ENT 6006
Entrepreneurship
University of Florida
Fall, 2017, 1:55pm-3:50pm

I. Instructor
Dr. Kourosh Shafi
Post-doctoral fellow
Center of Entrepreneurship and Innovation

II. Contact Information
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Website: www.kshafi.com

III. Course Prerequisites
Admission to the MSE Program or other UF graduate program

IV. Course Overview
Welcome to the entrepreneurial revolution! The business world in which you will create ventures and manage people and organizations is not the one of your parents or grandparents. It is a world defined by dramatic change and high levels of ongoing turbulence, which means both more threats and more opportunities are confronting every business. A major result is that the new competitive landscape can be characterized as the age of entrepreneurship. Today, the essence of competitive advantage does not lie in traditional areas such as low cost or high quality. Rather, competitive advantage is defined in terms of speed, innovativeness, adaptability, flexibility, and aggressiveness. In short, advantage comes from being more entrepreneurial than the competitor. Hence our focus in this course is entrepreneurial management and the nature of the entrepreneurial process.

This is the introductory or foundation course in entrepreneurship at the graduate level, and so provides a broad overview of key topics and areas of focus in the discipline of entrepreneurship. We define entrepreneurship as the “pursuit of opportunity without regard to resources currently controlled”. It is meant to serve an integrative role, bringing together all the pieces and parts of venture creation. There is no aspect of business that is more inter-disciplinary and cross-functional than entrepreneurship. We will explore how something is created from nothing, in the process examining the interface between entrepreneurship and marketing, economics, technology, financing, logistics and operations, human resource management, ethics, and other key areas.

Further, this is a course that explores ways of thinking and ways of acting. Accordingly, we shall approach entrepreneurship as a mindset, an attitude, a way of managerial thinking. We shall also approach it as a behavior, an activity, a manageable process that can be applied in any organizational context. And ultimately, we shall try to convey entrepreneurship as a philosophy of life---as a philosophy for your life.

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Imagine > Believe > Create

The course explicitly addresses a common criticism directed at master’s students and programs. Concerns are frequently raised that graduate students and programs are strong on theory and strategic thinking, but short on the practical issues surrounding the implementation of these strategies and the pragmatic application of theories and concepts. As such, this is a course on implementation. The central focus will be on the business plan, where you not only have to come up with an innovative concept or idea, but you have to address implementation issues. You will also be responsible for addressing implementation issues as they apply to a series of cases.

My challenge to you is to use this course to explore your own approach to management. You will be doing something entrepreneurial, as it is the central requirement of the course. So, make it something truly innovative---something that makes a difference. Define yourself as an agent of change.

V. Course Objectives

This course provides an overview on the principles of entrepreneurship for graduate students. It is designed to introduce students to some of the core concepts and tools used to increase the likelihood of organizational success in launching and running new ventures both in the for-profit and non-profit sectors. Much of what we discuss will also relate to entrepreneurship in other contexts (e.g., corporate, social). The course will focus on a number of learning objectives. Upon completion of the course, you should be able to:

- Recognize your own entrepreneurial potential and how that potential can be applied in a variety of professional contexts;
- Appreciate the critical role of entrepreneurial management in achieve sustainable competitive advantage in the contemporary business environment;
- Approach managerial problems and opportunities from a more entrepreneurial perspective;
- Understand the nature of the entrepreneurial process and the many contexts in which that process applies;
- Apply ideas and insights from a variety of disciplines and functional areas to the process involved in creating innovative concepts and new ventures;
- Appreciate the requirements surrounding the creation of a new venture, the kinds of obstacles encountered, and approaches for overcoming those obstacles;
- Critique innovative concepts and ideas and the underlying opportunities that give rise to those venture ideas;
- Appreciate and master the issues surrounding implementation of an entrepreneurial idea;
- Demonstrate a mastery of opportunity recognition and assessment;
- Engage in reflective thinking and creativity in addressing problems that surround an entrepreneurial initiative.

