



TAG-Ed/IBM SkillsBuild Classroom Integration Faculty Resource & Implementation Guide (Pilot)

1. Program Overview (For Faculty)

Purpose:

The IBM SkillsBuild Classroom Integration allows faculty to embed **industry-aligned, self-paced learning** into existing coursework—enhancing student learning while maintaining academic flexibility.

Ideal Use Cases:

- Cybersecurity, IT, Data Analytics, or workforce-readiness courses
- Supplemental coursework tied to labs, discussions, or projects
- Credit or extra-credit aligned activities

Platform: IBM SkillsBuild

Model: cohort based/Self-paced (3 months), instructor-supported

2. Roles & Responsibilities

Faculty / Professor

- Integrates SkillsBuild content into course syllabus
- Posts **weekly discussion prompts** in the cohort Slack channel
- Determines how activities align to grades (participation, reflection, completion)
- Encourages student accountability and engagement
- Serves as **Slack Co-Admin** for their class cohort

Students

- Complete assigned SkillsBuild modules
- Participate in weekly Slack discussions
- Submit reflections or assignments as defined by the professor
- Progress at a pace aligned with course milestones

TAG-Ed / Program Team

- Creates a **dedicated cohort channel** for the class
- Assigns professor as **Slack Co-admin**

- Provides onboarding guidance and student setup support
- Supplies **biweekly progress reports** on student activity and completion
- Acts as escalation point for platform or access issues

3. Faculty Required Onboarding Resources

A. Faculty Quick-Start Guide (PDF or Doc)

Include:

- Overview of IBM SkillsBuild
- Available pathway: **Cybersecurity**

B. Suggested Syllabus Language

This course includes participation in the IBM SkillsBuild Cybersecurity Pathway. Students will complete cohort based/self-paced modules, participate in weekly discussions, and apply industry concepts aligned with course objectives.

C. Suggested Grading Alignment Options

Offer flexibility—professors choose what works best.

Option	Example
Participation Requirements	# of weekly discussion posts (1-2 posts topics)
Monthly Reflection	Short written reflections
Extra Credit	Badge and Certification of Completion

4. Slack Cohort Structure (Best Practice)

Channels to Create:

- #tag-ed-ibm-FVSUcybersecurity-CSCI 4999 (students only)
- #tag-edibm-announcements (all TAG-Ed cohorts)
- #tag-edibm-help-desk (all TAG-Ed cohorts)

Admin Access:

- Professor = Co-Admin
- TAG-Ed = Admin / Support
- Students = Members

Usage Guidelines:

- Weekly discussion posts by professor
- Student responses due to a set day
- Optional peer replies encouraged

5. Reporting & Progress Monitoring

Biweekly Student Progress Report (TAG-Ed Provide)

Include:

- Student name
- Pathway selected
- Modules started/completed
- Overall % progress

This helps professors:

- Tie progress to grades
- Identify students needing intervention
- Report outcomes to department leadership

6. Pilot Evaluation – provided by TAG-Ed at the end of the course.

7. Faculty Agreements (Required)