in the room for.' The cloud-versus-on-premises trade-off, which she'd always treated as background noise, became something she had opinions about — opinions she could defend.

Then came module thirteen — Capstone Projects and Hands-On Learning — and the abstractions had to collapse into a thing that either worked or didn't. Maya's capstone was deliberately small and deliberately real: a generative-AI-assisted reorder-and-disruption-flagging workflow for the exact product family that had failed her in March. She designed the AI-driven strategy, built the model logic, and ran a case-style analysis of where it would hold up and, just as important, where it wouldn't. She failed the first build outright. A single data assumption was wrong, and the model did what models do with a wrong assumption — it produced confident, articulate nonsense. It was the most useful failure of the whole program, because it taught her to distrust fluency and demand evidence. She fixed the assumption. The second build held.

She spent her remaining SME session here, and it turned out to be the most valuable forty-five minutes of the entire program. The expert didn't praise the project, which she'd half wanted. He interrogated it — the way her own leadership would, only sooner and more kindly. Why this threshold? What happens when the signal is ambiguous? Who owns the decision when the model and the planner disagree? By the end she could defend every choice without flinching. That, she finally understood, was the actual deliverable. Not a model. A defensible decision — and the confidence to stand behind it in a room full of people who hadn't spent ninety days earning it.

She noticed something else during the build, almost in passing. The capstone wasn't teaching her about generative AI anymore — she'd learned that. It was teaching her how to think about her own supply chain with a clarity she'd never quite had. To build the workflow she had to state, explicitly, what a good reorder decision even was; what 'too late' meant in days and dollars; which signals were leading and which were merely loud. The AI had forced her to make her own expertise legible, first to a machine and then, far more usefully, to the humans who'd have to trust it. The model was the excuse. The real product was clarity.

The ethics module also did something she hadn't anticipated: it gave her language to say no. Twice in the months that followed, someone senior would float an AI idea that was technically possible and quietly indefensible — a use of data that would have made a customer uncomfortable, an automated decision with no human able to explain it. Before the program she'd have gone along, outgunned on the technical detail. Now she could name exactly why the idea was a liability, in the vocabulary of fairness, privacy, and the AI Act, and propose the version that wasn't. Being the person who can responsibly say 'not like that, but like this' turned out to be worth as much as any model she built.

Days 76–90 — Agentic AI, the exam, and the credential

The final module, fifteen — Beyond Generation: The Rise of Agentic AI — quietly rearranged Maya's entire sense of where her field was heading. Generative AI produces options; agentic AI takes action. Self-optimising logistics agents. Autonomous decision-making inside carefully defined guardrails. She finished the module both exhilarated and sober: exhilarated because she could suddenly see the next decade laid out in front of her, sober because she understood that the professionals who frame the guardrails — who decide what an agent may and may not do, and who answers when it's wrong — would matter more than ever, not less. The future wasn't going to need fewer thoughtful planners. It was going to need braver ones.

Then there was the small matter of actually passing the exam. Forty multiple-choice questions, ninety minutes, a sixty-five-per-cent bar, closed book, in English. She took the two practice exams first, as everyone is wise to. The first humbled her on the technique modules — GANs and VAEs came back to bite the person who'd almost skimmed them in week one. She re-watched, drilled the weak spots, and took the second practice exam four days later. Noticeably better. On day eighty-six she sat the real thing, and passed comfortably, helped enormously by the simple fact that she had spent twelve weeks using the material in anger rather than memorising it the night before. There was a complimentary retake sitting in her back pocket. She didn't need it, and being able to say that felt good.

On day eighty-eight the credential arrived: Certified Generative AI for Supply Chain Management, valid for five years, accompanied by a verifiable digital badge she could attach to her profile and, more importantly, to her own credibility. She did the thing everyone does — posted it, watched the reactions and the congratulations roll in, enjoyed it more than she'd admit. But the badge was never the point, and she knew it even as she posted. The point was the capstone sitting on her desktop, finished and defensible, the one that would change a real decision next month.

Next month, as it turned out, came early.

On the morning of day ninety she did something deliberately unremarkable: she ran her own product family's reorder through the capstone workflow before her first coffee, the way she'd once opened the untrustworthy spreadsheet. It flagged a soft supplier signal she'd have missed, suggested three options instead of one answer, and left the decision with her. She made the call in under two minutes and got on with her day. No fanfare, no dashboard demo, no meeting. Just a slightly better decision, made slightly earlier, by a planner who now had tools that could see a little further around the corner. That, she understood, was what the whole ninety days had been quietly building toward — not a transformation you announce, but one you simply start living.