To help you achieve the above objectives, and hone your entrepreneurial judgement, we will use a combination of pedagogical approaches: (1) class lectures on key theoretical concepts, tools, and management approaches to entrepreneurship and their application in organizations; (2) class discussion of business cases; and (3) writing an entrepreneurial business plan. There is a lot of emphasis on learning by doing. The more you put into this course, the more you get out of it. Through the cases and business plan development you will be exposed to a variety of strategic situations, and these situations will allow you to use your knowledge, talents, judgements, and skills. By their very nature, the cases and business plan are very ambiguous. Problems are multifaceted and there are typically no “right” answers.
VI. Texts and Supplemental Materials


2) Nuts and Bolts of Great Business Plans published by UF Entrepreneurship Program.

3) Osterwalder and Pigneur (2010), Business Model Generation

4) Ries (2011), The Lean Startup


VII. Evaluation of Student Performance

Class Participation (includes case discussions) 15%
Case Presentation 25%
Business Pitch (Presentation of Business Plan) 20%
Business Plan 40%

100%

Scale: 
A 100-90
B 90-80
C 80-70
D 70-60
F < 60

VIII. Class Participation

You are expected to actively participate in the class lectures and case discussions. This means that you have read the material for a given week and are able to tie it into the discussions. Participation/contribution includes asking questions, answering questions, agreeing or disagreeing with points made by the instructor or your peers, sharing examples from your own life experiences that relate to issues in the cases, and so forth.

IX. Team Activities and Structure

You will form teams for the purpose of developing a solving a case. Case team size is limited to a maximum of four people. All team members will participate in all group activities, and all will receive the same grade for the case.

X. Case Preparation

Cases are real world contexts where students have an opportunity to figure out what the real problem or challenge is, and then come up with practical solutions for addressing this problem or challenge. An outline for a case analysis is presented at the end of the syllabus. All students will be responsible for every case in terms of reading and being ready to discuss it. But individual teams will be responsible for putting together a solution and presentation for particular cases. I would strongly encourage each team to set up meetings with me at least one time prior to presenting their case solution. A typical case involves about twenty hours of prep time by the team.

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XI. Business Plan Project

Each student is required to develop a business plan for an original business idea of your choosing. No bars, restaurants, or businesses targeted to students are acceptable without instructor permission. Lecture material, business model outlines, and other tools will be provided to you throughout the semester for you to successfully develop your business plan. Your business plan will be written with the quality and detail one would expect as it would be submitted to potential investors. Your model must be original, logical, integrated, comprehensive, supported by evidence, readable, and defendable.

XII. Teaching/Learning Style

The course will involve a mix of weekly lectures, power-point presentations, and assigned readings. In addition, strong emphasis will be placed on student interaction in class discussions. The teaching style will mix core content with practical applications. Students will be challenged to grasp a concept or idea, relate it to other concepts, and then apply it in real-world entrepreneurial contexts.

XIII. University Policies

Academic Integrity
The University of Florida is committed to the maintenance of the highest standards of integrity and ethical conduct of its members. This level of ethical behavior and integrity will be maintained in this course. Participating in a behavior that violates academic integrity (e.g., unauthorized collaboration, plagiarism, multiple submissions, cheating on examinations, fabricating information, helping another person cheat, unauthorized advance access to examinations, altering or destroying the work of others, and fraudulently altering academic records) will result in your being sanctioned. Violations may subject you to disciplinary action including the following: receiving a failing grade on an assignment, examination or course, receiving a notation of a violation of academic integrity on your transcript, and being suspended from the University.

Special Accommodations for Students
Any student in this course who has a disability that may prevent him or her from fully demonstrating his or her abilities should contact the instructor as soon as possible, so we can discuss accommodations necessary to ensure full participation and facilitate your educational opportunity.

