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# SEMCON OFFERS GAME PROGRAMMING COURSE FOR UNACCOMPANIED REFUGEES

**Programming is an attractive skill on the labour market and can open doors to many different industries all over the world. Semcon is now offering a course on game programming so that unaccompanied young refugees can wake up to programming, giving them more skills for the future.**

Young people who have moved to Sweden independently face many challenges when it comes to education and job seeking. At the same time, there is a major need for talented programmers in the technology industry - both in Sweden and elsewhere. As one of the initiatives as part of a new, non-profit CSR programme, Semcon is offering a course on simple game programming this spring.

“Learning programming languages is becoming increasingly important in today’s digital society. We want this course to give young people a basic knowledge of what programming is and what it can be used for. This is a skill that can lead to jobs in many different industries all over the world,” says Jenny Forsberg, data engineer at Semcon, who launched the course.

Hussein Amiri is 19 years old and left Afghanistan to come to Sweden three years ago. He had no programming skills when he registered for the course.

“I want to do this course because programming is a useful skill for the future. You have to know all about computers in order to get a job nowadays, it is something you have to know how to work with,” says Hussein Amiri.

## **Positive role models**

Young people from various parts of Gothenburg will spend five Thursday evenings meeting up at Semcon’s head office in Lindholmen so that they can learn step-by-step how to program a simple game in a tool known as Unity. Maryam Ekradi is a study advisor and native language teacher at Flerspråksenheten [the Multi-language Unit] in Kungälv, and a number of her students are taking part in the course.

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Semcon är ett internationellt teknikföretag som utvecklar produkter baserat på mänskliga behov och beteenden. Genom att alltid utgå från slutanvändaren stärks kundernas konkurrenskraft, eftersom den som vet mest om användarens behov skapar bäst produkter och tydligast nytta för människor. Semcon samarbetar främst med företag inom branscherna fordon, industri, energi och life science. Med över 2100 specialiserade medarbetare finns förmåga att ta hand om hela produktutvecklingscykeln. Från strategi och teknikutveckling till design och produktinformation. Semcon grundades 1980 i Sverige och har kontor på fler än 30 platser i åtta olika länder. År 2018 omsatte koncernen 1,8 miljarder kronor. Läs mer på [semcon.com](http://semcon.com)

“As far as I am concerned, it is important for my students to have as many opportunities for success as possible. They are at an age now when they are thinking a lot about their future career choices. This course can give them an insight into what working in Sweden is like, and we have positive role models from a number of different cultures here. This course will help them to take the initiative and develop in the workplace,” says Maryam Ekradi.

### Facts

- This five-part course is aimed at unaccompanied refugees under the age of 23 and will be held at Semcon’s premises at Lindholmen in Gothenburg. The first session took place on 14 February.
- The course aims to provide a knowledge of how students can learn to program, what a programmer can do, which tools are used and why programming is so important in today’s society. Everyone completing the course will receive a certificate.
- Mentors who work at various Semcon departments will be on hand throughout the course to help the students.

[Find out more about Semcon’s CSR work.](#)

[Images and film for download.](#)

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