Ninety days later — and after

The promotion conversation Maya had avoided for two years finally happened in week fourteen, and she walked into it as a different professional than the one who'd enrolled at 11:40 on a sceptical night. She didn't ask to be trusted with AI strategy in the abstract; she arrived with a working example of it. Her capstone reorder-and-disruption workflow had already caught one supplier-risk signal early enough to matter — early enough that the company quietly avoided a smaller version of the very disaster that had started everything. It wasn't a moonshot, and she was careful never to sell it as one. It was a decision improved, repeatedly and verifiably, in a way her leadership could see for themselves.

She moved into a role that hadn't existed at the company a year earlier: a planning lead with an explicit mandate to embed AI into how the team makes its decisions, not just how it reports them. The financial details are hers to keep, but the salary-band shift was real — the kind of step the credential's outcomes had hinted at, the kind that follows scarce, demonstrable skill rather than seniority or tenure alone. She had become more valuable not by working longer hours, but by being able to do something most of her peers still couldn't.

What changed most, though, wasn't the title or the band or the badge. It was the inertia — the fused scepticism and fatigue she'd carried into day zero like a second job. It was simply gone. Not because the tools turned out to be magic; they emphatically did not, and the day-twenty failed build was proof enough of that. The inertia was gone because she had spent ninety honest days proving to herself that she could place these tools inside real decisions and make those decisions better. She had stopped being a person to whom the future merely happened. She had become a person who designs the next move — and gets to make it.

Maya keeps the ethical-deployment checklist pinned to the wall above her monitor. She still drops into the daily Studio sessions, sometimes to keep learning, increasingly to help the next person stuck on the exact rock she once couldn't get past. When new hires ask her whether the certification is 'worth it' — and they always ask — she gives them the same honest answer this readbook is built around: it is worth it if you treat it as ninety days of doing, not ninety days of watching. The credential is the proof. The capability is the prize. Confuse the two and you'll waste the ninety days.

Her old forecast spreadsheet — the untrustworthy one from that grey Tuesday in March — is still on her drive. She keeps it there on purpose, and never deletes it. It is the before. Everything since has been the after. The only question this readbook can't answer for you is which side of that line you intend to be standing on ninety days from now.

Six months on, a colleague from another team — sceptical, tired, competent in exactly the way Maya had once been — stopped by her desk and asked, half-joking, whether 'the AI thing' was a fad she could safely wait out. Maya didn't lecture him. She turned her monitor, showed him the index card still propped against it, and told him the truth: that the technology would keep changing, that some of what she'd learned would date, and that none of that was the point. The point was that she now knew how to learn this class of tool and fold it into a real decision — a muscle, not a fact. Fads expire. Muscles don't. He enrolled the following week.

If there is a single line Maya would underline for anyone holding this readbook, it is the one her manager said on the worst day, the line she resented at the time and quotes constantly now: the tools you have can't see around corners — maybe it's time you got tools that can. The corners didn't go away. Supply chains will always have them; that is the nature of the work. What changed is that Maya stopped being surprised by what came around them. Ninety days bought her a little more sight, a little more warning, a little more agency. In a job defined by uncertainty, a little more of each is not a small thing. It is, more or less, everything.

> **The honest takeaway.** The credential is the proof; the capability is the prize. Everything in the rest of this readbook is the machinery that produced Maya's "after."

SECTION 2 · THE CURRICULUM

The 15-module syllabus, mapped

The CGAISCM curriculum runs from first principles to the frontier — opening with how generative models actually work and closing with agentic AI that acts inside the chain. Here is the full map, the same fifteen modules Maya moved through. Use it as your deep-dive reference.

