MMC 6406: Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Mass Communication

Fall 2017 (section 1618)
Meets: Thursdays 12:50-3:50pm, Weimer 1090
Instructor: A.J. Coffey, Ph.D.
Office: 3202-A Weimer (3rd floor near aHA Lab)
Phone: 352.392.6522
Email: acoffey@jou.ufl.edu
Office Hours: Thurs. 12:00-12:50pm, Fri. 10:30am-12:30pm, or by appt.

Description: Graduate seminar focusing on the theoretical and conceptual foundations of innovation and entrepreneurship and relevant scholarship, as well as applications and implications of these foundations within the mass communication industry.

Objectives:
1) To understand the conceptual and foundational literature and theories related to innovation and entrepreneurship;
2) To be able to apply the above to various sectors within mass communication;
3) To understand the entrepreneurial mindset, as well as the personal and professional traits required for entrepreneurial ventures;
4) To understand best practices in innovation processes and management, as well as entrepreneurship;
5) To foster critical and strategic thinking in these areas.

Required Texts:
Course Pack: MMC 6406 from BookIT (corner of University & 13th by Holiday Inn).
Additional readings as announced.

E-Learning and Class Communication: This is an E-Learning course. Please check our Canvas site daily (https://lss.at.ufl.edu/) for class-related materials, announcements, or correspondence from me. Please feel free to also use these resources to communicate with each other.

Grading
A  94-100%
A- 90-93.95
B+ 87-89.95
B  84-86.95
B- 80-83.95
C+ 77-79.95
C  74-76.95
C- 70-73.95
D+ 67-69.95
D  64-66.95
D- 60-63.95
E  Below 60
See https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx for further info on university grading policies.

**Assignments and Evaluation**

- **Assignments** 40%
- **Comment Sheets** 15%
- **Final Project** 40%
- **Final Presentation** 5%

*Assignment Breakdown:
  - Creative destruction/Disruptive innovation analysis (CDDI): 40%
  - Entrepreneur interview and write-up: 60%

Assignments will be distributed at least one week in advance of their announced due date (syllabus dates are subject to change). Assignments are due on the date stated on the syllabus. Late assignments may be accepted within 24 hours (of the class period time), with a 10% penalty. Assignments turned in after this 24-hour period will not be accepted. We will also be using TurnItIn for most assignment submissions (through our Canvas site), and will discuss how to do so in class. The same deadline above also applies to the TurnItIn submission. In addition to uploading your assignment, however, please also turn in the hard copy in class for grading purposes.

**Comment Sheets**: Each of you will be responsible for two weeks’ worth of comments to be submitted to class peers via email by Wednesday at 7:00pm. For your assigned date, please type your insights, thoughts, questions, arguments, and/or comments on the assigned readings for the next day (3-page minimum, double-spaced). Email it to each of us (in Canvas) so that we can read it in preparation for class discussion the next day. A sign-up sheet will be circulated for these dates. For those two weeks, you will also be a class discussion leader.

**Academic Honesty**

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor.

Please review the honor pledge you signed, and the information you received on academic honesty and plagiarism, at your College of Journalism and Communications’ graduate student orientation. Additional copies, in multiple languages, are available from Jody Hedge in the CJC Graduate Division.

Familiarize yourself with the University of Florida Student Honor Code at http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/ as well as possible violations and sanctions. UF’s Academic Honesty Guidelines and Standards of Ethical Conduct can also be found on the Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution portion of the Dean of Students’ web site noted above. You should not be at UF or plan a career in this field unless you are prepared to do your own original work. If I discover that you have been academically dishonest in this class in any way, you will be penalized, up to and including expulsion from the University.
You are responsible for knowing the definition of plagiarism and various kinds of academic dishonesty. Ignorance, i.e. “I didn’t realize that was plagiarism” is not an acceptable response, and will not excuse you from academic dishonesty violations, if discovered. While you are responsible for reading and understanding UF’s policy in its entirety, examples of academic dishonesty include:

- Using phrases or quotes from another source without proper attribution or quotation marks
  - For purposes of this class, five or more words (verbatim) from a source without proper attribution or quotation marks will be considered plagiarism.
  - Paraphrasing without proper attribution
- “Forgetting” to source material you use (same as above, intentional or not)
- Passing off others’ ideas as your own
- Turning in the same assignment or paper for two courses, i.e. “dual submission.”
- Stealing and/or copying other students’ work, whether on a test or assignment
- Bribery
- Fabrication of material

If you have any questions about plagiarism, or how to properly cite or attribute sources, please ask. I am always happy to show you how to do this correctly in your scholarly work.

**Attendance Policy**

Graduate-level seminars tend to be interactive, so much of what you will learn occurs during classroom discussion, debate, and exchange. Your absence takes away from your peers’ seminar experience. You will be graded on your level of participation and contributions to class discussion, and this is aided by class attendance. University policy on attendance can be found at https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.asp.

