



ALUMNI STORIES

THE QUANTITATIVE
DEVELOPER CERTIFICATE
(QDC)

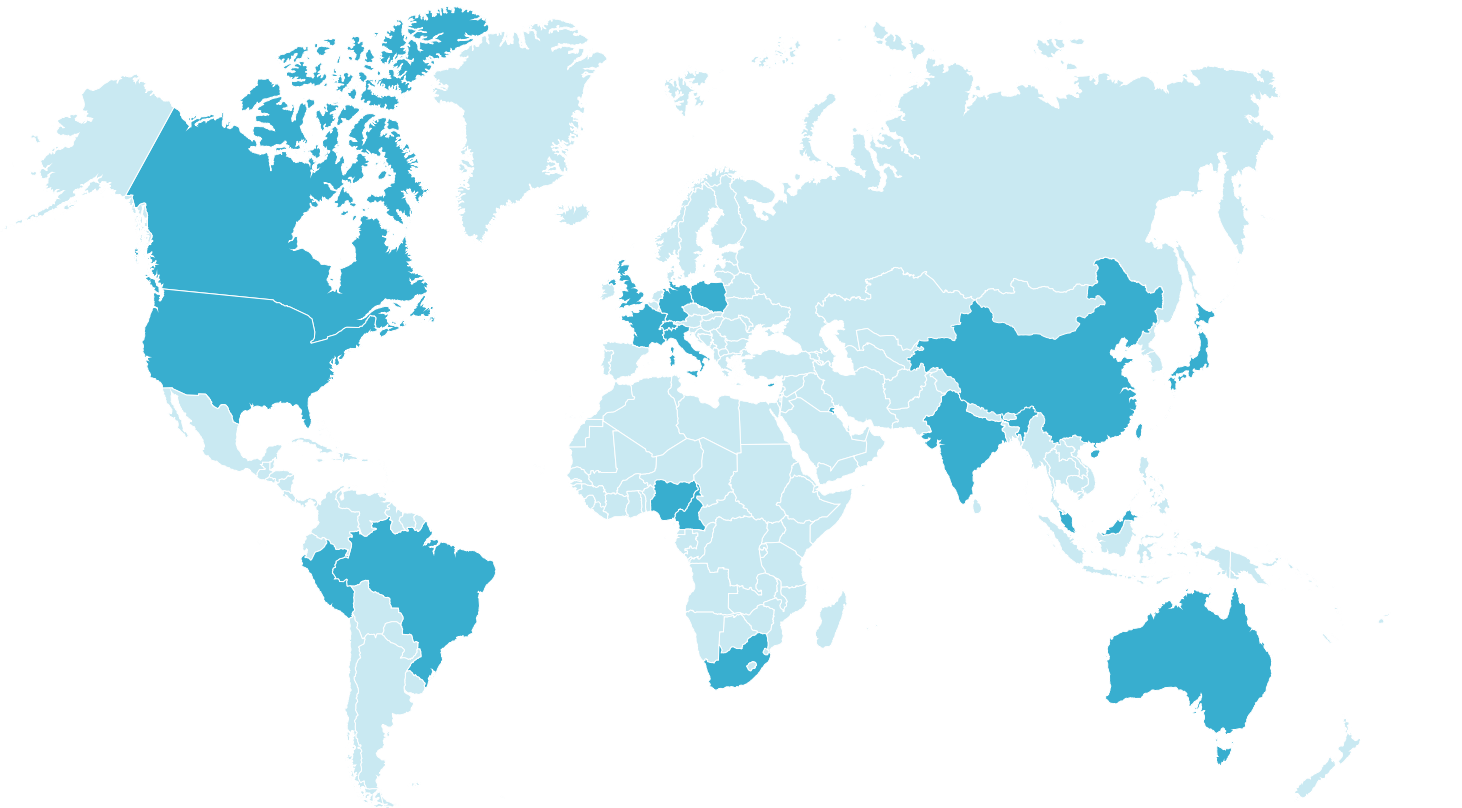


QDC Alumni Stories

The objective of the course is to develop fundamental skills of quantitative developer role. The course is designed by practitioners from quantitative finance with experience in model development for derivative pricing and systematic trading. The primary coding languages of the course are Python and C++. As it is essential in finance to work with time series data we introduce database KDB and the language q, which are the leading solutions for storing the timeseries.

A Global Community

The QDC is a truly global qualification, educating professionals throughout the world.



 Student locations

Industries

Obtaining the QDC is a solid demonstration of continuing professional advancement and one that will keep both you and your employer ahead of the competition. We are confident of the high quality and practical value of the QDC. It is a privilege to be able to bring this programme to so many.

