Dr. José A. Fernández-Calvo

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Personal Attributes

Multifaceted Expertise and Visionary Leadership: With a rich tapestry of skills spanning Strategy, Education, Law, Technology, and Business, I bring a unique perspective that fosters innovation and the synthesis of ideas across various industries. My approach is not just interdisciplinary; it's about creating new paradigms of thought and action.

A Catalyst for Transformation: My creative vision extends beyond the ordinary, identifying core issues and metamorphosing challenges into opportunities. I excel in transforming complex problems into actionable solutions, setting new benchmarks in every endeavor.

Leadership that Bridges Boundaries: At the helm of diverse, multinational teams, my leadership style is both inclusive and dynamic. I thrive in high-pressure, detail-oriented environments, leveraging diversity to drive success and foster a culture of excellence and ethics.

Inspiring Educational Leadership: With over two decades of dedication to education, I am not just a teacher but a mentor who ignites curiosity and encourages critical thinking. My teaching philosophy intertwines experiential learning with critical service-learning, enriching both corporate training programs and academic instruction.

Innovator in Learning Environments: I am committed to utilizing cutting-edge teaching strategies and technologies, creating learning experiences that are not only educational but transformative. My focus is on nurturing students' analytical, communicative, and organizational skills, preparing them for a rapidly evolving world.

A Polyglot with a Global Perspective: Native in English and Spanish, fluent in French and Portuguese, and with intermediate German and Italian, my linguistic skills are matched by a deep understanding of diverse cultures. This multilingual and multicultural proficiency has been instrumental in my business ventures across continents, including in Germany, Brazil, the USA, the UK, Argentina, Chile, Uruguay, and Paraguay.

Commitment to Lifelong Learning: My journey is one of continuous growth and development, both professionally and personally. This commitment to lifelong learning is the cornerstone of my career and personal philosophy.

Experienced Event Organizer: I have organized TEDx events and international conferences that have reached wide audiences, with over 16 million views on YouTube.

Formal Education

Bachelor of Science, Applied Artificial Intelligence — 2023 – 2027 (expected)
Miami Dade College, Miami, FL

Doctor of Education, Leadership in Higher Education — 2019 – 2022
University of Miami, Coral Gables, FL

Master of Business Administration — 1997 – 1998
University of Oxford, Saïd Business School, Oxford, England

Abogado (law degree, JD equivalent), Specialization in Business Law — 1991 – 1993
Universidad de Buenos Aires, Facultad de Derecho y Ciencias Sociales

Bachelor in Law — 1985 – 1990
Universidad de Buenos Aires, Facultad de Derecho y Ciencias Sociales

Educator Experience

AI Clinics
2025 – Present

Miami Dade College (MDC), Miami, FL

Helped create the AI Clinics, as part of the leadership role at the AI Center at MDC (Wolfson Campus), as a blended (synchronous/asynchronous) educational experience that uses online courses to deliver content and in-person sessions to workshop practical applied AI, following the flipped classroom model.

The course takes learners without any knowledge of AI to a proficiency level that allows them to build their own AI agents, while covering all the content of the Google AI Specialist Certificate, doing a deep dive into prompting and learning how to use over a dozen cutting-edge AI tools, all in one month. Dozens of cohorts and over a thousand participants completed the clinics in the first year since launch. The course provides nine Google certificates as well as a continuing education certificate from Miami Dade College.

Aside from the open enrollment courses in MDC's Continuing Education programs, led enterprise AI transformation programs combining governance, change management, workforce enablement, executive alignment, and agentic workflow adoption, for example:

- **Leon Medical Centers:** AI training for leadership teams and key staff, raising their AI literacy to where they build agents, workflows, and standalone applications with Microsoft Copilot Agent Builder, Workflow and App builders.
- **Goodwill:** Trained students of the Summer Youth Internship Program, which was featured in local TV news.
- **MDM Group (Hotels):** Trained leadership teams of corporate and principal properties in AI use and adoption.
- **AWS / Miami Non-Profits:** Amazon sponsored a series of AI Clinics for the leadership of key non-profits in South Florida.

Generative AI Leader
2025 – Present

Miami Dade College (MDC), Miami, FL

As part of the trainings for the National Applied AI Consortium (NAAIC.ai), taught the Generative AI Leader class that leads to a Google certification, including Google Cloud's generative AI offerings.

Associate Professor of Strategy
2002 – 2018

Universidad Argentina de la Empresa (UADE), Buenos Aires

- Prepared the unified syllabus used by all strategy professors across multiple courses. Taught two to three courses per term.
- Assigned a group case study applying strategy theory to one company, followed throughout the term and resulting in a full strategic analysis of that firm.
- Created and implemented a strategy curriculum built around an interactive classroom; monitored student progress and reached out to struggling students.
- *Course taught:* Strategic Management (Dirección Estratégica). Strategy from historical foundations to current authors, applied to real companies, with strategic thinking, report writing and presentation skills.