01 Introduction to Generative AI & Supply Chain Management

- —Basics of GANs, VAEs, and Transformers
- —SCM fundamentals: procurement, production, logistics
- —Benefits of AI in SCM: efficiency and cost reduction

02 Generative AI Techniques & Models

- —GANs and VAEs for synthetic data generation
- —Transformer models for SCM insights
- —Hybrid models for demand forecasting & logistics optimisation

03 Generative AI for Demand Forecasting & Planning

- —Multi-scenario demand forecasting
- —Modelling consumer-behaviour shifts with LLMs
- —Real-time adjustments with IoT integration
- —Use cases: retail seasonal planning & F&B perishable demand

04 Inventory Optimization & Management

—Dynamic inventory adjustments with AI
—Simulation models for stock optimisation
—Multi-channel inventory strategies
—Use case: e-commerce stock-level optimisation

05 Logistics & Route Optimization

—Real-time route changes from AI predictions
—Fleet-management improvements with generative AI
—Sustainable logistics optimisation
—Use case: efficient routing with AI-powered GPS

06 Supplier Management & Performance Optimization

—Predicting supplier risk & reliability with AI
—AI-enhanced negotiation strategies
—Supplier diversification via AI insights
—Use case: manufacturing supplier selection

07 Production Planning & Quality Control

—Optimising production schedules with AI
—Predictive maintenance with AI systems
—Quality control via anomaly detection
—Use case: electronics waste reduction

08 Risk Management & Scenario Planning

—AI for risk forecasting & disruption planning
—Financial-risk simulation with generative AI
—Geopolitical risk analysis
—Use case: pharma supply-chain continuity

09 Customer Service & Experience Enhancement

—AI-driven customer insights & personalisation
—Virtual assistants & chatbots for customer handling
—Predictive feedback analysis with LLMs
—Use case: e-commerce service quality

10 Sustainability & Circular Economy

—AI for sustainable-practice modelling
—Optimising recycling & waste reduction
—Reducing carbon footprint via AI-optimised routes
—Use case: consumer-goods sustainability

11 Ethics, Privacy & Compliance

—Addressing AI bias & fairness
—Data privacy & regulation (GDPR, AI Act)
—Ethical AI frameworks for SCM
—Use case: ethical global AI deployment

12 Technology Stack & Integration

—Tools: TensorFlow, PyTorch, Hugging Face
—Integrating generative AI with ERP & SCM systems
—Cloud vs. on-premises AI deployment
—Use case: FMCG end-to-end visibility

13 Capstone Projects & Hands-On Learning

—Developing a generative-AI model for SCM
—Case-study analysis of AI applications
—Designing an AI-driven supply-chain strategy
—Capstone: full AI optimisation of SCM processes

14 Personalised 1-on-1 & Daily Group Live Sessions

—1-on-1 Trainer / SME connect sessions
—Daily live sessions with lifelong learning
—Global brainstorming with practitioners

15 Beyond Generation: The Rise of Agentic AI

—Agentic AI: an overview
—Generative vs. agentic AI — the real contrast
—How agentic AI works in SCM
—Self-optimising logistics agents & autonomous decisions

THE SHAPE OF THE JOURNEY

How the fifteen modules connect

The syllabus is not a list — it is an arc, and it mirrors Maya's ninety days almost exactly.

1. Foundations (Modules 1–2). You learn what generative models are and what they can responsibly invent — synthetic data, scenarios, options. This is the "unlearning" phase.

2. The core SCM functions (Modules 3–7). Forecasting, inventory, logistics, suppliers, production. Each module takes a function you already know and shows where generative AI changes the decision — not the report.

3. Resilience & responsibility (Modules 8–11). Risk and scenario planning, customer experience, sustainability, and the ethics/compliance layer that makes any of it deployable.

4. From idea to infrastructure (Modules 12–13). The technology stack, ERP/SCM integration, and the capstone where everything becomes a defensible, working decision.

5. The frontier (Modules 14–15). Live mentorship throughout, closing with agentic AI — systems that don't just suggest the next move but take it.

SECTION 3 · LEARN BY DOING

The 17 challenges, by category

Every lesson in CGAISCM ships with a built-in, AI-powered challenge on the same screen — no coding required — spanning 30+ live tools including ChatGPT, Claude, and Google AI Studio. These are the seventeen hands-on challenges Maya completed, grouped into five categories.

A Demand & Forecasting

1. Build a multi-scenario demand-forecast prompt set and compare the futures it generates.
2. Model a consumer-behaviour shift with an LLM using mixed qualitative and quantitative signals.
3. Generate a seasonal demand plan for a retail line and stress-test it as a perishable-goods problem.

