

NFTE Entrepreneurship 2: Business Model Validation and Product Development

In this advanced entrepreneurship course, students deepen the development of their entrepreneurial mindset while refining their business models, developing their products or services, and mastering marketing and management skills. Upon completion, students can take the Certiport Entrepreneurship and Small Business exam which is aligned to the Common Career Technical Core and National Content Standards for Entrepreneurship Education.

Program Details

Course Requirements and Recommendations

- Grades 10–12
- Full-year course implementation
- Pre-requisite: NFTE Owning Your Future or NFTE-approved equivalent

NFTE Career-Readiness Measures and Certification

Student career readiness is measured on the three dimensions that the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) uses to evaluate career readiness:

- **Academic:** Pitch deck and presentation assessed through teacher rubric
- **Employability:** Entrepreneurial mindset evaluated through performance tasks, pitch competitions, and NFTE's Entrepreneurial Mindset Index (EMI), a formative assessment of students' noncognitive skills
- **Industry:** Certiport Advanced Entrepreneurship and Small Business Certification



Student Investment Pitch Competition

- Students create an investment pitch deck and a minimally viable product. Students prepare and pitch for investment funds.
- Top teams move on to regional competitions, with a chance to qualify for NFTE's National Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge.

Volunteer Support

- Student businesses benefit from guidance from industry business advisors through the course of the year.
- Students practice their entrepreneurial mindset through interactions with volunteer Investment Pitch advisors, and judges, drawn from NFTE's network of successful founders and business people.



NFTE's Entrepreneurial Teacher Corps: Professional Development and Benefits

- Face-to-face curriculum training ("NFTE U"), leading to Certified Entrepreneurship Teacher (CET) certificate
- Quarterly in-person Professional Learning Communities
- Monthly Professional Development Webinars
- Model Teacher Challenge Competition and other leadership opportunities
- Annual Teacher Summit
- Online access to all instructional and training materials through NFTE Connect
- Other support services

Units of Learning

- **Growing Your Entrepreneurial Mindset: Leadership and Teamwork**
Students participate in a series of challenges that require them to work as a team to solve complex problems. Students reflect on the entrepreneurial skills they used in the experiential activities and their opportunities for growth.
- **Achieving Product-Market Fit**
Students work collaboratively to develop an MVP. They get out of the building and conduct A/B testing with potential customers to validate product-market fit. Students also work on product development and positioning.
- **Designing a Business Model**
Students conduct online research and get out of the building to learn about distribution channels, internal resources, and external partnerships that could benefit their business. Students also learn about and consider how to structure their business in order to optimize performance of key activities.
- **Utilizing Digital Marketing and Sales**
Students learn about selling strategies. They develop a website and social media campaign to market their business and, as appropriate, sell their products.
- **Planning for Business Operations**
Students learn about human capital, intellectual property, basic record keeping, and basic accounting. Students consider the importance of ethics and how they can create socially responsible, sustainable businesses.
- **Financing a Startup**
Students develop financial ratios and a projected income statement for their business. Students learn about bootstrapping, crowdsourcing, and using loans to finance new businesses. Students also learn about credit scores.
- **Managing a Small Business**
Students learn about human resources, government regulations, and taxes relevant to their business and how to comply in preparation for the ESB certification exam.

Contact Us

To learn how to bring this program
to your school, email
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