Associate Professor of Industrial Strategies in Biotechnology
2008 – 2011

Universidad Argentina de la Empresa (UADE), Buenos Aires

- Developed the unified syllabus for the course. Taught one to two courses per term.
- Motivated biotechnology students to think beyond the laboratory, considering the governmental and business aspects of the industry, through case studies and group work.
- *Course taught:* Industrial Strategies (Estrategias Industriales). Government relations and industry regulation, strategy and business management in the biotechnology industry.

Assistant Professor of General Management
2002 – 2003

Escuela de Dirección de Empresas (EDDE), Buenos Aires

- Taught strategy and general management to MBA students using the case study method, as professor in charge of the class.
- *Course taught:* General Management (Dirección General). Management roles, planning, organizational theory, human resources, decision theory, organizational culture, change management.

Industry and Professional Experience

Program Advisory Council Member
2025 – Present

MIU City University of Miami, Miami, FL

The council gathers feedback on the efficacy of each program from the professional sector, graduates, students, employers, instructors from other universities and MIU faculty, and advises on all areas of the programs, especially curriculum changes.

AI Center
2024 – 2026

Miami Dade College, Wolfson Campus, Miami, FL

Led the daily running of the AI Center at MDC's Wolfson Campus. Developed and implemented the Artificial Intelligence Deployment Agency (AIDA), a consultancy-style agency that uses the skills of AI students and faculty to build and deploy practical AI applications for external organizations. Developed, implemented and taught the AI Clinics program in Continuing Education; the program was expanded to other campuses and is taught in English and Spanish.

Built the reputation of the AI Center as a key hub in Miami with regular events, presentations and conferences, and built workforce-development programs connecting academic training with practical AI implementation for corporate and professional audiences.

Board Member and Director
2021 – Present

Fundación Wowlat de Iniciativas Tecnológicas y Educativas, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Responsible, as a member of the executive team, for the overall management and strategic direction of the foundation; support strategy formulation and implementation, develop new partners and identify NGOs the foundation can incubate; build alliances with businesses, government, universities and non-profits to improve education and technology in Argentina.

Commercial Manager for South America and Director of Beaufort Argentina SA
2004 – 2010

P&O Maritime Services Pty. Ltd., Buenos Aires

- Led business development in the region, including the purchase and integration of a US$40M company in Paraguay.
- Spearheaded the design of a new type of push tug: ran the tender with top tug designers from Canada, China, the USA and Brazil, compared designs and proposed the choice approved by the board.
- Ran a worldwide shipyard bid in which a Chinese yard was selected and a US$60M construction project for new tugs and barges was approved.
- As Director of Beaufort Argentina SA, restructured the company and resolved complex multinational tax and personnel issues found in a merger audit.

Manager of Ultramodal (2003 – 2004) · Offshore and Projects Manager · Manager of Brings Turismo
2001 – 2004

Agencia Marítima Internacional (Ultramar Argentina SA), Buenos Aires

- Managed the division providing support services to the oil and gas industry for offshore drilling and construction: 30 permanent staff, 5 branch offices in southern Argentina and temporary contracts of 200 to 300 people, including multinational contract negotiation, onshore bases, stevedoring, offshore crews and catering, purchasing, maritime and flight permits and multimodal logistics.
- Promoted in August 2003 to manage the freight forwarding division, Ultramodal, with 10 permanent staff and sales of US$2M a year; Argentine representative of Geologistics (USA) and APL Logistics (USA).
- Directed an in-house IATA-certified travel agency specialized in business and maritime travel, with 4 full-time employees and annual sales of US$1M.

Managing Director
1999 – 2000

Stewart Integrated Services do Brasil Ltda., Rio de Janeiro

Established a new business unit of the Stewart Group in Rio de Janeiro serving the oil and gas industry; negotiated the joint venture agreement with the Brazilian partners and set up personnel, offices and legal structure.

Commercial Manager
1999 – 2000

Meridian Maritime SA, Buenos Aires

Responsible for strategy, new business development and the operations of three branch offices in Patagonia; led the team that won personnel and logistics contracts with major oil and gas companies and upstream service companies in Argentina.

