ENTR699

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Course Summary

Course: ENTR699 Title: Entrepreneurial Project Capstone

Length of Course: 8

Prerequisites: N/A Credit Hours: 3

Description

Course Description: As a culmination to the graduate-level Master's program in Entrepreneurship, this capstone course focuses on tying together the functional aspects of an entrepreneurial initiative to position it for growth and longevity. Topics covered include elements that must be considered by the entrepreneur to better position the organization for future growth, such as market research, management acumen, funding, etc. Students evaluate the opportunity of their venture as a foundation for the strategic business plan that stresses growth and answers to market shifts. This course may not be taken until all other courses are COMPLETED and student has a 3.0 GPA.

Course Scope:

The capstone project is designed to help students compile a strategy for starting their business, from planning to implementation. Students should have a workable business plan, understand the legal and regulatory environment of their proposed business, and be ready to move into formation and funding. The project will provide students with the opportunity to integrate all the tools learned in the program to get their businesses started under the guidance of an experienced entrepreneur. All other course requirements must be fulfilled prior to registering in this course. Student must have submitted a graduation application and a GPA of 3.0 or above for registration.

Objectives

- 1. Evaluate the opportunity for your venture.
- 2. Outline personal and business ethics that create good foundations for business.
- 3. Determine a growth strategy for your venture.
- 4. Ascertain progress on funding initiatives.
- 5. Evaluate your marketing strategy and competition.
- 6. Develop a pitch for your venture.
- 7. Execute your business concept.

Outline

Week 1: Your Business Concept

Course Objectives

Evaluate the opportunity for your venture. (CO1)

Outline personal and business ethics that create good foundations for business. (CO2)

Week 2: Your Market and Your Customer

Course Objectives

Evaluate the opportunity for your venture. (CO1)

Evaluate your marketing strategy and competition. (CO5)

Week 3: Your Funding

Course Objectives

Ascertain progress on funding initiatives. (CO4)

Week 4: Your Marketing and Advertising

Course Objectives

Evaluate your marketing strategy and competition. (CO5)

Week 5: Your Structure and Growth

Course Objectives

Determine a growth strategy for your venture. (CO3)

Week 6: Your Strategy

Course Objectives

Determine a growth strategy for your venture. (CO3)

Week 7: Your Pitch

Course Objectives

Develop a pitch for your venture. (CO6)

Week 8: Your Capstone Project

Course Objectives

Execute your business concept. (CO7)

Evaluation

Grading:

Name	Grade %
Forums	30.00 %
Introduction	3.33 %
Week 1 Forum	3.33 %
Week 2 Forum	3.33 %
Week 3 Forum	3.33 %
Week 4 Forum	3.33 %
Week 5 Forum	3.33 %
Week 6 Forum	3.33 %
Week 7 Forum	3.33 %
Week 8 Forum	3.33 %
Assignments	40.00 %
Assignment 1 – Your Venture	5.71 %
Assignment 2 – Competitive Analysis	5.71 %
Assignment 3 – Funding Plan	5.71 %
Assignment 8 – Executive Summary	5.71 %
Assignment 7 – Your Pitch	5.71 %
Assignment 4 – Marketing Budget and Marketing Plan	5.71 %
Assignment 5 – Launch Strategy	5.71 %
Summative Assignment	30.00 %
Assignment 6 – Summative - Business Plan or Lean Accelerator Model	30.00 %

Materials

Book Title: The Startup Checklist: 25 Steps to a Scalable, High-Growth Business

Author: Rose, D. and Gross, B.

Publication Info: Wiley ISBN: 9781119163794

Course Guidelines

Citation and Reference Style

• Students will follow APA format as the sole citation and reference style used in written assignments submitted as part of coursework to the School of Business.

• Please note that no formal citation style is required on forum assignments in the School of Business—only attribution of sources (please see details regarding forum communication below).

