Get a major competitive edge:
Minor in Innovation at UF.
Innovation Academy at UF

Preparing students for the challenges of living and working in the twenty-first century economy — with four years of specifically designed courses in creativity, entrepreneurship, ethics and leadership.

The competitive edge you’re looking for...

+ strengthened right-brain thinking
+ a more powerfully launched career
+ a unique and sought after skillset
+ the attention of the hiring elite
+ the exclusivity of having both a degree from UF and a minor in innovation

...comes with a minor in Innovation from UF.

+ collaborate with experts and peers
+ experience a vital mix of disciplines
+ learn strategic risk taking
+ experiment with rapid prototyping
+ explore play, passion & purpose
+ chart the path from creativity to your unique professional ventures
It’s like enrolling in a Collision Academy.

The sound of ideas and perspectives colliding is music to the ears of any innovator. Why? Because that energy moves things forward.
Many Majors.

Innovation Academy students can choose from any of these majors, in addition to the sub-specialization tracks offered within some degree programs.

**COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL AND LIFE SCIENCES**
- Animal Sciences
- Entomology & Nematology
- Plant Science

**WARRINGTON COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**
- Accounting
- Business Administration-
  - General Studies
- Economics
- Finance
- Information Systems Management
- Marketing

**COLLEGE OF DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND PLANNING**
- Sustainability & The Built Environment

**COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING**
- Computer Science
- Digital Arts and Sciences
- Industrial & Systems Engineering

**COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS**
- Visual Art Studies

**COLLEGE OF JOURNALISM AND COMMUNICATIONS**
- Advertising
- Journalism
- Public Relations
- Telecommunication

**COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES**
- Anthropology
- Biology
- Chemistry
- English
- Geography
- History
- Mathematics
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Sociology

**COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS**
- Health Science

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**The IA curriculum**

**CREATIVITY IN CONTEXT**
This foundational course begins with an examination of the theoretical groundwork and evolution of psychologically-based research on dimensions of the creative person, process, product and press. This foundation frames the applied learning in the course and offers the necessary background for subsequent coursework in the Innovation Academy minor.

**CREATIVITY IN ACTION PRACTICUM**
Focuses on the development of creative problem-solving strategies through the completion of an innovative project. Students will prototype the concept, test and refine the prototype and present the final project.

**ENTREPRENEURSHIP I**
A practical, hands-on understanding of the stages of the entrepreneurial process. Focuses on the decision-making process within a start-up company.

**ENTREPRENEURSHIP II** *(THE VENTURE ACCELERATOR)*
This course is an interactive, team-based, experiential program focused on guiding you through the start-up process with special emphasis on leveraging entrepreneurial thinking skills. Students will gain a greater understanding of early-stage planning and testing. The course will be organized around lectures, readings, class discussions, workshops, and a team-based launch project.

**MAKING ETHICAL DECISIONS**
This course introduces students to ethical theory and practice in careful reasoning about moral issues with a focus on changes and their consequences. That focus includes two distinct components; the first is an examination of selected topics involving change to assess the responsibilities and rights of both those who might initiate such changes and those who are impacted by the change.

**FOSTERING INNOVATION THROUGH LEADERSHIP**
Through leadership theory and application, students will develop a model for fostering innovation through leadership. By studying key leadership theories and models, students will develop the basic skills and knowledge necessary to move an innovation from creation to implementation. Using specifically designed course experiences, students will be able to think critically about leadership’s direct application to innovation and change.

**SENIOR PROJECT**
The IA senior project course targets undergraduate students in their final year of their program. They are designed to build on skills acquired in the earlier IA minor courses and emphasize situations and challenges that exist in the "real world." Specific learning goals and course objectives vary across disciplines but each senior project course provides an opportunity for students to demonstrate a range of professional competencies and communication skills. By incorporating computer simulations, case studies, research projects, etc. students are better able to develop critical thinking and problem solving skills, a learning goal frequently adopted following curriculum review.
Learning to leverage the risk-taking process and get great results is thrilling. And a rare, breathtaking skill once mastered.

Think of us as an Exhilaration Academy.
Fall Connection
Fall Connection is an opportunity for IA students to engage in up to 12 credits of online courses during their pre-enrollment fall semester. These courses are offered by UF, taught by UF faculty, and can satisfy UF degree requirements.

Innovation Academy students will work with an academic advisor to choose and enroll in Fall Connection courses that are relevant to their academic goals.

Launch Into IA
Launch Into IA is the convocation for IA students and takes place at the beginning of January. The event kicks off the academic year by bringing all of the incoming IA students together to welcome them to the university. Launch Into IA is the first time the entire IA cohort will convene and the event celebrates the class’s entry into the University of Florida.

