# Introduction to Innovation and Leadership

Tuesdays, 2:30-3:20, 1 credit hour, 153 Mechanical Engineering Building

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## DUE DATES

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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Preparation</th>
<th>Submission(s)</th>
<th>Innovation Leader Presentations</th>
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<td>1/19</td>
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<td>Student Questionnaire</td>
<td>Sign up for your case study presentation</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>1/26</td>
<td>Read Course Pack</td>
<td>Interests &amp; Goals, activity notes</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>2/2</td>
<td>Read <em>Building Your Creativity</em>, Introduction &amp; Chapters 1, and write a summary</td>
<td>← Reading summary (individual)</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>2/16</td>
<td>Read <em>Building Your Creativity</em>, Chapters 2 and Conclusion, and write a summary</td>
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<td>2/23</td>
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<td>Preliminary problem list (individual)</td>
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<td>Semester Project: Problem Definition (team)</td>
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<td>Personal Development Plan (individual)</td>
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<td>Semester Project: Plan for Pitch (team)</td>
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<td>25, 26</td>
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<td>14</td>
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<td>Shark Tank: Practice Pitches</td>
<td>Shark Tank Feedback (team)</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>5/3</td>
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<td>My Innovation Leader Role Model(s)</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>5/10</td>
<td>Scheduled Final Exam Time 7-10 PM, Tuesday, May 10</td>
<td>1. Present Live Pitch (team) 2. Submit Written Pitch (team) 3. Submit Course Synthesis (individual)</td>
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SYLLABUS

The purpose of this course is to enhance your innovation leadership skills.

Course Objectives: As a result of this course, you will be able to
1. Define innovation, leadership, and innovation leadership
2. Identify several innovation leaders, past and present, and select one or more as role model(s) and, as possible, mentor(s)
3. Innovate, and use a model for innovation
4. Lead, and use a model for leadership
5. Connect innovation and leadership in your own life as an innovation leader
6. Create and use a plan for your personal development as an innovation leader
7. Complete a team project to identify and pitch a compelling problem, reframed as an opportunity, with a wide range of innovative solution directions.

Course Description
You will learn about innovation, including how to have world-changing ideas and bring them to be, and about leadership, including seeing what needs to be done and initiating action. You will learn about innovation leaders past and present, and you will select role models and mentors that inspire your own growth as an innovation leader. You will create a personal development plan to help guide your academic, professional, and extracurricular experiences in the years ahead. And you will work on a team with your classmates identifying candidate problems for innovation and pitching the problems, reframed as opportunities, to the rest of the class.

Course Philosophy
Innovation and leadership are vital skills that can be enhanced by learning. You enhance your skills by becoming proficient with a set of techniques, developing a mindset that favors innovative behaviors, and by establishing a lifestyle that promotes seeing what is needed, having ideas and bringing them to be. For many students this learning happens best in an environment of acquiring knowledge, practicing applications, and receiving feedback, analysis, and evaluation. We expect you to learn a lot and to change as a result of this course.

Much of the knowledge you learn in this course will occur through reading, research, discussion and classroom participation. Attending every class, staying organized, archiving what happens, and looking for connections will help you get the most from the experience.

Socrates and his friends bound themselves by discussion principles known as “koinonia,” which means spirit of fellowship. Koinonia principles were advanced to establish dialog, be collegial, clarify thinking, and promote honesty (Michael Michalko, Thinkertoys, 294). We will aspire to those same principles in this course.
Appreciation for and Utilization of Diversity
We value the diversity represented by the participants in this course. Our diversity is a primary source of ideas and perspectives, and you will work in groups and teams in this course to practice the use of that diversity.

Ethics and Integrity
We expect you to uphold the highest ethical standards, to be honest, and to practice academic integrity. This includes doing original work and citing sources, including the work of other students. Please give special care to prepare high-quality submissions with proper grammar and spelling.

Technology Policy
The use of laptops, tablets, electronic handheld devices, music players, and phones are strictly prohibited in class, except for presentations and designated small group work activities.

Accommodations for Disabilities
To obtain disability-related accommodations for this class, students with disabilities are advised to contact the course instructor and the Division of Disability Resources and Educational Services (DRES) as soon as possible. Please contact the instructor after class, during regularly posted office hours, by phone, or by email to discuss your needs. To contact DRES you may visit 1207 S. Oak St., Champaign, call 333-4603 (V/TDD), or e-mail a message to disability@uiuc.edu.

Course Management System
We will use Compass 2g (compass.illinois.edu) for posting documents and submitting assignments.

Required Text
Building Your Creativity: Tools for Having Ideas and Bringing Them to Be

Optional Text
How to Think like Leonardo da Vinci

Instructor
Bruce Elliott-Litchfield, b-litch@illinois.edu

Office hours
Before and after class and by appointment
INNOVATION LEADERSHIP MODEL

Models can help you organize and learn new material. We will use the following representation - further described in Building Your Creativity - as a means to better understand innovation and leadership. We will focus on PART 1 this term. You are encouraged to critique the model, and to modify it or develop your own if interested.

![Innovation Leadership Model Diagram]

**Figure 1. Models help structure learning.**

**PART 1 | Having Ideas**

1.1 **Opportunity**
- Cultivating curiosity
- Seeing needs & finding problems
- Reframing
- Understanding
- Evaluating
- Applying wisdom

*Evaluate – Is it a good problem, does it have value? (Proceed, pause, discard for now)*

1.2 **Ideation**
- Stockpiling knowledge
- Thinking analogically
- Connecting & sharing
- Ideation techniques
- Diverging before converging
- Tolerating ambiguity

*Evaluate – Is it a good idea/solution, is it innovative, does it positively impact?*

**PART 2 | Bringing to Be**

2.1 **Initiative**
- Taking initiative & going public
- Managing risks
- Prototyping
- Modeling
- Analyzing

*Evaluate – Is it a reasonable risk, project, product?*

2.2 **Implementation**
- Marshaling Resources
- Collaborating
- Managing Time
- Stewarding Money
- Persisting

*Evaluate – Is the problem solved? What needs adjustment? What did you learn?*

At any point, loop back as needed.