QDC students have come from around the world and from across the banking, consulting and financial software industries, including:

- 21Shares
- 4most Europe
- Aglaia Family Office
- Autan Capital Management
- Aviato
- Banco de Crédito BCP
- Banco de Credito del Peru
- Blackmont Limited
- Bosshard & Partner
Unternehmensberatung AG
- BP
- Cambridge Judge Business School
- Capco
- Capital Power
- CBRE
- CentraleSupélec
- Citadel
- CME Group
- COWRYBASE GmbH
- Credit Suisse
- Deloitte
- Deutsche Bank
- Dexia
- Doo Financial
- DRW UK
- Dun & Bradstreet
- FBNQuest Capital Limited
- FHLBank Topeka
- Fidelity Investments
- Galland Ltd
- GAM Investments
- Georgia Institute of Technology
- Gulf Investment Corporation
- Huawei
- ICE
- Imperial College
- Inenco Group
- Itaim Asset Management
- Jamil Phang & Company
- Jefferies
- JHL Quantitative Analysis Ltd
- JPMorgan Chase & Co
- KX
- Metropolitan Oceanic
- Nationwide
- NatWest
- Nomura
- Nomura International Plc
- OCBC
- PGIM Fixed Income
- Pictet Group
- Point72 Asia (Singapore) Pte Ltd
- PowerTech Funds
- Private Family Office
- Pvt
- Quesscorp Singapore Pte. Ltd
- R3
- SENSYS Inc.
- Societe General CIB
- Sompo
- SPX Capital
- Squarepoint
- State Street Bank
- Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation
- Technology
- Thalesians
- UBS
- University of Bertoua
- Validus Risk Management Ltd
- Velocity Trade



Positions held by QDC alumni

The QDC (Quantitative Developer Certificate) has quickly established a reputation for transforming careers in quantitative finance and technology, with alumni success stories highlighting its unique blend of programming, mathematics, and financial application.

Graduates often point to how the course sharpened their coding expertise, deepened their understanding of quantitative methods, and strengthened their ability to build and implement models in real-world trading, risk, and investment contexts. Many have gone on to secure roles in top-tier banks, hedge funds, and fintech firms, crediting the QDC's practical, hands-on approach and expert instruction for giving them the confidence and skill set to thrive in fast-evolving quant developer roles.

Alumni consistently emphasize how the program bridges the gap between theory and practice, offering not only technical mastery but also valuable industry insights and global networking opportunities making the QDC a powerful credential for aspiring and practicing quantitative developers alike.

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|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| • Accountant | • FX Sales and Trading | • Quant Trader |
| • Actuary | • FX Trader | • Quantitative Analyst |
| • Assistant Lecturer | • Head of Dealing | • Quantitative Developer |
| • Associate | • Head of Internal Audit (CAE) | • Quantitative Researcher |
| • Assistant Vice President | • Head, Structured Products | • Quantitative Risk Analyst |
| • CEO, Quant eTrader | • Lead Engineer & Founder | • Risk Manager |
| • Consultant | • Lead Specialist | • Scrum Master |
| • Data Engineer | • Machine Learning Engineer | • Senior Consultant |
| • Data Scientist | • Manager | • Senior Developer |
| • Developer | • Managing Director | • Snr Manger |
| • Developer Tech Support | • Market model validation analyst | • Software Developer |
| • DevSecOps / Security Engineer | • Mechanical Maintenance Engineer | • Software Engineer |
| • Director | • Operations Manager | • Software Security |
| • Director of Quant Development | • PhD Student | • Solutions Engineer |
| • Electronic Trading Risk Mgmt | • Portfolio Manager | • Student |
| • Engineer | • Power Bi Lead | • Technical Lead |
| • Equity Derivatives Business Analyst | • Quant Data Scientist | • Trader |
| • Financial Engineer | • Quant Manager | • US Lead Risk Manager / Strucuturer |
| • FX Options Trader | • Quant Strategist | • Vice President |

Gabriel de Vilhena Torres: Software Engineer SPX Capital

COHORT 8



"It's a great certificate. Try to get as much as possible from the material and the lectures, because it's not easy to find a programme that covers so many niche topics with such knowledgeable instructors."

Geoff: What was your objective in doing the QDC programme?

Gabriel: I have experience mostly as a software engineer, but not so much in the financial sector. About half my career has been in the energy sector and half in finance. So I saw the QDC as a nice opportunity to fill in some gaps I had, particularly in the practical aspects of being a developer in the financial sector. My experience with financial groups has mostly been in Brazil, and my goal was to get as much knowledge as possible since I'd decided I wanted to be a developer in this specific sector.