Student Ambassadors
Innovation Academy Student Ambassadors are involved in a wide range of activities, including conducting information sessions, serving on IA committees, and acting as a liaison between Innovation Academy and IA students, families, and guests. Ambassadors will enhance their leadership abilities, teamwork, and communication skills while serving, in addition to networking with professionals, potential employers, and UF faculty and staff.

Local Internship Experience
The UF Innovation Academy Internship Experience is designed to give IA students opportunities to work on projects with ventures in the greater-Gainesville community during the fall semester. Interdisciplinary student teams undertake projects designed by local for-profit companies and non-profit organizations.

Living Learning
Residential Learning Communities have been in place in higher education for decades. The main purpose behind them is to expand the learning experience for college students beyond the classroom. Exclusive programming for Innovation Academy students will be available in Beaty East that focuses on personal leadership and scholarship development. Additionally, this learning community will provide resources for campus involvement and academic success.

Discover IA
Come to UF and visit the Innovation Academy during one of our Discover IA information sessions offered during the spring semester! Prospective students and their families will learn about the IA program and its exciting benefits and opportunities during a presentation that includes an overview of the IA experience as well as interaction with current students and faculty. Sessions are scheduled between February and April.

Tour UF
We suggest that you attend either the morning or afternoon UF Admissions session and campus tour so that you can learn more about the UF admission process and get a feel for all that the University of Florida has to offer. To schedule a tour please visit: www.admissions.ufl.edu/visit.html

How + When to Apply
To apply to the Innovation Academy, freshman applicants should indicate interest in the Innovation Academy on their UF undergraduate admissions application. Selection for admission to the Innovation Academy will follow the same holistic review process and be as rigorous as the selection to UF in general. IA students will enroll through their selected major and must meet the same requirements and standards as all UF students. The Office of Admissions offers more information for students interested in applying to UF and being part of the Innovation Academy.

Freshman applications for the University of Florida are available online beginning in early Fall. Students are encouraged to apply as early as possible. Decision notifications are released in February for all first-year students. The Office of Admissions website has more information regarding specific dates and application deadlines for freshman.
You could call us an Expression Academy.

Integrating the essential elements of play and passion with a sense of purpose will create incredible opportunities. Not just at UF, but for the rest of your life’s great ideas.
INNOVATION AT UF

Great change starts with a question. Someone wonders why – or why not – and sets off on a journey to find the answer.

The University of Florida is where those questions sprout from the minds of professors, students and nearly 50 years ago, by an assistant football coach. The coach asked a UF kidney disease specialist why his players lost so much weight during practices and games without urinating. They sweated away their strength and endurance. The science of sweat produced the solution that to this day gets dumped over the heads of triumphant coaches: Gatorade®.

In addition to spawning an entire sports energy drink industry, Gatorade lit the fuse for a culture of creativity at the University of Florida that has come up with a leading glaucoma drug and an environmentally-friendly way to eliminate termites.

You don’t need a Ph.D. or a fancy lab to be a Gator innovator. You’re immersed in it the day you set foot on campus. Undergraduates in UF’s entrepreneurship club started the online music streaming service Grooveshark. UF students and alumni also founded (local companies such as Fracture (glass photos), Feathr (digital business cards), Student Maid (house cleaning), and T5Tech (creators of the gift registry smart phone app MonkeyWish).

Companies from around the globe, such as Mobiquity and Mindtree, are setting up shop in the University of Florida’s Innovation Square, where the university also plans to build an entrepreneur-themed residence hall.

Entrepreneurship has long been part of the curriculum. Now, whether you’re majoring in biology, political science, business or anthropology, you can minor in innovation. Through four years of classes on entrepreneurship, creativity, leadership and ethics, UF can help you find the innovator within. We don’t give you the answers. We teach you to ask the questions.

Starting with this one:

Do you have what it takes to be a Gator innovator?

You know you do.

So go for it.

Be a part of what experts believe will change the world.

innovationacademy.aas.ufl.edu

Why UF and Gainesville is home to innovation:

The Rise of the Creative Class author Richard Florida projects that Gainesville will lead cities nationwide in percentage growth of creative class jobs through 2018.

- Last year UF spun off 15 start-up companies – 45% of all university-inspired start-ups in the state.
- UF issued 131 licenses and options for the use of its technologies last year – 75% of the total among all universities in the state.
- UF plans to build the nation’s first residence hall for student entrepreneurs as part of Innovation Square, a 40-acre urban research community currently under development.
- Local officials like to say that the area has the most incubators per capita of any place in the country, led by The Florida Innovation Hub at UF and the UF Sid Martin Biotechnology Incubator, ranked “World’s Best University Biotechnology Incubator.”