Proposal:  ISCI/ARTSSCI 3IE1: Interdisciplinary Experiences, “The Forge @ Mac: Student Entrepreneurship Explorations”

Instructor:  Dr. Jonathan Boulanger, The Forge Business Development Manager

Faculty Contact: Dr. Carolyn Eyles, School of Interdisciplinary Science

Maximum enrollment: 15

First offering: September 2016

This one-unit module will introduce students to The Forge @ Mac. The Forge is Hamilton’s startup incubator and McMaster University’s on-campus entrepreneurship initiative (The Forge@Mac). The Forge supports new tech companies and students interested in entrepreneurship by providing co-working space across two locations (at McMaster Innovation Park and in downtown Hamilton), training, resources and a network of alumni and mentors. Students will be required to attend 8 of 12 workshops running September 2016 – March 2017 and complete a culminating reflection about their experiences in order to successfully complete this module. Students are welcome to attend more seminars/workshops as they are interested. Students are also invited to participate in the Student Pitch and culminating Student Startup Competition.

Delivery

Class sessions will be a variety of workshops, seminars or invited speaker sessions. Topics will focus on areas of entrepreneurship of interest to students.

Descriptions of workshops and seminars will be available on The Forge @ Mac website: https://theforge.mcmaster.ca/

Eight of twelve of the following sessions must be attended. Proof of attendance can be obtained by signature of the session/workshop presenter/coordinator. Themes may change depending on speaker availability. Students are encouraged to check The Forge website events page for the most up to date information.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Theme</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept 14</td>
<td><strong>Mandatory attendance</strong> Forge @ Mac Kickoff Night: Guest Speaker Tonia Jahshan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 27</td>
<td>Intro to the Ecosystem and Business Model Canvas</td>
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<td>Oct 26</td>
<td>So you want to be an Entrepreneur: The Stages of Success</td>
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<td>Nov 8</td>
<td>Startup Focus: Health</td>
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<td>Nov 16</td>
<td>Pitch Workshop</td>
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<td>Nov 23</td>
<td>Pitch Night</td>
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<td>Jan 10, 2017</td>
<td>Marking/Branding/Communications</td>
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Jan 18 | Workshop on Application for Student Startup Application
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Feb 1 | Narrative (Success Story of an Alumni)
Feb 15 | Hackspace Camp/Coding
March 1 | Grants & Funding
March 23 | Spectrum Student Startup Culminating event

**Deliverables**
Successful completion of the module will involve evaluation of a student’s culminating reflection about the seminars/workshops. The class will be graded on a pass/fail basis. Students must pass all components to pass the course.

*Components:*
- Attend a minimum of 8 “The Forge @ Mac” sessions
- Complete a culminating reflection and submit to the Course Instructor.

**Expectations**
- Students will come to each tutorial and workshop session prepared for active participation. A quality learning experience in this module relies heavily on student interaction, engagement and exchange of ideas and experiences between students and the seminar/workshop providers.
- Class sessions will be an authentic environment for students to explore ideas and challenge assumptions. It is an expectation that all participants will respectfully listen and engage with others and share their own opinions and values. Students and instructors are expected to treat each other with respect.
- Students should expect to experience learning through many different avenues and participate in each activity to his or her full capacity.
- Students can expect instructors and guest lecturers or scholars to come prepared. The instructors will be willing listeners and participants in all activities. The instructors will also be willing listeners with regard to student concerns. Students may expect instructors to be available outside of tutorial or workshop time to give additional help or support.