B Inventory & Production

1. Simulate dynamic reorder points across a 100-SKU catalogue.
2. Design a multi-channel stock-allocation logic that stops the warehouse and online channel from hoarding.
3. Draft a predictive-maintenance schedule from machine-signal patterns.
4. Create an anomaly-detection quality-control checklist for a production line.

C Logistics & Routing

1. Optimise a delivery route with AI assistance and quantify the time saved.
2. Build a fleet-utilisation improvement brief for an operations review.
3. Produce a sustainable-logistics options memo weighing cost against carbon.

D Suppliers, Risk & Resilience

1. Score supplier reliability with an AI model brief and rank your top risks.
2. Draft AI-assisted negotiation talking points for a sourcing review.
3. Run a disruption-scenario tabletop and capture the failure paths GenAI surfaces.
4. Produce a geopolitical-risk watchlist for a multi-region supply base.

E Service, Ethics & Integration

1. Build a customer-feedback analysis pipeline that ranks what is about to break.
2. Write an ethical-AI deployment checklist mapped to GDPR and the AI Act.
3. Map a generative-AI-to-ERP integration plan for your own systems.

Why this matters more than the videos. Maya passed her exam comfortably because she had spent twelve weeks *using* the material, not memorising it. The 17 challenges are where the certification stops being knowledge and starts being capability.

SECTION 4 · THE HONEST COMPARISON

CGAISCM vs. APICS · MIT · Coursera

No certification is right for everyone, and pretending otherwise would undercut the honesty this readbook promises. Here is a fair, plain-language comparison of CGAISCM against three common alternatives professionals weigh it against — each excellent at what it is built for.

APICS / ASCM (CPIM, CSCP). The gold standard for classic supply-chain *fundamentals* — planning, operations, the body of knowledge. Deep and respected, but not built around generative AI.

MIT & university executive programs. Research-grade, strategy-level, often cohort-based and premium-priced. Superb for senior leaders shaping AI direction; lighter on day-to-day, tool-level SCM practice.

Coursera specializations. Flexible, broad, self-directed AI and analytics content. Excellent for sampling; generally lighter on supply-chain specificity and live mentorship.

The table on the next page lays the four side by side across the dimensions that actually decide value.

THE FOUR, SIDE BY SIDE

Where each one wins

Dimension	CGAISCM (GSDC)	APICS / ASCM	MIT / Exec	Coursera
Primary focus	Generative & agentic AI applied directly to SCM decisions	Operations & planning fundamentals (CPIM / CSCP)	Executive AI & analytics strategy, research-grade	Broad AI / analytics specialisations, self-study
Format	Self-paced video + daily live Studio + capstone	Self-study + instructor-led options	Cohort-based online executive courses	Self-paced video specialisations
Time to complete	~36+ hrs core; ~90-day practical arc	Months of study per credential	Several weeks per course	Weeks to months per specialisation
Hands-on tooling	Learn-by-Doing on 30+ live AI tools, no coding required	Limited; process and framework oriented	Case- and concept-led; some tooling	Varies by course; often notebook-based
Live mentorship	100+ monthly sessions + 1-on-1 SME connects	Varies by training partner	Faculty-led, limited 1-on-1	Largely self-directed; forums
SCM specificity	Built end-to-end for supply chain	Strong on classic SCM, not GenAI-native	General management lens	General AI lens, light on SCM
Credential validity	5 years, verifiable digital badge	Maintenance / renewal points required	Certificate of completion	Certificate of completion
Best for	Practitioners embedding GenAI into live decisions	Building core operations foundations	Senior leaders shaping AI strategy	Self-starters sampling AI broadly

Comparison reflects publicly described program characteristics and is intended as a fair, high-level guide rather than an exhaustive feature audit. Evaluate each against your own goals.

THE HONEST VERDICT

So which should you choose?

If you are building **foundational operations knowledge**, APICS/ASCM is hard to beat. If you are a **senior leader** who needs the strategic AI vocabulary and a marquee name, an MIT-style executive program earns its premium. If you want to **sample AI broadly** at your own pace, Coursera is a fine on-ramp.

But if you are a working supply-chain professional who needs to **put generative AI inside real decisions — next month, not next year** — CGAISCM is built for exactly that. End-to-end SCM specificity, 30+ tools you actually touch, daily live mentorship, a defensible capstone, and a verifiable, five-year credential. It is the only one of the four designed around Maya's problem.

> **The tell.** The other three teach you *about* the field. CGAISCM is engineered so that by day ninety you have *changed a decision* in it.