Offshore and Projects Manager (1992 – 1999) · Ship-Broker / Ship-Operator · Trainee Shipbroker 1988 – 1999

Agencia Marítima Internacional SA, Buenos Aires

- Analyzed investment projects and business plans and conducted financial and operational due diligence on acquisitions for AMI SA and other units of the von Appen Group.
- Managed the oil and gas support division, with 5 branch offices in southern Argentina and temporary contracts of over 250 people; led the team that won two contracts worth over US$9M over four years with European and US drilling companies.
- Proposed, and won board approval for, a new travel agency division in 1996; negotiated long-term contracts with airlines and service companies.
- Brokered dry and liquid bulk cargo from 1988 to 1992, the sale and purchase of ships, and the public-tender purchase of three ex-ELMA vessels worth over US$10M for Asian interests; promoted to lead broker in 1992.
- Completed an eight-month international training program in Copenhagen and Hamburg.

Shift Manager 1986 – 1988

McDonald's Corporation, Buenos Aires and Rio de Janeiro

Trained for three months in Rio de Janeiro, returned for the opening of the Buenos Aires restaurant, trained staff of new stores and ran the San Isidro store on rotating shifts.

Paralegal 1985

Dougall Abogados, Buenos Aires

Assisted litigating lawyers: simpler writs, follow-up of cases before the courts and general practice support.

Entrepreneurial Experience

CEO and Principal Shareholder 2013 – Present

Grovear LLC, Miami, FL

AI adoption and training company, including change management and governance, with a holistic approach that starts with the C-suite, helping them make better-informed decisions on AI adoption, and reaches every staff member who uses an office suite, trained to use AI agents to improve their productivity. Developed a three-phase AI Adoption Framework integrating governance, leadership training, workforce enablement and workflow transformation. Enterprise programs include:

- **Terrabank NA:** Full AI adoption program, from working with the C-suite on training and implementation down to every employee building their own AI agents.
- **IEEE:** Training in Google Workspace and Microsoft Copilot, including integration with their respective suites.
- **Consultare (SaaS/SAP):** AI training for their teams in the USA and India.
- **Global Strategic / Nebulai (call centers):** AI training for the leadership team in the USA and the Philippines, in partnership with Nebulai.
- **Ceibo Digital / NFD:** AI training and implementation for their teams in the USA, Argentina and Paraguay.
- **Northly:** Co-developed a strategic AI adoption partnership with Northly Coalition, combining consulting, workforce training, governance and custom AI implementation.
- **Seaboard Marine:** AI training for the C-suite teams of the divisions of the Fortune 500 conglomerate.

Educational Consultant 2014 – Present

Buenos Aires, Argentina and Miami, FL

- Multinational integration consultant for Fortune 500 companies; designed and led workshops for regional HR managers on communication and integration practices.
- Developed a five-year strategic plan for a leading Argentine university with 15,000 students, covering all key areas (compliance, academic, financial).
- Internal consultant in the accreditation of an Argentine business school with the ACBSP.
- Worked with the leadership of ADAU/FEDUA (the Argentine counterpart of the NCAA) on integrating the sports leagues of public and private universities.

Director and Shareholder 2008 – 2017

Grupo FKS SRL, Buenos Aires

Founded FKS to refurbish and rent out an office building in downtown Buenos Aires.

Principal Shareholder and Managing Director 2006 – 2012

Latedis SA, Buenos Aires

Founded an e-learning company that developed online learning for a private university and in-company blended training for a large electronics multinational, for retail sales staff in the mobile phone industry (about 4,000 learners a year) in Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay.

Co-Publisher 1993 – 2005

Centro de Navegación Transatlántica, Buenos Aires

Represented AMISA in the team that produced the River Plate Shipping Guide (1993, 1997, 1999, 2001, 2003 and 2005 editions).

Editor 1996 – 2004

Agencia Marítima Internacional, Buenos Aires

Edited the Argentina Offshore Report, a quarterly publication on the Argentine offshore oil and gas industry.

Co-Publisher 1996 – 2003

Gramado Group, Buenos Aires

Represented AMISA in the publishing team of the South American Ports Handbook.

Diversity and Communications Consultant 1998 – 1999

Integration & Communication, multinational

Led a consultancy team supporting the post-merger integration of a medical instruments multinational, advising the CEO and regional managers on staff integration and internal communication in Oxford, Madrid, Milan, New York, Brussels and Tokyo.

Publications

Fernandez-Calvo, J. (2025). *The role of AI in corporate learning.* In J. Liebowitz and P. McAlindon (Eds.), *Leveraging AI for Business Innovation* (Chapter 8). World Scientific Publishing. ISBN 978-981-98-1633-0. https://doi.org/10.1142/9789819816347_0008

Fernandez Calvo, J. A. (2023). *Engagement and satisfaction of non-religious college students.* Poster, American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting 2023, Chicago, IL. https://doi.org/10.3102/IP.23.2016656

Fernandez Calvo, J. A. (2023). *Engagement and satisfaction of non-religious college students.* Paper, American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting 2023, Chicago, IL. https://doi.org/10.3102/2016656

Fernandez Calvo, J. A. (2022). *Engagement and satisfaction of non-religious college students* [Doctoral dissertation, University of Miami]. ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global.

