






Innovation 101 Course Syllabus

The Innovation 101 course has two main objectives:

- 1) Show students the creativity that is already within them, and help them to believe in their own creative abilities. By the end of the course, a student should be able to confidently say, "I am creative."
- 2) Teach students the five foundational habits of great innovators, when to utilize them, and how to practice them in their daily lives, at work and at home, so they can improve their skills over time.

With the *attitude* and *habits* of great innovators, students will have their best shot at being successful in the innovative endeavors they apply themselves to.

What are the five foundational habits?

- 1)  **Imagination** (Visionary Thinking): Imagination is where innovation begins. The ability to see something other than what is, to imagine something better. That is the very core of creativity.
- 2)  **Feedback** (Flexible Thinking): Feedback is a gift! It is how we can improve and develop ideas into workable solutions. It is also common in how innovators communicate with each other.
- 3)  **Inquiry** (Contextual Thinking): You have to make sure you're solving for the right problem. This is where innovation roots itself so it can grow. Innovators see the usual and unusual, look for hidden factors, clarify, and reframe and more.
- 4)  **Experimentation** (Diagnostic Thinking): Testing early and often is a core habit of great tinkerers, engineers, and builders. The Edison's and Curie's of history and today are master experimenters.
- 5)  **Adaptation** (Improvisational Thinking): No idea survives contact with reality. Ideas must bend, mold, and change to meet the conditions and parameters of real life. Innovators must learn to improvise and adapt.

Time commitment and more for Early Birds:

The course is in active development. Every new course lesson and activity will be available to early bird students, who will be asked to provide feedback (optional, of course).

The course includes online materials and live instruction. In its shortest form, the course can be completed in a little over an hour. If students engage in all bonus content and more, it can be up to 3 hours per week for 7 months or more. The course is designed to get each student to their desired level of competence as efficiently as possible.

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