XIV. Other Helpful Resources (see also the Entrepreneurship Program website at http://warrington.ufl.edu/centers/cei/)

a. Journals and Websites
   Inc. Magazine
   Fast Company Magazine
   www.entrepreneurmag.com
   startup.wsj.com
   www.entreworld.com
   stvp.stanford.edu/
   Entrepreneur Magazine
   Journal of Business Venturing
   Entrepreneurship Theory and Practice
   Journal of Small Business Management
   Journal of Developmental Entrepreneurship
   Black Enterprise

b. Some Selected Books
   The Four Routes to Entrepreneurial Success
   The Creative Priority
   Circle of Innovation
   Relentless
   The Individualized Corporation
   The Maverick Mindset
   Real Time
   Leadership Jazz

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Successful Strategies Entrepreneurs Use:
- Crossing the Chasm
- Innovation that Fits
- Leading the Revolution
- Corporate Innovation: Marketing and Strategy
- Only the Paranoid Survive
- The Empty Raincoat
- Mavericks at Work
- Entrepreneurship as Strategy
- Maverick
- Thriving on Chaos
- Disruption
- Cracking Creativity
- Barbarians to Bureaucrats
- Growing a Business Online
- Future Perfect
- Imaginization
- The Icarus Paradox
- Why Should White Guys Have All The Fun
- Will It Fly?
- Venture Capital Due Diligence
- Good to Great
- Attracting Capital from Angels
- Structuring Venture Capital, Private Equity and Entrepreneurial Transactions
- Radical Marketing
- Seeing Differently
- Purple Cow
- Clearing the Hurdles
- Radical Innovation
- The New Business Road Test

XV. Course Schedule and Assignments
(Note: We may move at a faster or slower pace depending on student comprehension and interest levels in particular topics). All cases are on the course website.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>August 21-23</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Topics: Business Model</td>
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<tr>
<td>Introduction; Definition of a Business Model; Business Model Canvas; The 9 Building Blocks (Customer Segments, Value Propositions, Channels, Customer Relationships, Revenue Streams, Key Resources, Key Activities, Key Partnerships, Cost Structure);</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Readings:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>⇒ Business Model Generation Text, pages 14-44</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignments:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>⇒ Form teams for cases, submit group names by Monday next week</td>
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<tr>
<th>Week 2</th>
<th>August 28, 30</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Topics: Patterns of Business Models</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Unbundling Business Models, The Long Tail, Multi-sided Platforms, Free as a Business Model, Open Business Models</td>
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<tr>
<th>Week 3</th>
<th>September 6</th>
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</table>
| **Topics:** Opportunity Recognition and Opportunity Assessment.  
 Drivers of Opportunity, Pattern Recognition, Window of Opportunity, Screening Criteria (The Characteristics of High-Potential Ventures) | **Readings:**  
 Business Model Generation Text, pages 56-118  
 **Assignments:**  
 Case Week 2 |

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Week 4</th>
<th>September 11,13</th>
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| **Topics:** From Business Model to Business Plan  
 New Venture Creation text, Chapter 4, 5  
 **Assignments:**  
 Case Week 3  
 Form business plan groups, submit business concept and company name by Monday next week |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 5</th>
<th>September 18, 20</th>
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</table>
| **Topics:** Venture Financing  
 Family and Friends, Crowdfunding, Accelerators, Angel Financing, Venture Capital, Corporate Venture Capital, Debt Financing, Initial Public Offering, Valuation  
 Guest Speaker on 20th: Jeff Stamp (see below for his bio) | **Readings:**  
 Venture Capital & The Finance of Innovation- Chapter 1, 2, 5  
 New Venture Creation text, Chapter 12, 13  
 **Assignments:**  
 Case Week 5  
 September 22nd: First Draft of the Business Plan; emphasize the following: The Industry, The Concept, Market Research and Analysis |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 6</th>
<th>September 25, 27</th>
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</table>
| **Topics:** Lean Start-up  
 Validated Learning, Minimum Viable Product, Pivot, Build-Measure-Learn | **Readings:**  
 The Lean Startup |
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Assignment:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>⇒  Case Week 6</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 7</strong></td>
<td><strong>Assignment:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 2,4</td>
<td>⇒  Presentations of Business Plans</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 7</strong></td>
<td><strong>Assignment:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 7,11</td>
<td>⇒  Business plans due on Oct. 11 by 5:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Rest of Life</strong></td>
<td>Think Entrepreneurially!</td>
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General Outline for a Case Analysis & Presentation

Kourosh Shafi, Ph.D.

