

University of California at Santa Barbara

Bren School of Environmental Science and Management

Introduction to Eco-Entrepreneurship ESM 256A, Fall 2016

Class: MW, 8:30-9:45 am (Bren 1414)

Instructor: Emily Cotter
Office: Bren Hall 3406
Office Hours: Thursday at 3:00-4:00 pm, or by appointment
Mobile Phone: 310.569.3941
Email: ecotter@bren.ucsb.edu

Course Description

ESM 256A is an introductory course on entrepreneurship for students interested in launching a new product or service that offers an environmental and/or social benefit. This course is about developing an entrepreneurial perspective, understanding the venture creation process and generating/evaluating ideas. Working on a team, students will generate ideas, analyze potential opportunities and perform customer discovery research. Topics covered include: idea generation, opportunity recognition and initial concept development.

Required Reading

The Entrepreneur's Guide to Customer Development
Brant Cooper and Patrick Vlaskovits

<http://www.custdev.com>

The cost of this book is \$20 on Amazon (paperback). Note: Assigned reading is based on paperback.

All other required reading will be made available via download on GauchoSpace.

Optional Reading

Business Model Generation: A Handbook for Visionaries, Game Changers, and Challengers
Alexander Osterwalder and Yves Pigneur

<http://www.businessmodelgeneration.com/order.html>

Attendance and Participation

Students are expected to attend every class. The participation portion of the grade is 400 points. Participation is evaluated in a number of ways. Obviously, participation is correlated with attendance. It is impossible to earn participation points if a student is not in class. Students remain responsible for submitting work due even if absent. Students should e-mail the instructor prior to any missed class. Students remain responsible for the material covered and assignments given during an absence and are to discern this information from their peers.

Attendance at all class sessions is critical to the learning process and the participation component of the course. Entrepreneurship is a collaborative and interactive process. Entrepreneurs find opportunities, adapt, and improve themselves by listening and learning from others. Please come to class prepared to participate in the day's activities.

Confidentiality Policy

Throughout the Eco-Entrepreneurship focus, students will be exposed to proprietary information from other students, guest lecturers and faculty. All such information is to be treated as confidential. By enrolling in and taking part in Eco-Entrepreneurship classes and activities, students agree not to disclose this information to any third parties without specific written permission from students, guest lecturers or faculty, as applicable. Students further agree not to utilize any such proprietary information for their own personal commercial advantage or for the commercial advantage of any third party.

In addition, students agree that any legal or consulting advice provided without direct fee and in an academic setting will not be relied upon without the enlisted opinion of an outside attorney or consultant, in each case without affiliation to the Eco-Entrepreneurship focus.

Receipt of this policy and registration in this class is evidence that you understand this policy and will abide by it.

Assignments and Grading

	Individual Contribution	Team Contribution
Participation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attendance• In-Class Discussions• Panels/Workshops	400 points (20%)	
Student Profile Survey	100 points (5%)	
Idea Generation Team:		
Interim Presentation		300 points (15%)
Final Presentation		700 points (35%)
Individual Contribution to Idea Generation Team, Based on Peer Evaluation	100 points (5%)	
Reflection Paper	400 points (20%)	
	1,000 points (50%)	1,000 points (50%)
	TOTAL	2,000 points (100%)

All assignments must be turned in on time. Assignments will be submitted in soft copy format on GauchoSpace, unless otherwise instructed. All assignments submitted on GauchoSpace should use the following file format:

Team Assignment

(Assignment Name)_(Team Name)

Example: Interim Presentation_Green Gauchos

Individual Assignment

(Assignment Name)_(Last Name)

Example: Reflection Paper_Cotter

The deadline is at the beginning of class (i.e., 8:30 am) on the due date listed for each assignment, unless otherwise instructed. Assignments submitted after the deadline but within 24 hours will lose 5% of the total points; after that, an additional 5% for each day that the assignment is late.

Description of Course Assignments

Student Profile Survey

The purpose of this survey is to provide the instructor and your classmates with some insights about your background and help in the formation of compatible idea generation teams. Note: Your responses

will be shared with the entire class. A survey link will be posted on GauchoSpace. The online survey must be completed by 8:30 AM on Wednesday 9/28/16.

