

Educational Studies
Senior Seminar
Spring 2009

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MW 9:50-11:00; F 9:40-10:40
Office Hours: MWF: 1:30 -3:30,
& by appointment

Course Description: In many ways non-profit organizations have changed the landscape of education in the US over the past 25 years. Organizations such as the Harlem Children’s Zone, Posse, College Summit, A Better Chance, Admission Possible, and Teach for America, have made significant impacts on how young people are educated and how local opportunity structures work. Our challenge in our senior seminar will be to design and create the “next great education non-profit.” In order to move in the direction of this difficult task, we will address ourselves to the following questions: 1) How were these other non-profits created? 2) What are social entrepreneurs? How Do They Think and Work? 3) How are unmet educational needs identified and conceptualized? 4) By what processes are organizational solutions to unmet educational needs developed? 5) What are the processes by which the financial support for sustainable education non-profits are sought and found? 6) How does a promising idea move from being a “blueprint” to a focused and sustainable organization?

Objectives:

- 1) Understand how and why high quality education non-profits are invented, take-hold in specific social, cultural and political circumstances and thrive.
- 2) Understand how to identify and articulate “unmet educational need.”
- 3) Understand how to write a grant proposal to fund an education non-profit.
- 4) Understand how to write a policy proposal seeking funding for a education non-profit.
- 5) Understand how to work on a team(s) to develop a “deliverable”—a grant proposal for a planning year for an education non-profit.

Course Requirements

- 1) “The Education Non-Profit I Wish I had Invented and Why.” Due Monday April 13th (25% of Final Grade)
- 2) Individual Proposals: First Draft of Education Non-Profit Grant Proposal.” Due Wed. May 6th (25% of Final grade)
- 3) Out of School Learning Policy Proposal Due Monday May 25 (25% of Final grade)
- 4) Group project: “The Next Great Education Non-Profit.” Due Sunday June 7 at 3:30 PM (25% of Final grade)

Calendar • Senior Seminar, EDUC 395
Spring 2009, MWF 9:50-11:00

Week 1

Topic: **Social Entrepreneurs: How Do They Think? How Do They Lead?**

Mon, Mar 30: Course introduction

Wed, April 1: David Bornstein, *How to Change the World*, Preface and Chapters 1,2,3,4 and 5.

Fri, April 3: Guest speaker: Christopher Tassava, Associate Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations

Week 2

Topic: **Naming the Unnamed: How to Identify and Conceptualize Unmet Educational Needs**

Mon, Apr 6 *How to Change the World*, Preface and Chapters 6,7,8, 9. 10 and 11

Wed, Apr 8 *How to Change the World*, Preface and Chapters 12, 13, 14 15, 16, & 17

Fri, Apr 10 *How to Change the World*, Preface and Chapters 18. 19. 20, 21, Epilogue, and Afterward.

Week 3

Topic: **Tools, Resources and Foundations for Social Entrepreneurs**

Mon, Apr 13 Root Cause: Advancing Innovation for Social Impact:
<http://www.rootcause.org/>

Wed, Apr 15 Case Study: Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship
Schwab Foundation's Top 45 Social Entrepreneurs in the Field of Education
<http://www.schwabfound.org/sf/SocialEntrepreneurs/Profiles/index.htm?sname=0&sorganization=0&sarea=0&ssector=260&stype=0>

Fri, Apr 17 Robin Hood Foundation: Targeting Poverty in New York City:
<http://www.robinhood.org/home.aspx>

Week 4

Topic: **More Resources for Social Entrepreneurs**

Mon, Apr 20 "Organizations that Specialize in providing Direct Support to Social Entrepreneurs."
<http://www.pbs.org/opb/thenewheroes/whatis/resources.html>

Wed, Apr 22 " Organizations That Offer Research Tools for Finding and Supporting Innovative Social organizations," and "Research Organizations Based in Universities."

<http://www.pbs.org/opb/thenewheroes/whatis/resources.html>

NOTE WELL: On Wed. Evening April 22, we will have dinner together with education assessment expert, Lloyd Bond and the CEOs of 2 or 3 MN education non-profits. Time and Place TBA.

Fri, Apr 24 Open: I will miss class this day. Think of ways to take advantage of this time for: field trips, brainstorming about ideas, reviewing what we have learned thus far.

Week 5

Topic: **Grant Writing 101**

Mon, Apr 27 Foundation Center's "Proposal Writing Short Course"

<http://foundationcenter.org/getstarted/tutorials/shortcourse/index.html>

Wed, Apr 29 Grant Writing 102, Reading TBA

Fri, May 1 Q & A with Christopher Tassava, Associate Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations

Mid-term break, Monday, May 4

Week 6

Topic: **Stand and Deliver: First Drafts of the Next Great Education Non-Profits.**

Wed, May 6 What Are Our Best Ideas? In-Class presentations of Ideas for the "Next Great Education non-Profit."

Fri, May 8 What Are Our Best Ideas? In-Class presentations of Ideas for the "Next Great Education non-Profit."

Week 7

Topic: **Garnering Public Support for Education Non-Profits**

Mon, May 11 "The Federal Role in Out-of-School Learning"

<http://www.hfrp.org/publications-resources/browse-our-publications/the-federal-role-in-out-of-school-learning-after-school-summer-learning-and-family-involvement-as-critical-learning-supports>

Wed, May 13 OST in NYC: Key features of programs That Engage High School Youth

http://www.policystudies.com/studies/youth/OST_High_School_Programs.pdf

Fri, May 15 Eugene Bardach, Preface, Introduction and Part One of *A Practical Guide for Policy Analysis & Appendix B.*

Week 8**Topic: Policy Proposals 101**

Mon, May 18 *A Practical Guide for Policy Analysis, Part 2. Appendix A*

Wed, May 20 *A Practical Guide for Policy Analysis, Part 3. Appendix C*

Fri, May 22 *Assessing the Effects of Education Non-Profits, Reading TBA.*

Week 9**Topic: Crunch Time**

Mon, May 25 Policy Proposals Due in Class for Oral Presentations.

Wed, May 27 In-Class work on Proposal(s)

Fri, May 29 In-Class work on Proposal (s)

Week 10**Topic: Refining Our Work**

Mon, June 1 Open

Wed, June 3 Open

Final: Sunday, June 7-----3:30-6:00 p.m.