Geoff: When you went through the programme, what did you find to be the most useful and practical aspects of the curriculum?

Gabriel: The most practical part was definitely the coding. There was a lot of Python code to work with, so we could play around with it and test what had been discussed during the lectures. That gave me a lot of vocabulary to communicate not only with my own team, but also with risk analysts and front-office quants. Another very practical aspect was the mental model for tackling performance problems in high-frequency trading. Even though I don't apply this directly in my current job, it was a valuable mental model that helps me think as a developer more broadly.

Geoff: That's true. Not a lot of people realise

that the programme includes not only different programming languages delivered by very experienced faculty, but also the high-frequency trading aspect. What did you think of the faculty?

Gabriel: I could tell they really knew what they were talking about, with a lot of practical experience behind them. They were also very accessible, always ready to answer questions and provide guidance. Of course, it's almost impossible to become an expert in every topic in just six months, but they gave us a strong foundation so that we could go deeper into any of those areas afterwards.

Geoff: That's very true. So in addition to the lectures, you were able to do deeper dives into certain topics during your own time.

Gabriel: Exactly.

Geoff: And finally, if you were giving advice to someone considering the programme, what would it be?

Gabriel: I'd say put in the hours, it's worth it. It's a great certificate. Try to get as much as possible from the material and the lectures, because it's not easy to find a programme that covers so many niche topics with such knowledgeable instructors.

BTRM Alumni Story

Prannoy Noel Bhumana: Machine Learning Engineer, Shepherd Compello

COHORT 8



“The industry connections and faculty expertise are exceptional. The programme really delivers on its promise of practical, job-focused training that’s directly applicable in the industry.”

Geoff: How did you hear about the QDC?

Prannoy: I actually came across the programme through a Google search. QDC stood out because it was much more affordable than other options, which can cost around £12,000. This one was closer to £5,000 and within my budget. What really caught my attention was that it’s designed by practitioners with real-world quant finance experience. It even covered systematic trading, which was a pleasant surprise. I was also drawn to the fact that it focuses on high-value roles in financial engineering and quant development, which are in demand at investment banks, hedge funds, and fintech companies.

Geoff: Can you elaborate on your objective in doing the QDC programme?

Prannoy: My goal was to build practical skills for quant roles and move further into quant finance. I liked that the programme was job-focused and taught by industry professionals who understand real-world challenges. The online format worked well with my schedule, as I joined sessions after work. With five years of Python experience from advertising, I wanted to expand into C++, KDB++, and Q, and learn how databases, latency, and frequency are managed in systematic trading.

Geoff: What did you find to be the most useful and practical aspects of the programme?

Prannoy: The hands-on exercises were easily the most valuable part. Working with Python for financial data analysis, KDB++ and Q for handling high-frequency time series data, and C++ for production-level applications really brought everything together. The modular structure

was excellent too, moving logically from Python fundamentals to more advanced topics like algorithmic trading system design. The real-world case studies were especially useful, particularly those covering electronic trading hardware, networking, and low-latency programming. The website itself was also well put together, with all the lecture recordings, PDFs, and reference material in one place. That made it easy to revisit sections and learn at my own pace.

Geoff: Have you been able to apply what you learned in your current role?

Prannoy: Not fully yet, since I currently work in the insurance sector, which isn’t directly connected to quant finance. But even so, I’ve already applied several of the Python techniques from Saeed’s sessions in my job, which have been really useful. I haven’t had a chance to use C++ or KDB++ and Q yet, but I’m very interested in doing so in the future as I move further into this area.

Geoff: If you were to give advice to future delegates, what would it be?

Prannoy: I’d highly recommend the programme to anyone looking to move into quant finance or build their technical skills. It’s practical, accessible, and taught by industry experts who bring real-world insight. The hands-on projects are where you learn the most, and while the flexible online format fits around work, you do need to commit to the workload. QDC delivers exactly what it promises – practical, career-focused training that’s directly relevant to the industry.

BTRM Alumni Story

Fabio Gaiera: Data Engineer, Bosshard & Partner Unternehmensberatung AG

COHORT 8



“The instructors have deep knowledge of the industry, and importantly, they are not just teachers, they’re also working in the sector. That makes the course very practical because you’re learning from people with real, current experience.”

Geoff: What was your objective in doing the QDC programme?