SECTION 5 · THE PROOF

Your sample certificate

On completion, you receive the globally recognised CGAISCM certificate — the same credential Maya attached to her promotion case. Here is a representative sample of what you earn.

GSDC

GSDC

GLOBAL SKILL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

Maya Fernandes

has successfully earned the designation of

Certified Generative AI for Supply Chain Management (CGAISCM)

Valid for 5 years · Globally recognised · Verifiable online

Authorised Signatory
Global Skill Development Council

Credential ID · CGAISCM-XXXXXX
Issued on completion

Illustrative sample. Names, IDs and dates are placeholders; your issued certificate carries your verified details.

SHAREABLE & VERIFIABLE

The digital verification badge

Alongside the certificate you receive a **verifiable digital badge** — the one Maya pinned to her professional profile. A badge is more useful than a certificate image because anyone can confirm it is real, in one click, without taking your word for it.

It travels with you across LinkedIn, your résumé, and email signatures, and links back to a verification record tied to your credential ID.

How verification works

1. Earn & issue. Passing the exam issues your badge against a unique credential ID.

2. Share. Add it to your profile or signature; the badge carries metadata about what you proved and when.

3. Verify. Employers click through to confirm authenticity and the 5-year validity window — no guesswork, no forgeable PDFs.

THE DETAILS

Exam structure & who it’s for

Exam questions	40
Format	Multiple choice
Language	English
Passing score	65%
Duration	90 minutes
Open book	No
Validity	5 years
Complimentary retake	Yes

Prerequisites: basic knowledge of supply-chain principles. No advanced technical skills required — only a readiness to learn, exactly as it was for Maya.

Built for professionals like:

- ► Supply Chain & Operations Managers
- ► Procurement Specialists
- ► Logistics Coordinators
- ► Demand Planners
- ► Inventory Control Analysts
- ► Warehouse Managers
- ► Supply Chain Analysts
- ► AI/ML Engineers in Supply Chain

THE PAYOFF

What changes after day ninety

Maya’s outcome wasn’t luck — it was the predictable result of holding a scarce, demonstrable skill at the exact moment her industry started needing it. The program is built to produce that position.

A 40–60% salary-growth trajectory. The credential targets the kind of pay step that follows rare, provable capability rather than seniority alone.

Job-ready support. Interview preparation, résumé building, and LinkedIn profile optimisation through the GSDC job-support program.

A capstone you can show. You leave with a defensible, working project — the artefact Maya walked into her promotion conversation holding.

Lifelong momentum. 100+ monthly live sessions and lifetime access to revisit lessons and challenges keep the skill current across the five-year validity.

The reframe that matters. You stop being a person to whom the future happens, and become a person who designs the next move. That is the real return on ninety days.

GOOD TO KNOW

What's included & quick answers

In the program: self-paced expert-led videos · daily live Studio sessions · 1-on-1 SME connects · GSDC Book of Knowledge · certification exam + free retake · practice exams · capstone + job-support program · GSDC membership.

Do I need to code?

No. The Learn-by-Doing challenges run through tools like ChatGPT, Claude and Google AI Studio — no coding required.

How long does it really take?

About 36+ hours of core learning. Maya's practical arc ran roughly 90 days alongside a full-time job.

What if I fail the exam?

A complimentary retake is included, plus two practice exams to prepare. Maya used the practice exams and didn't need the retake.

Is it recognised?

Yes — a globally recognised GSDC credential with a verifiable badge, valid for 5 years.

Is there live help?

Daily live GSDC Studio sessions plus 1-on-1 SME connect sessions — the support that got Maya over the day-52 wall.

ONE LAST WORD

The credential is the proof. The capability is the prize.

Maya kept her old, untrustworthy forecast on her drive on purpose. It is the “before.” Everything since has been the “after.”

You have now read the brief most professionals say they wish they’d seen first — the full arc, the fifteen modules, the seventeen challenges, the honest comparison, and the proof you walk away with. The only thing this readbook can’t do is the ninety days. That part is yours.

If you treat it as ninety days of doing rather than watching, the certification returns far more than it asks. That was true for Maya. The program is built so it can be true for you.

Global Skill Development Council

Trusted by 250,000+ professionals worldwide · gsdcouncil.org

This readbook references the live CGAISCM program; Maya is a representative composite.