Tutoring

<u>Tutor.com</u> offers online homework help and learning resources by connecting students to certified
tutors for one-on-one help. AMU and APU students are eligible for 10 free hours of tutoring provided by
APUS. Tutors are available 24/7 unless otherwise noted. Tutor.com also has a SkillCenter Resource
Library offering educational resources, worksheets, videos, websites and career help. Accessing these
resources does not count against tutoring hours and is also available 24/7. Please visit the APUS
Library and search for 'Tutor' to create an account.

Late Assignments

- Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the
 course according to the published class schedule. The due date for each assignment is listed under
 each assignment.
- Generally speaking, if arrangements are not made in advance, a late penalty of 10% will be assessed
 for any assignment submitted 1-7 days past the due date. Assignments will not be accepted after the
 7th day. No work will be accepted past the final day of class, unless prior arraignments have been
 made with the instructor.
- As a working adult, your time is limited and often out of your control. Faculty may be more flexible if they know ahead of time of any potential late assignments.

Turn It In

• Faculty may require assignments be submitted to Turnitin.com. Turnitin.com will analyze an assignment submission and report a similarity score. Your assignment submission is automatically processed through the assignments area of the course when you submit your work.

Academic Dishonesty

Academic Dishonesty incorporates more than plagiarism, which is using the work of others without
citation. Academic dishonesty includes any use of content purchased or retrieved from web services
such as CourseHero.com or Scribd. Additionally, allowing your work to be placed on such web
services is academic dishonesty, as it is enabling the dishonesty of others. The copy and pasting of
content from any web page, without citation as a direct quote, is academic dishonesty. When in doubt,
do not copy/paste, and always cite.

Submission Guidelines

- Some assignments may have very specific requirements for formatting (such as font, margins, etc) and submission file type (such as .docx, .pdf, etc). See the assignment instructions for details. In general, standard file types such as those associated with Microsoft Office are preferred, unless otherwise specified.
- It is the student's responsibility to ensure the all submitted work can be accessed and opened by the instructor.

Disclaimer Statement

• Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of a particular group or class.

Communicating on the Forum

Forums are the heart of the interaction in this course. The more engaged and lively the exchanges, the
more interesting and fun the course will be. Only substantive comments will receive credit. Although
there is a final posting day/time after which the instructor will grade and provide feedback, it is not
sufficient to wait until the last day to contribute your comments/questions on the forum. The purpose of
the forums is to actively participate in an on-going discussion about the assigned content.

- "Substantive" means comments that contribute something new and important to the discussion. Thus a message that simply says "I agree" is not substantive. A substantive comment contributes a new idea or perspective, a good follow-up question to a point made, offers a response to a question, provides an example or illustration of a key point, points out an inconsistency in an argument, etc.
- As a class, if we run into conflicting view points, we must respect each individual's own opinion. Hateful
 and hurtful comments towards other individuals, students, groups, peoples, and/or societies will not be
 tolerated.
- Students must post a response to the weekly forums prompt and post the required number of replies to
 other students refer to the grading rubric and/or forum instructions for specific expectations on
 number of replies and word count requirements.
- The main response to the forum need to be provided mid-week refer to the grading rubric and/or forum instructions for specific expectations. Late main response posts to a forum will not be accepted without prior instructor approval.
- Replies must be posted in the week due and replies after the end of the each week will not be graded.

Quizzes and Exams

Quizzes and exams may consist of true/false, multiple choice, and short essay questions. Each
quiz/exam is accessible only once. Once a quiz/exam is accessed, you will not be able to access it
again if you disconnect. Therefore, allocate time to complete your quiz. Weekly quizzes must be
submitted by midnight Eastern Time, Day 7 of the assigned week. Late quizzes or exams will not be
accepted without prior instructor approval.

University Policies

Student Handbook

- <u>Drop/Withdrawal policy</u>
- Extension Requests
- Academic Probation
- Appeals
- <u>Disability Accommodations</u>

The mission of American Public University System is to provide high quality higher education with emphasis on educating the nation's military and public service communities by offering respected, relevant, accessible, affordable, and student-focused online programs that prepare students for service and leadership in a diverse, global society.

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