

AI ranks first in 2022 college entrance examination hotly searched majors!

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Source: AI科技评论(aitechtalk) — focuses on in-depth reports on developments in the AI industry and academia.

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Original Mandarin:

https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/xg9VmnGFimFgAz96-l0j_w?fbclid=IwAR2F9tISFdfjpsIXgsD0MafyN7BWQnVPd2g8AG7LyDaOjqMC0plf2J_Ues



On May 31, Baidu released the "Baidu Hot Search: Big Data on the 2022 College Entrance Exam" report. The report data shows that among the top ten hottest majors this year, artificial intelligence ranks first, and artificial intelligence has ranked the highest in popularity for three consecutive years.

Legend: Top 10 Hot Searches Rising Majors in 2022
***Translated text: last 30 days, the Top 10 highest increases in searches for majors

- Top 10: AI, mechanical engineering, electrical engineering and automation, big data technology, food science and engineering, biomedical engineering, law, robotic engineering, health services and management, psychology

- There was a 54% increase in searches compared to last year's period; in 2021, that figure was 52%; in 2020, that figure was 42%

In this data report, mechanical engineering, electrical engineering and automation are ranked second and

third; it is not surprising that big data technology and robotics engineering, which are closely related to artificial intelligence, enter the list; it is worth noting that – influenced by the covid era – biomedical engineering, health services and management, and psychology have also entered the TOP10.



Note: Changes in hot-searched majors in the past ten years of college entrance exams

Translated text in figure:

- Orange = humanities and social sciences
- Blue = engineering
- Green = science
- Red = medicine
- Top 5 hottest searched majors in 2022: AI, big data technology, mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, and clinical medicine

From the changes in data for hotly searched majors, we can see that from 2013 to 2016, majors such as financial management, international economics and trade, and finance, which are directly related to financial business and trade, were the most popular. They not only ranked first but also occupied most of the top spots for hottest searched majors. During the period from 2013 to 2016, society had little understanding of engineering. If children want to study engineering, computer engineering was the first choice, but for this broad development direction, people's understanding is still lacking .

2017 was a turning point. In this year, the field of artificial intelligence has entered the public's field of vision, and its ranking has steadily improved. By 2019, it would rush to first place, occupying the throne of first for three years. Looking ahead, from 2020 to today, the most searched majors are full of blue representing engineering, which shows that the trend of career choice in the society is increasingly "realistic," and parents of students are gradually favoring cutting-edge technology.

Which school is better for artificial intelligence?

Artificial intelligence is gaining momentum in recent years. Taking advantage of the tide of the times, many Chinese colleges and universities have opened AI majors or colleges. Among them, Tsinghua University has an absolute advantage in the domestic AI field and is part of the first echelon.

The AI discipline at Tsinghua University has a long history and all-around development. In 1979, the Department of Electronic Engineering of Tsinghua University opened the course "Introduction to Artificial Intelligence", which was one of the earliest artificial intelligence courses offered by Chinese universities. As everyone knows, the *Yao class* and *Zhi class* in the field of artificial intelligence are from Tsinghua University.

Peking University recruited Zhu Songchun, a returnee from China. Professor Zhu currently serves as the dean of Peking University's Artificial Intelligence Research Institute, leading the Peking University general artificial intelligence experimental class, aiming to introduce top talents into the field of general artificial intelligence. With his joining, Peking University is even more powerful.

Universities such as University of Electronic Science and Technology of China, Xidian University, Zhejiang University, and Shanghai Jiaotong University also believe that they have their own strengths and strengths; and Harbin Institute of Technology's NLP (ie natural language processing, a direction in artificial intelligence) has also been widely acclaimed.

There are also many students who have low scores in the college entrance examination and are very interested in artificial intelligence. It is understood that although Hangzhou Dianzi University (杭州电子科技大学) is a "double non" (non-985/non-211) provincial institution, it is

very practical for students, participating in competitions and employment. The graduates of Hangzhou Dianzi are very popular with local factories and enterprises in Hangzhou. Non-985/211 does not have to become a hindrance, but instead makes enterprises pay more attention to the practical experience of students. Hangdian is also an excellent opportunity for college entrance examination students who are interested in choosing artificial intelligence majors.

However, some netizens believe that after artificial intelligence becomes popular, it seems that colleges and universities have begun to set up majors and colleges overnight. There are e-commerce, the Internet of Things, and now there are big data and artificial intelligence. Some so-called popular majors are just a blunt patchwork of several disciplines. Behind the establishment of the college is that the school has not really understood how the major should train students, let alone guide students to employment. Students should use this "artificial intelligence fever" to choose those colleges and universities that really devote themselves to academic education, instead of thinking that just choosing an AI major means they have stepped into the door of cutting-edge technology, and the future is promised.

As Yao Song, an entrepreneurial student from Tsinghua University and co-CEO of Orienspace, said, the materials and information that parents who are not working in the industry actually get are lagging behind or even wrong. Complex majors like artificial intelligence, which include computer neural networks, natural language recognition, machine learning, computer imaging, big data processing, etc., cover a wide variety of research fields, and students need to make choices. Instead of blindly chasing hot industries, we should encourage students to explore majors they are interested in, and even specific directions in majors, so that students are responsible for their own lives.

Another year of the college entrance examination season, what are your thoughts on the choice of majors for college entrance examination students?

Reference links:

http://henan.china.com.cn/edu/2022-05/31/content_41988736.htm

<https://yuanpei.pku.edu.cn/jyxx/jxxx/516434.htm>

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