**Support Services**

**Academic Help:** Additional services are available at:
- The Teaching Center
- The Reading and Writing Center
- SW Broward Hall, 392-2010
  [http://teachingcenter.ufl.edu](http://teachingcenter.ufl.edu)

**Disability Resources:** If you have a disability that you believe will affect your performance in this class and/or need special accommodations, please see me. Additional information and services are available at:
- UF Disability Resource Center, 392-8565
  [http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/)

(Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.)

Often, things that happen outside of the classroom can affect your work inside the classroom, academically or otherwise. UF has wonderful and confidential counseling services to assist you, should
this happen. They handle just about every issue and subject imaginable, so don’t be afraid to phone or walk over to receive this wonderful (and free) assistance. Contact info:

Academic and Personal Counseling: UF Counseling and Wellness Center, 392-1575
3190 Radio Road
http://www.counsel.ufl.edu/

Course Evaluation
Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at https://evaluations.ufl.edu. Evaluations are typically open during the last 2-3 weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results.

Course Schedule
(Please come to class having read the assignment listed for that week. Schedule and readings subject to change.)

**Abbreviations used below:**
CP: Course pack
LBB: “Little Black Book of Innovation”

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Work Due and Readings</th>
<th>Class Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 24</td>
<td>Course Overview</td>
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<td>Sign up for comment sheet dates.</td>
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<td>Introduction to Innovation and</td>
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<td>Review UF honor code, academic honesty policies.</td>
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<td>Entrepreneurship</td>
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<td>Purchase course materials (course pack, text).</td>
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<td>Aug. 31</td>
<td>Innovation Defined</td>
<td>LBB: Introduction and Ch. 1-4</td>
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<td>Creativity and Ideation</td>
<td>(pp. 1-81).</td>
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<td>CP: Creativity readings</td>
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<td>Due: “Get to Know You” form</td>
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<td>Identifying target audiences/</td>
<td>*Moment: A scientist’s take on</td>
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<td></td>
<td>consumers</td>
<td><em>creativity</em> (Ch. 1-2), pp. 1-47.</td>
<td>Johns Hopkins Press.</td>
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<td>Kim, S.K., Ch. 5</td>
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<td>Online (e-book via UF libraries):</td>
<td>Florida, R. (2012). <em>The rise of the creative class, revisited.</em> Read:</td>
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<td>Date</td>
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<td>Reading/Handout</td>
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<td>Sept. 14</td>
<td>Creativity and Discovery</td>
<td><strong>Canvas:</strong> Reading link provided</td>
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<td>Disruptive Innovation and Technologies</td>
<td><strong>LBB:</strong> “Discovering Opportunities,” pp. 85-126.</td>
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<td>Mehta &amp; Athalye (2012).</td>
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<td>Sept. 21</td>
<td>Disruptive Innovation and Technologies (cont’d).</td>
<td><strong>Online:</strong> “The People Formerly Known as the Audience” (2011), Special report, <em>The Economist.</em> URL provided.</td>
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<td><strong>CP:</strong> Gershon, R. (2013).</td>
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<td>Sept. 28</td>
<td>Diffusion of Innovation</td>
<td><strong>Online:</strong> Nieman Reports (Fall 2012): “Finding a Way Forward” and “Breaking News.” URL on Canvas.</td>
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<td><strong>Canvas:</strong> Rogers, E. Diffusion of Innovations theory (excerpt).</td>
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<td>Date</td>
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Canvas: Peres, et al. (2009) |
Listen to: Podcast from NPR’s This American Life, “It’s Not the Product, it’s the Person.” (Link provided) |
Burt, R. *The Network Entrepreneur* (excerpts).  
Blume, B. & Covin, J. (2011). Attributions to intuition in the venture founding process: Do entrepreneurs actually use intuition or just say that they do? |
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<td>Developing Your Network</td>
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<td>Decision Making, Intuition and Risk</td>
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| Oct. 26 | Developing a Business Plan  
Business Models  
Innovation Management and Planning  
Other readings (TBA)  
Due 10/26: Entrepreneur Profile Write-Up (Bring hard copy to class and upload e-version to Canvas). |
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<td>Possible guest speaker</td>
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<td>SWOT analysis exercise (in class)</td>
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| Nov. 2 | Pitch Presentations  
Art of the Pitch | CP: Creativity readings | Geho, P.R. & Dangelo, J. (2012). “The Evolution of Social Media as a Marketing Tool for |
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<td>Nov. 9</td>
<td>Field Trip</td>
<td>Field trip to Innovation Hub. Meet in our classroom and we will walk over together.</td>
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Canvas:  
| Nov. 23 | NO CLASS                                   | Thanksgiving holiday                                                  |
| Nov. 30 | Aesthetics, Creativity, Environment, and Productivity Final presentations (in class) | **CP:** Austin, C. (2009). Fueling an environment of creativity.  
**Due:** Final Paper  
Bring hard copy of final project to class, and upload digital copy to Canvas site.  
Last day of class |