I. Introduction
   - introduction of team members
   - rules of the game/scenario
   - central issue of the case
   - outline of presentation

II. The Current Situation (not to be presented but should be completed by team)
   a. The Industry
      definition
      size and growth rate
      stage in life cycle
      structure (Porter)
      value-added chain
      key sources of differentiation
      key trends
      key success factors
   b. The Company
      history
      organizational form
      structure
      goals
      strategies
      key resources and competencies
      - managerial
      - financial
      - marketing
      - R&D/product development
      - human resources
      - production
   c. The Business Concept and Product/Service Mix
      critique of the business concept
      key product attributes
      core/tangible/augmented product
      depth and breadth of line
      portfolio analysis
      product positioning
   d. The Economics of the Business
      breakeven analysis/contribution analysis
      operating leverage
   e. The Market
      definition
      size and untapped demand
      buyer descriptors and behavior
      market segmentation
      key factors affecting market
   f. The Competition
      direct and indirect
      strengths and weaknesses
      apparent strategies
   g. Marketing Issues
      price strategy and structure
      the communications mix

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distribution strategy
channels and their management
logistics and customer service

h. Production/Operations Issues
   - facility and equipment requirements
   - production/operating cycle
   - technology issues
   - quality control issues

i. Financing Issues
   - what is needed
   - critique of available sources
   - payback to investors

j. People Issues/Human Resource Management
   - evaluation of the team
   - boards and advisors
   - compensation and evaluation issues
   - training issues

k. Significant Factors in the Macroenvironment
   - economic
   - social
   - technological
   - legal/regulatory

III. SWOT Analysis (presentation starts here)
   - strengths
   - weaknesses
   - opportunities
   - threats

IV. The Central Issue in the Case (should be obvious how this is derived from the SWOT)

V. The Key Strategic Alternatives Open to the Firm (four or five different directions they could go)

VI. Pros and Cons of Strategic Alternatives

VII. Recommended Strategy

VIII. Implementation of Action Plan (from here on is 50% of the presentation. This is where teams lose the most points)
   - detailed action plan covering all major decision areas necessary to resolve the central issue and move forward
   - implementation schedule
   - budget

IX. Tracking and Control
   - performance benchmarks
   - schedule for tracking benchmarks
You wouldn't host a party without inviting the guests. Yet that's how many people approach creative thinking: They just hope "aha!" moments show up. Dr. Jeffrey Stamp teaches you how to transform your approach to creativity from accidental to intentional. For more than 25 years, he has helped countless business professionals and university students awaken their untapped creative abilities and accelerate their "discovery thinking" that adds value to organizations and improves the performance of individuals and teams. As Chief Story Teller at Bold Thinking, Dr. Stamp leads a team of highly skilled thinkers in a 12,000 sq ft creativity laboratory that provides ideation, concept development, venture strategy, online and live training content and events to corporations and universities worldwide that desire to discover new opportunities or foster entrepreneurial thinking skills in their teams. Dr. Stamp has long practiced what he preaches. He was the creator of Baked! Lays ® Potato Crisps, for PepsiCo’s snack division, Frito-Lay. Having lead seven successful entrepreneurial start-ups, he also served as a Chief Trained Brain and V.P. of Technology for the widely recognized Eureka! Ranch, a leading product and service creativity think-tank. His Eureka Ranch team was awarded the “George Land World-Class Innovator Award” from the Innovation Network and Fast Company magazine. Dr. Stamp has been a chaired assistant professor of entrepreneurship at the University of North Dakota and conducted workshops in more than 50 universities and 300 companies worldwide. In recognition of his nonstop energy, unique teaching style and passion for experiential learning, Dr. Stamp was awarded the prestigious and student-nominated Excellence in Entrepreneurship Education Award from the Aciton Foundation. A learning session with Dr. Stamp is like a thrill ride for your brain, with exciting twists and turns that lead you, unexpectedly, to "aha!" moments you can use for a lifetime.