Fabio: My main objective was to get a better grasp of KDB+. But I also found it very useful to refresh my knowledge of Python and C++. Another area I really enjoyed was learning about the usual setup financial firms have for electronic trading systems.

Geoff: Right, okay, superb. And when you went through the programme, what did you find to be the most useful and practical aspects? Was it KDB+, or the other languages, or what you’ve just mentioned? Because there’s also high-frequency trading in there.

Fabio: Actually, I was really impressed with the final module, the one on designing electronic trading applications. It was very practical and gave a real overview of how the industry is set up.

Geoff: Yes, that’s true. It’s a very popular module. Are there any aspects of the programme that you’ve been able to use in the workplace?

Fabio: Definitely. The first module, which focused on Python, was very good. The instructor explained the financial concepts really clearly. I work as a consultant in a family office, and I found those concepts very useful. For example, when integrating Python solutions into my daily work, I now use it for volatility research. That’s been directly applicable.

Geoff: And how did you find the faculty overall? There are only three of them, this was intentional. Even in a six-month programme, Paul Bilokon, who’s been recognised as Quant of the Year, wanted to keep the faculty very tight with just two other instructors so everything stayed closely aligned. How did you find that?

Fabio: My impression was very positive. The instructors have deep knowledge of the industry, and importantly, they are not just teachers, they’re also working in the sector. That makes the course very practical because you’re learning from people with real, current experience.

Geoff: Exactly. That’s feedback we often receive, that it’s very practitioner-led. And finally, if you were to give advice to future delegates considering the programme, what would it be?

Fabio: I’d say if you’re not familiar with KDB+, be prepared to dedicate extra time to it. It’s quite challenging at first, but it’s rewarding once you get the hang of it. That was my main obstacle during the course, just needing to spend more time on KDB+. But it’s worth it in the end.

Geoff: Super. That’s great advice. Thank you very much for your honest and straightforward feedback. Thanks, Fabio, and all the best.

Ishwar Chidambaram: Independent Quant Trader

COHORT 4



"It's a great certificate. Try to get as much as possible from the material and the lectures, because it's not easy to find a programme that covers so many niche topics with such knowledgeable instructors."

Geoff: How did you first hear about the programme?

Ishwar: I connected with Neil Clive Fowler on LinkedIn, who shared some QDC material with me. I was immediately intrigued and reached out to learn how it compared to the CQF and CFA, which I'd already completed. Neil put me in touch with Dr. Paul Bilokon, whose clear explanation convinced me to enrol straight away.

Geoff: Paul Bilokon, of course, is Quant of the Year and leads the QDC faculty. Since you'd already completed the CQF, what were your specific objectives in doing the QDC? What skills were you looking to gain?

Ishwar: I was Senior Vice President at Franklin Templeton Investments in India, leading their Gold-based Wealth Management division. I wanted to move from the product side into quant research and development but found it hard to break through. The QDC gave me the coding skills and confidence I needed to make that transition and was key to moving from the product world into the quant world.

Geoff: What aspects of the programme did you find most useful or practical?

Ishwar: The QDC's biggest strength is its practical focus. The live sessions and recorded materials on data structures and algorithms were excellent. Ivan Zhdankin's C++ and DSA lectures were especially brilliant, I still revisit them before coding interviews. The Git and GitHub modules were very useful, and Dr. Bilokon's lectures on high-frequency trading were both exciting and highly practical.

Geoff: That's great to hear, and great that you're still using those materials. Now, would you say the content of the programme helped you enhance your coding skill set and transition into a quant trading role?

Ishwar: Absolutely. As I mentioned, I struggled with the development aspect of the quant lifecycle. I was confident in my research abilities but translating that into code was challenging. The QDC helped me bridge that gap. It gave me the skills to move from quant research to quant development and eventually quant trading. I'm now a proprietary quant trader. Before this, I worked with Brevan Howard at their India Centre in Bangalore as a lead quant developer, and I don't think I could have held that position without the QDC. The QDC crystallised and structured my 16 years of experience into something actionable. It gave my efforts discipline, focus, and technical direction. It was truly indispensable.

Geoff: That's fantastic. If you were to give advice to someone considering the programme, what would it be?

Ishwar: Attend every live session. Structure and consistency are key. Practice, practice, practice – hard work trumps talent every time. Be proactive and ask questions, even the ones that seem "stupid." There are no stupid questions when you're learning. Use every available resource!

Contact details:

Geoffrey Brown
geoff@wbstraining.com
+33 6750 69328

WBS Training Ltd
Werks Central
15-17 Middle Street
Brighton
BN1 1AL
United Kingdom



wbstraining.com