

COURSE GLOSSARY

Introduction to Alteryx

Aggregation: The process of combining multiple data records into summarized metrics (for example, counts, sums, averages, minima, or maxima) to reduce complexity and reveal trends

Alteryx Designer Desktop: A Windows-based data analytics application that lets users build, automate, and share data workflows using a drag-and-drop interface to clean, transform, and analyze data from many sources

Anchor (input/output anchor): The connection points on tools used to link the flow of data between tools, where an output anchor sends data and an input anchor receives data in a workflow

Browse tool: A read-only tool that provides a full preview and detailed profiling (column statistics and metadata) of the data at a specific point in a workflow and does not pass data downstream

Canvas: The central workspace in Alteryx Designer where users place tools and create connections to build workflows

Comment tool: A documentation tool that inserts descriptive text, shapes, and formatting onto the canvas to explain workflow steps, assumptions, or findings for collaborators

Configuration Window: The dynamic panel that displays settings and options for the currently selected tool, allowing users to customize how the tool processes data

Hallucination: When a model produces confident but incorrect or fabricated information, often due to gaps or biases in its training data or reasoning process

Hallucination: When a model produces confident but incorrect or fabricated information, often due to gaps or biases in its training data or reasoning process

Input Data tool: A tool that imports data into a workflow from files, databases, or other sources and allows users to configure file format options such as delimiter and header rows

Metadata: Data about the dataset such as field names, data types, column statistics, and provenance that helps users understand structure, content, and quality without inspecting every record

Numeric data type: A category for fields that store numeric values (examples include Byte, Integer, Fixed Decimal, Double) used for counting, arithmetic, and statistical calculations

Output Data tool: A tool that writes workflow results to external files or databases in selected formats (e.g., CSV) and locations for sharing or downstream use

Results Window: The pane that shows tool outputs, previews (typically the first megabyte), messages, and metadata so users can inspect data and diagnose errors after running a workflow

Sample tool: A tool that creates a manageable subset of a dataset by selecting rows based on rules like the first N rows, last N rows, or grouped sampling (e.g., top N per group)

Select tool: A preparation tool used to choose which columns to keep or remove, rename columns, and change or set data types and field descriptions

Sort tool: A tool that orders dataset rows by one or more columns in ascending or descending order, supporting multiple sort criteria

String data type: A category for textual fields that store sequences of characters, including fixed and variable-length variants like String, V_String, and V_WString, and which may include letters, numbers, symbols, and spaces

Summarize tool: A transform tool that aggregates data by grouping on specified fields and applying summary operations (count, sum, average, min, max, etc.) to produce condensed insights

Tool Palette: The categorized panel in Alteryx Designer that contains all available tools, grouped by function and identified by color and shape for easy selection

Unique tool: A preparation tool that identifies and separates duplicate records from unique records based on specified columns, providing distinct Unique and Duplicates outputs

Workflow: A visual sequence of connected tools in Alteryx Designer that defines the steps to import, prepare, transform, and output data, similar to a recipe guiding a process