Claire Fleming Class of 2020 Interdisciplinary Major Studies Proposal

Innovation & Entrepreneurship

Justification:

One of the biggest realities that every organization, group and individual faces is that the experience of life on Earth is an ever-evolving experiment. Even with advances to the definition of life and matter, improved historic perspective, and awareness of cyclical behaviors rampantly prevailing in our collective body of knowledge, the reality is that none of us know what exactly the future will hold.

With that perspective in mind, there does exist a certain power, within every human, to help shape the world that will exist tomorrow. The advances in technology and cultural norms that humans create shift the reality of the world we live in.

This philosophy I adopt and try with every grain of my being to embody. For this reason, I find it necessary to create my own major, one that embodies the intention of positive change found in social entrepreneurship as well as the more practical elements powering the backbone of innovation.

I will Structure my major into three categories: Business, Hard Skills, and Soft Skills. Each covers fundamental skills needed for an understanding of the preexisting systems and skills that exist in the world of business and innovation in which we live today. The classes I have chosen take into account advice a from many mentors who I have come across in life. Many have specialties in industry, academia, and entrepreneurship specifically.

The business classes in my major are aimed towards gaining experience and knowledge in business management. I have and will continue to spend time outside of my major learning specifics such as accounting, statistics, and supply-chain.

The hard skill courses will focus on building a foundation for technical understanding. I may have little idea what specific skills I will need until I enter any given industry, but these basics will prepare me with knowledge in how to begin to tackle problems and understand tools that are exist if I am delegating hard skill tasks to other people.

In the soft skill category, my classes focus on gaining skills in identifying the needs of people I work for, people who will work for me, and people I partner with. These skills are some of the most critical for negotiating, and can be applied in almost every business scenario that involves more than one person.

My class list is as follows:

Business:

ECON 200 Microeconomic Theory

BUSI 499 IndStu: Business Model Validation

BUSI 497 Corporate Strategy

Pick one of the following:

- BUSI 499 IndStu: Marketing Research

- BUSI 499 IndStu: Prototype Development

- ECON 340 Environmental Economics

Hard Skills:

CSCI 150 Foundations of Computer Science

MATH 130 Calculus I

PHYS 235 General Physics I (Workshop)

Pick one of the following:

- PHYS 245 General Physics II (Workshop)
- CSCI 235 Intelligent Robotics
- CSCI 335 Artificial Intelligence

Soft Skills:

TART 140 Beginning Acting SOCI 110 Introduction to Sociology POLI 283 Model United Nations Pick one of the following:

- RELI 358 Embodied Mind, Language, & Religion
- BUSI 499 IndStu: Labor Sociology

Requirements: Twelve Courses

Clear Title: Innovation & Entrepreneurship

4 course minima taken above 300 level: Embodied Mind, Language, & Religion (or Labor Sociology); Independent Study: Business Model Validation; Corporate Strategy; Independent Study: Marketing Research (or Independent Study: Prototype Development, or Environmental Economics). In total, no more than two of these requirements will be met via Independent Study. Capstone Experience: Corporate Strategy

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Dr. Gina Bergfeld, Assistant Professor of Economics and Business

Dr. Chris Campolo, Professor of Philosophy

Claire Fleming