

Entrepreneurship

Entrepreneurship is designed to prepare students to create and manage new ventures. . .

It equips them with a comprehensive set of entrepreneurial skills and a strong general business foundation provided by the business core. This area of study focuses less on the management of ongoing business processes, such as those seen in traditional Fortune 500 companies, and concentrates more on the activities necessary to start, grow, and manage new and dynamically changing organizations. Because of this emphasis, it requires a curriculum that is somewhat different from that used in other majors.

Entrepreneurship is seen in many types of organizations. National statistics show that increasing numbers of university graduates choose to be entrepreneurs, and entrepreneurship students are in high demand with traditional employers because of the need for those employers to compete in an economic environment where technology, competitors, business models, and customer demands are rapidly changing. Entrepreneurs also create jobs.

What you can do with a degree in Entrepreneurship . .

UND Entrepreneurship grads are now working in a variety of fields. While some have gone on to start their own companies upon graduation, most have gone on to find employment in marketing, management, finance and other types of business operations positions. Their education prepares them to think entrepreneurially and to apply this mindset to their positions. Several Entrepreneurship graduates have pursued (or are pursuing) a Master's Degree in Business Administration. (MBA).

Unique characteristics of Entrepreneurship. . .

- Entrepreneurship is one of the fastest growing majors at UND. In 2007, UND was ranked as the #9 in entrepreneurship undergraduate education by Entrepreneur Magazine and the Princeton Review (ahead of University of Notre Dame which was #13). All students in the Entrepreneurship program (majors, track students or certificate program students) are challenged to identify and pursue opportunities based on the things they are most passionate about. For some students, the entrepreneurship program is a place to forge the beginnings of their own company. For other students, entrepreneurship is about learning to re-think how to identify and exploit opportunities to enhance and develop their professional life. Still others pursue the entrepreneurship program as a way to launch themselves into graduate programs at UND and across the country.
- All entrepreneurship students complete an internship where they are placed with a local entrepreneur to help work on a special project or new business development activity. Some students decide to use the internship opportunity to work on developing and launching their own business idea.

Getting In. . .

Students wishing to major in Entrepreneurship must first gain admittance to the UND College of Business and Public Administration. Students may be admitted to the College of Business and Public Administration and may elect a major within a business discipline after completing at least 60 semester hours at UND or other accredited institutions. They must also have earned a minimum grade point average of 2.50 (2.0 is C) in all courses attempted and a "C" or better in the six courses comprising a sophomore-level pre-business core. Students planning to transfer to UND from a junior college should enroll in only those junior college business courses that are offered as freshman or sophomore level courses at UND. After being admitted to the College of Business and Public Administration, students will study a core curriculum consisting of economics, accounting, finance, management, and marketing. When the core curriculum is complete, students move into specific ENTR classes ranging from Creativity and Innovation to Business Planning to Entrepreneurial Finance and Venture Growth.

Program Options. . .

UND students can study Entrepreneurship in one of three ways:

- 1) Students can pursue a Major in Entrepreneurship through the College of Business and Public Administration.
- 2) Students can complete a 9-credit "track" in Entrepreneurship while pursuing any major in the College of Business and Public Administration (Marketing, Investments, Accounting, Management, Economics, Information Systems, etc.).
- 3) ANY student on the UND campus, regardless of major, can pursue a 16-credit Certificate in Entrepreneurship. The certificate program can be started as early as the freshman year, and is organized and recognized on student transcripts much like a minor.

Information continued on opposite side. . .

Entrepreneurship Continued. . .

It's a Fact. . .

- Besides the many unique facilities in the College of Business and Public Administration available to all students, the Center for Innovation provides entrepreneurship students with several unique opportunities. The Center for Innovation regularly hosts entrepreneur networking events, provides student entrepreneur mentoring and coaching, and sponsors the very popular Mueller Internship Program, where students work to develop and launch their own ventures.
- The Ina Mae Rude Entrepreneur Center (part of the Center for Innovation) is a state of the art facility, offering business incubator space, business support services, and the world-class James Ray Idea Lab where entrepreneurs work to create product and business development innovations.
- The Center for Innovation offers scholarships to support students in their studies (see www.innovators.net for more information on the Center for Innovation and scholarship requirements.)
- All students in the College of Business and Public Administration pay a program fee, but there are no additional fees for Entrepreneurship majors or track students.
- Average class size for Entrepreneurship courses is approximately 25.
- Entrepreneurship has two faculty members working in the program full time and several other College of Business and Public Administration faculty teaching classes in the program.
- There are 33 majors and nearly 200 students per year in ENTR classes.
- UND Entrepreneurship is host to a successful SIFE (Students in Free Enterprise) team; see www.sife.org for more information. In 2008 UND SIFE was awarded second place in the national Duel in the Desert competition. This student group is open to all majors on campus and charges no fees to its members.
- Fully accredited by AACSB International (Only 490 business programs in the world are in this category).
- The Dakota Venture Group is a student-managed venture fund. Students are encouraged to become involved in this operation. In its first year of existence, students evaluated 70 potential investments and provided funding for four projects. This group has funded UND student projects as well as encourages private sector businesses to apply.

Faculty. . .

- Entrepreneurship Faculty are very approachable. Students are able to tailor their experience to their interests, especially through unique internship opportunities as well as working on innovative business ideas of their own choosing.
- Faculty research has focused upon the study of entrepreneurship curriculum. As a result, the curriculum has changed, adding cutting edge coursework, and will continue to change going into the future. Faculty have also studied intellectual property rights to better understand how students and faculty feel about ownership of ideas.

For more information. . .

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