

Program Overview

The **Education Entrepreneurship** program provides students with the unique skills necessary to conceptualize, develop and manage 21st century educational innovations. Designed at the intersection of education, business and entrepreneurship, the program combines rigorous academic study and practical coursework, giving students critical tools to chart entrepreneurial solutions in education. The program builds hands-on understanding through a student-designed capstone project.

Courses

Design of Learning Environments examines different theoretical frames and strategies related to the study and design of learning environments in school, community and online contexts. Physical, social and cognitive aspects of learning situations are considered as students evaluate current research and applications in a variety of existing educational learning environments.

Economics of Education provides an overview of some theoretical perspectives and topics in the economics of education. Many of the readings will contain technical economic material, but the focus will be on the conceptual theory and the findings of economic research with an education application. It is expected that you reflect on the findings we cover and how it relates to your experience in practice. As we move through the course, you should gain a solid understanding of how economists study education. This course will also include basic concepts related to finance, budgeting, transaction analysis and P&L reporting.

Entrepreneurship in Education provides an understanding of the nature of entrepreneurship related to public/private/for profit and non-profit educational and social organizations. The course focuses on issues of management, strategies and financing of early stage entrepreneurial ventures, and on entrepreneurship in established educational organizations. Students will learn the fundamentals of business plan design and development.

Evaluation for Education Innovation explores the use of exploratory, dynamic and adaptive frameworks for the evaluation of social sector programs, services and products. The course draws upon core principles and methodologies from business, design, entrepreneurship, engineering and the social sciences to help build, assess and scale education innovations. Students will learn how to assess effectiveness, quality, and value through real-world education cases, and how to use evaluation tools to drive the development of their education ventures.

Foundations of Education surveys basic issues in the philosophical and social foundations of education, addressing basic questions about the purpose of education, the appropriate treatment for children from different cultural and economic groups and the relationship between rigor and relevance. Intended for advanced Master's and doctoral students.

Courses

Management in Education introduces the critical management skills involved in planning, structuring, controlling and leading an organization. It provides a framework for understanding issues involved in both managing and being managed. We develop a “systems” view of organizations, examining organizations as part of a context, including but not limited to environment, strategy, structure, culture, tasks, people and outputs. We consider how managerial decisions made in any one of these domains affect decisions in each of the others.

Marketing for Entrepreneurs addresses how to design and implement the best combination of marketing efforts to carry out a firm's strategy in its target markets. Specifically, this course seeks to develop the student's (1) understanding of how the firm can benefit by creating and delivering value to its customers, and stakeholders, and (2) skills in applying the analytical concepts and tools of marketing to such decisions as segmentation and targeting, branding, pricing, distribution, and promotion.

Schools as Organizations focuses on the theory and research concerned with the organizational and occupational side to schools and teaching. It draws from multiple fields and perspectives, including: organizational theory; the sociology of organizations, occupations and work; educational administration; and school leadership. The objective is to have students understand and evaluate a series of different perspectives from theory, research and policy concerned with the character of the teaching occupation and the organization of schools.

Teaching, Learning & Curriculum explores theoretical and empirical perspectives on the questions: What is knowledge and knowing? What is learning? What is teaching? How do contexts influence teaching, knowing, and learning? A central goal is to encourage students to consider these questions and their interconnections, to examine ways scholars and practitioners have answered them, and to develop an analytical framework to use in examining contemporary practices in settings that include formal and informal, urban and international.

Technology Strategy is designed to meet the needs of future managers, entrepreneurs, consultants and investors who must analyze and develop business strategies in technology-based industries. The emphasis is on learning conceptual models and frameworks to help navigate the complexity and dynamism in such industries. This is not a course in new product development or in using technology to improve business processes and offerings. We will take a perspective of both established and emerging firms competing through technological innovations, and study the key strategic drivers of value creation and appropriation in the context of business ecosystems.

Capstone

The **Capstone** is the culminating project where students identify an opportunity to launch an innovative education venture – whether entrepreneurial or intrapreneurial. The process of developing the project is an integrative one that brings together the concepts, tools, approaches and frameworks learned throughout the program. Students build a business case starting out with an idea, and then validate that idea through a variety of tests learned through coursework and independent research and evaluation. The Capstone concludes with the presentation of a pitch for the new venture and the submission of an analytical paper demonstrating the basis for the idea. The process should equip an entrepreneur or an intrapreneur to tackle the next steps of launching their venture – whether that is building a minimally viable product, testing with customers, bringing on team members or seeking funding.