



Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Spring Semester 2024

8,216: Entrepreneurship

ECTS credits: 4

Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)

decentral - Active participation, Analog, Individual work individual grade (25%)

Examination time: Term time

decentral - Oral examination and technical discussions, Analog, Group work group grade (75%)

Examination time: Term time

Attached courses

Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer

[8,216,1.00 Entrepreneurship \(SIM\)](#) -- English -- [Schoss Stephanie](#) , [Casas Klett Tomas](#)

Course information

Course prerequisites

There are no formal pre-requirements for our course.

Yet you must be passionate about start-ups with high-growth potential, and be willing to try new value creation on a substantial scale.

You will be prepared to work long and intense hours with your Venture Team colleagues and to figure out an innovative and sustainable business model for your venture. Creativity, perseverance and the ability to work as a Top Team are all personal qualities that will be put to the test throughout this course.

The course is especially suited to test your own entrepreneurial idea or any venture dream you might harbor.

Learning objectives

The aim of a start-up is new wealth generation, which requires highly scalable, high-growth business models. This is mainly **achieved through innovation, preferably of a disruptive kind**. Bleeding edge concepts from entrepreneurship research and case studies will be embedded in the course. The aim is to enable you and your team to tackle the entrepreneurial journey from start-up to scale-up.

The objectives of the course are:

1. Sustainable value creation
2. Strategic and innovative thinking skills and mindset.
3. Integrative leadership, effective communication, and team collaboration.
4. Entrepreneurial mindset.
5. Effect and opportunities of global environment on start-ups.

Course content

International Entrepreneurship provides the (i) practical and (ii) theoretical foundations of entrepreneurship understood as firm creation and related decision-making and teamwork processes.

The aim of a start-up is new value creation, which requires a scalable, potential high-growth business model which is mainly achieved through innovation. Bleeding edge concepts from entrepreneurship research and case studies will be embedded and discussed along three plus one master dimensions:



- You and your top team as decision-makers: how will you and your team identify, evaluate, and decide to pursue (or to stop!) innovation - both as entrepreneurs or as intrapreneurs. The world is your playground and you will be expected to take advantage of the global marketplace, international supply chains and a multi-national talent pool.

- Entrepreneurship, the subject examined in depth and as part of the larger picture of economic development and societal progress. Wealth creation in multiple international settings such as America, China, India, economic theory and what entrepreneurship is not are all going to be covered.

- Entrepreneurial practice and tactics: The course will cover a series of grounded aspects that ought to help you with the course project (the TeamVenture) and beyond. You will be exposed to and asked to develop business plans, ideas of how to monetize your value proposition, approaches to attract venture capital and financing, the art of deal-making, life-cycle management, clear business models, while thinking of matters such as exit, success/failure base rates, and sting and randomness of venturing. Our course has a strong tactical, soft-skill component, a take-away with practical value for those students planning to actually jump into the ocean and try their luck.

- Soft skills for you, team player and leader. We will examine emotions, the types of biases, heuristics you will leverage as an individual and as a team to overcome insurmountable obstacles and sell, monetize your idea. The ability to work as a diverse and yet cohesive group where different team members contribute and bear collective responsibilities, and manage the challenges of a start up, despite not-knowing and in the face of uncertainty. The sustainable value creation perspective is a leitmotif of the course

The course content is divided into Theory and Praxis delivery blocks.

Course structure and indications of the learning and teaching design

The course will meet during seven sessions. The kick-off Session I will introduce the course and lead to team formation. Session II will revolve around the students' Team Ventures and will confirm each start-up projects (go-ahead). Sessions III throughout V will consist of three Blockseminar full days, which will focus on the theoretical aspects of the course and also have a strong team exercises component (clarifying the revenue model, valuation, etc). Session VI will see students present to a panel of mentors, investors and faculty their venture (the "Pitch"). The final Session VII will hone on the entrepreneurial team dynamics and discuss whether the teams were true 'top' teams.

1. Course Kick-off
2. Venture Confirmation
3. Blockseminar Day 1
4. Blockseminar Day 2
5. Blockseminar Day 3
6. TeamVenture pitch & presentation
7. We as Top Venture Team

In parallel to the seven sessions there will be regular interactions between the VentureTeams and the course mentors and faculty. The interaction will be aimed at providing guidance to the ventures and answering questions, so that the ventures are scalable, feasible and innovative.

Course literature

During the course you will be exposed to literature on entrepreneurship both in class and as readings you will do at your own leisure.

The books below are references as you plan your own start-up initiative:

(i) Harnish, Verne. Scaling Up: How a Few Companies Make It...and Why the Rest Don't (Rockefeller Habits 2.0), Gazelles, 2014 ... Get clues on how to scale grow your own venture, fast!

(ii) Steve Blank and Bob Dorf; The Startup Owner's Manual: The Step-By-Step Guide for Building a Great Company, 2012 ... The classic guide to build up a new venture - your reference for now and the future.

