

THE CORE CIVIC LAB

Four Sessions

From public question to public work

Each 75-90 minute session moves students from first impressions toward a defensible public recommendation.

**SESSION
1**

The decision is already here

Purpose: Move from abstract opinions about AI to a specific public decision.

Students: Read NYC policy, distinguish types of AI use, map what is decided and what remains open, and write a first position.

Output: A one-sentence decision statement, open questions, and a stakeholder map.

Exit question: What is the most important decision NYC still has to make?

**SESSION
2**

Evidence, interests, and lived experience

Purpose: Test assumptions against the experience of people affected.

Students: Investigate learning, relationships, privacy, equity, agency, work, and public value; then conduct or analyze stakeholder interviews.

Output: Supported claims, a claim weakened by evidence, and a map of benefits, risks, and incentives.

Exit question: Whose experience changes how you understand the problem?

**SESSION
3**

Ownership and governance design

Purpose: Go beyond rules for use to ask who has power and who receives value.

Students: Examine data, procurement, intellectual property, vendor dependence, accountability, and student and educator voice.

Output: A recommended position and the conditions under which it should operate.

Exit question: If the policy succeeds, who gains capability, power, and wealth?

**SESSION
4**

Public work and public response

Purpose: Produce a recommendation an institution can answer.

Students: Complete the recommendation, name meaningful disagreement, present to an authentic audience, and record the response.

Output: The Student and Community Framework, a public presentation, and a written audience response.

Exit question: What should happen next, who must act, and when should the decision be reviewed?

FULL FIELD LAB

Extend the core to eight to twelve weeks through student-led interviews, comparative policy research, approved-tool testing, community deliberation, prototype design, and publication.