Idea Generation Team

Working on a team, students will demonstrate their ability to perform customer discovery research, generate ideas and analyze potential Eco-E opportunities. Idea Generation Teams will be comprised of four to six people.

Teams are encouraged to select a Team Leader who will be responsible for helping the team perform at its highest level. This involves removing any impediments to progress, facilitating meetings and making sure the team is organized and ready for the next sprint.

During the quarter, teams will conduct customer discovery research and perform analysis in two “sprints,” as follows:

	<u>Sprint Period</u>	<u>Presentation Date</u>
Sprint #1:	10/5/16 to 10/16/16	10/17/16
Sprint #2:	10/17/16 to 11/3/16	11/4/16

Teams should set milestones for each sprint (e.g., interview 5 industry experts during Sprint #1).

The goal of these sprints is to “get out of the building” and talk to customers and/or industry experts face-to-face, in hopes of discovering customer problems to solve. By the end of both sprints, each team should have interviewed at least 10-15 industry experts or 20-30 potential customers. Interviews are defined as qualitative, in-depth interviews (not online surveys using closed-ended questions).

Each team will give one in-class interim presentation on 10/17/16. For the interim presentation, each team will report what they learned through customer discovery research during Sprint #1, any customer problems discovered, any new ideas generated or any resulting pivots, and the team’s assessment of opportunities.

Teams will be evaluated based on the quality of the ideas generated and the research/analysis performed, not the volume of ideas generated through this course. However, each team should attempt to generate and analyze at least 2-3 ideas during the quarter.

Specific guidelines for the presentations will be posted on GauchoSpace and discussed in class. A soft copy of each presentation must be uploaded onto GauchoSpace by 8:00 AM on the presentation day.

The Idea Generation Team Presentations will account for 50% of your grade (max. 1,000 points). These points will be the same for each team member. In addition to this, 5% of your grade (max. 100 points) will depend on your individual contribution to the team, as evaluated by your teammates. An evaluation form will be completed during the last week of class to provide these peer evaluations.

Reflection Paper

According to one of the fathers of management/organization theory, Henry Mintzberg, the primary purpose of the university is to encourage reflection on what you have learned and how that learning might apply to your life and career. In this spirit, one of the assignments in this course is a reflection paper, to be completed at the end of the course. The Reflection Paper will have two sections: (1) Course Reflection and (2) Personal Reflection.

In writing the Course Reflection, think back to the in-class lectures/discussions, assigned readings, Eco-E Idea Generation Panels/Workshops and team presentations, and discuss what you learned. Highlight the individual panelists/speakers or the specific lecture/discussion or reading material that impressed or influenced you most. What key insights resulted? The reflection paper should NOT just summarize the information you heard or read. Rather, your reflection should explore the insights drawn from the ideas

presented by panelists/speakers, in class sessions or in readings. Additional research is not needed to develop reflection papers.

In writing the Personal Reflection, think back to the activities and experiences in the course, and provide self-reflection on questions such as: How has the course influenced your personal or career goals? Have your thinking, attitudes, motivations changed? What has surprised you? What have been the most important insights for you? Can you see yourself becoming an eco-entrepreneur? Why/why not? When and how will you pursue your eco-entrepreneurial goals? Feel free to address any other self-reflective questions as well.

There is no page limit. As a rough guideline, 2,000-3,000 words is an appropriate length (3-4 pages, single-spaced). Reflection papers will be graded as: "Exceptional; clearly above average; includes deep, personal reflection" – 400 points; "Thoughtfully completed; average" – 340 points; "Not thoughtfully completed" – 200 points.

A soft copy must be uploaded onto GauchoSpace by 8:30 AM on Monday 11/14/16.