Additional books for those wishing to go deeper:



The next two books are recommended readings and meant for the student who during or after the course wishes to deep-dive into the subject and gain new perspectives.

(iii) Romans, Andrew. *The Entrepreneurial Bible to Venture Capital. Inside Secrets from the Leaders in the Startup Game.* McGrawHill Education, 2013

(iv) Landes, David S., Joel Mokyr, William J. Baumol. *The Invention of Enterprise.* Princeton University Press, 2010.

Team literature

A bad team will destroy a great entrepreneurial idea. A great team with a bad idea will pivot and eventually achieve success. This is an advanced entrepreneurship/intrapreneurship course and a key takeaway from the course is teamwork. The texts below are optional, yet easy and amendable reads;

(i) Eisenhardt, Kathleen M., Jean L. Kahwajy, and L.J. Bourgeois III, *How Management Teams Can Have A Good Fight*, Harvard Business Review July-August 1997 pp, 77-85.

(ii) Katzenbach, Jon R. *The Myth of the Top Management Team.* Harvard Business Review November-December 1997, pp 83-91.

(iii) Tarricone, Pina, Joe Luca. *Successful teamwork: A case study.* HERDSA 2002. After the course you will have honed a key soft skill that will support you throughout your careers. "We Consciousness" and its component elements (such as trust, commitment, or satisfaction) are essential to achieve success at our venture teams

Additional Articles [optional]

We will provide articles during the course like the one below to illuminate a variety of practical and theoretical issues of intrapreneurship and entrepreneurship - feel free to read ahead, during or after the course;

(i) Johnson, Mark W., Clayton M. Christensen, Henning Kagermann. *Reinventing Your Business Model*, Harvard Business Review December 2008.

Additional course information

Please note that this course will not be open for bidding in the waiting list rounds. Students can bid for the course in the preliminary and main rounds of the bidding only.

Examination information

Examination sub part/s

1. Examination sub part (1/2)

Examination modalities

Examination type	Active participation
Responsible for organisation	decentral
Examination form	Oral examination
Examination mode	Analog
Time of examination	Term time
Examination execution	Synchronous
Examination location	On Campus
Grading type	Individual work individual grade
Weighting	25%



Duration --

Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

Remark

active class participation and contributions

Examination-aid rule

Free aids provision

Basically, students are free to choose aids. Any restrictions are defined by the faculty members in charge of the examination under supplementary aids.

Supplementary aids

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2. Examination sub part (2/2)

Examination modalities

Examination type	Oral examination and technical discussions
Responsible for organisation	decentral
Examination form	Oral examination
Examination mode	Analog
Time of examination	Term time
Examination execution	Asynchronous
Examination location	On Campus
Grading type	Group work group grade
Weighting	75%
Duration	--

Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

Remark

Team presentation with Q&A examination

Examination-aid rule

Open Book

Students are free to choose aids, apart from the following restrictions:

- pocket calculator models which are not part of the Texas Instruments TI-30 series, as well as any programmable electronic devices that are capable of communication such as electronic dictionaries, notebooks, tablets, smartphones, headsets, additional screens, etc. are not admissible;
- there is an option for faculty members to explicitly define exceptions under supplementary aids.

Procuring any aids, as well as ensuring their working order, is the exclusive responsibility of students.

Supplementary aids

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Examination content

The Entrepreneurship course has two examination parts: (1) Team Venture Assignment & Pitch: 75% of grade - Students will form teams (of 3 or 4) and develop a plan for an entrepreneurial venture, to be presented (the pitch) to faculty and mentors, investors (2) Participation: 25 % of grade - Based on how you, the student, engage in class and add value to the collective learning



process.

Examination relevant literature

Literature and materials relevant to your assignment will be supplied via StudyNet and in class.

Please note

Please note that only this fact sheet and the examination schedule published at the time of bidding are binding and takes precedence over other information, such as information on StudyNet (Canvas), on lecturers' websites and information in lectures etc.

Any references and links to third-party content within the fact sheet are only of a supplementary, informative nature and lie outside the area of responsibility of the University of St.Gallen.

Documents and materials are only relevant for central examinations if they are available by the end of the lecture period (CW21) at the latest. In the case of centrally organised mid-term examinations, the documents and materials up to CW 13 are relevant for testing.

Binding nature of the fact sheets:

- Course information as well as examination date (organised centrally/decentrally) and form of examination: from bidding start in CW 04 (Thursday, 25. Januar 2024);
- Examination information (supplementary aids, examination contents, examination literature) for decentralised examinations: in CW 12 (Monday, 18 March 2024);
- Examination information (supplementary aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised mid-term examinations: in CW 13 (Monday, 25 March 2024);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised examinations: Starting with de-registration period in CW 15 (Monday, 08. April 2024).