Scholarly and Professional Presentations

Speaker, AI & Consciousness Conference, Miami Dade College	April 2026
Speaker, AI Revolution Summit: AI in Education, Learning Beyond the Classroom	March 2026
Speaker, AI Revolution Conference: Reimagining Education with AI	July 2025
Presenting author, American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting	April 2023
Public Speaking Seminar, University of Miami	Feb 2021, Nov 2020
Digital Education Congress, Education Ministry of the City of Buenos Aires	August 2020
Presentation Masters Seminar, University of Miami	March 2020
Cross Cultural Educational Seminar, Universidad Argentina de la Empresa	October 2005
Kyoto Protocol Conference presentation with Prof. Bjørn Lomborg, UCES	December 2004

Educational Training

ChatGPT and Cutting Edge Learning Technologies	March 2023
Interfaith America: Art, Religion and Academic Freedom	February 2023
American Academy of Religion: Religious Literacy Workshop	June 2022
University of Miami: Introduction to Digital Humanities	January 2022
CITI Program: Human Subjects Research	April 2021
National Endowment for the Humanities: Funding Digital Projects	January 2021
University of Miami Learning Innovation: Alternatives to High-Stakes Proctored Tests	October 2020
Vanderbilt University, Robert Penn Warren Center: Liberating Structures	October 2020
University of Miami: Introduction to Online Teaching; Narrative Technique Instruction	August 2020

Business and Technical Training

Google AI Essentials Certificate, Google	2025
Google AI Prompting Essentials, Google	2025
Generative AI for Educators Certificate, Google	2024
Artificial Intelligence Practitioner Certificate, Miami Dade College	2024
AWS Cloud Foundations, AWS Academy	2024
Artificial Intelligence Awareness Certificate, Miami Dade College	2023
Customs Transport Agent (Agente de Transporte Aduanero), Argentine Customs (AFIP)	2002
ISO 9000 Auditor, American Bureau of Shipping	2002
Ship Operator, Coreck Maritime GmbH, Hamburg	1990
Ship Broker, A.N. Petersen, Copenhagen	1990
Basic Operations Course, McDonald's Corporation, Rio de Janeiro and Buenos Aires	1986

Memberships and Affiliations

Artificial Intelligence Society (MDC)	2023 – Present
AIEOU (AI in Education, Oxford University)	2024 – Present
American Association of University Professors	2020 – 2024
American Educational Research Association	2020 – 2024
Religion & Education Collaborative	2020 – 2024
American Academy of Religion	2020 – 2023
National Association of Diversity Officers in Higher Education	2021 – 2023

Community Service and Social Contributions

Oxbridge Alumni of the River Plate, Member and Keeper of the Book	1999 – Present
Google Developer Student Club (Miami Dade College), Vice President	2024 – 2025
Artificial Intelligence Society (Miami Dade College), President	2023 – 2025
Friends of the Royal British Legion, Buenos Aires Branch, Manager	2012 – Present
TED Conferences: TEDx Speaker Coach; TEDx Southern Cone Organizers Workshop	2013 – Present
TED Conferences: Translator, Transcriber and Reviewer of TED and TEDx talks	2009 – Present
Vizcaya Museum and Gardens, Engagement Advisory Committee	2021 – 2022

TEDx events organized: TEDxMDC (Dec 2024); TEDxVillaUrquiza (Jun 2020, Sep 2021); TEDxSanIsidro (Jan 2016, May 2016, Sep 2017, Sep 2019); TEDxCoconutGroveLive (Apr 2019); TEDxSanIsidroLive (Apr 2018); TEDxSanIsidroWomen (Oct 2016); TEDxUADE (Nov 2013, Nov 2014, Sep 2015, Sep 2016); TEDxUCESWomen (May 2015); TEDxUCESLive (Jun 2013).

University of Miami (2019 – 2022): President, Graduate Student Association; Board of Trustees and Alumni Board of Trustees, GSA representative; Parliamentarian and President, Higher Education Students Association; Student Center Advisory Council; Faculty Senate, GSA representative; Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee; The Graduate Council; Chair, Constitutional Review Committee; Senator and Parliamentarian, GSA; Chair, Graduate Student Organizations

Subject matter expert: AI in corporate training; AI in higher education; AI adoption and change management; higher education leadership and strategy; public speaking; student engagement and satisfaction; non-religious students; entrepreneurship, startups and intrapreneurship; corporate and business strategy; change management in higher education and corporations; maritime transport and operations; offshore oil and gas operations; barging and river transport.