ESM 256A Fall 2016 Course Schedule

Session	Class Date	Class Topic	Deliverables	Readings
1	Mon 9/26/16	Introduction to Eco-Entrepreneurship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Startups and Entrepreneurship Where Good Ideas Come From 	Student Profile Survey Due by 8:30 AM on Wed 9/28/16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note: Your responses will be shared with the entire class to help with team formation (to be posted on GauchoSpace) 	Ethics in a Bottle Messy Guys Make Millions Selling Green Cleaning Once More Into the Breach The Meaning of Social Entrepreneurship Why Governments Don't Get Startups My Company Has No Value. Does Yours?
2	Wed 9/28/16	Eco-E Idea Generation Panel – “Enhancing Food System Sustainability” Panelists: Jeff Kramer/Jack Motter, Ashley Larsen and Sigrid Wright Moderator: Bruce Kendall This session will be the first of three Eco-E Idea Generation Panel Discussions during Fall 2016. The goal of the Eco-E Idea Generation Panel Series is to learn more about environmental problems to solve from UCSB/Bren faculty and industry experts. In addition, students will receive feedback from each panel on any preliminary Eco-E ideas.		Idea Generation Articles (see GauchoSpace)
3	Mon 10/3/16	Eco-E Idea Generation Panel – “Opportunities in Wild Fisheries and Aquaculture” Panelists: Chris Costello, Norah Eddy, Steve Gaines and Becca Gentry Moderator: Tyler Clavelle This session will be the second of three Eco-E Idea Generation Panel Discussions during Fall 2016.		Idea Generation Articles (see GauchoSpace)
4	Wed 10/5/16	Eco-E Idea Generation Panel – “Origins of Eco-E Ventures” Panelists: MESM 2016/2017 Eco-E Project Team Members Moderator: Emily Cotter This session will be the third of three Eco-E Idea Generation Panel Discussions during Fall 2016. Eco-E Idea Generation Workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Team Recruitment Pitches – Come prepared to recruit team members (optional) Idea Generation “Roundtable” Discussions 	Team Formation Deadline by 11:59 pm on Wed 10/5/16	Idea Generation Articles (see GauchoSpace)
5	Mon 10/10/16	Eco-E Venture Creation Process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design Thinking Approach Lean Startup Methodology Introduction to Business Models 		Glass Works: How Corning Created the Ultrathin, Ultrastrong Material of the Future Lessons From the Green Gold Rush The Elusive Green Consumer The Problem with Butts Business Model Generation Preview Getting to a Single Perspective Start-Up Seeks Profits in Mounds of Garbage The Entrepreneur’s Guide to CustDev: Intro (p. 11-14), Customer Development (p. 17-21)

Session	Class Date	Class Topic	Deliverables	Readings
6	Wed 10/12/16	Customer Discovery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customer Job To Be Done Fundamental Concepts of Customer Development Ecosystem Map Interim Presentation Preparation 		Idea: Genchi Genbutsu Ignore Your Customer What Customers Want from Your Products 10 Tips for Amazing CustDev Interviews (Part 1) The Entrepreneur's Guide to CustDev: Concept Definitions (p. 29-32, 36-45), Know Thy Business (p. 51-60); 8 Steps to Customer Discovery (Step 1, p. 68-70; Steps 3-6, p. 75-83) Anatomy of a Failed Launch
7	Mon 10/17/16	Idea Generation Team – Interim Presentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final Presentation Preparation 	Idea Generation Team – Interim Presentation Due by 8:00 AM on GauchoSpace	
----- NO CLASS: WED 10/19/16 TO WED 11/2/16 -----				
8	Fri 11/4/16 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM Bren 1414	Eco-Entrepreneurship Advisory Council (EEAC) – Fall Meeting: Idea Generation Team – Final Presentation	Idea Generation Team – Final Presentation Due by 8:00 AM on GauchoSpace	
9	Mon 11/7/16	Reflection Day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Idea Pitches – Come prepared to pitch new ideas for MESM 2018 Eco-E Project Proposals (optional) 		
10	Wed 11/9/16	Optional: MESM 2018 Eco-E Project Proposal Kick-Off Overview of the Eco-E Project and proposal process, presented by Emily Cotter. MESM 2017 Eco-E Project Panel.	Peer Evaluation Form Due by 8:30 AM on Wed 11/9/16	
	Mon 11/14/16	Reflection Paper Due	Due by 8:30 AM on Mon 11/14/16	