# First Year Seminar Introduction to Technology & Innovation (3 cr. hr)

Classroom: [John Bardo Center](https://map.concept3d.com/?id=1128#!m/306642), Room 338, 3rd floor

Lab: [Project Innovation Hub](https://www.wichita.edu/academics/engineering/innovation_hub_main/index.php), John Bardo Center, Room 105/203, 1st floor

**Sections:**

FYET 102A Introduction to Technology & Innovation

CRN 17163, TR 12:30 PM – 1:45 PM

CRN 16511, F 9:30 AM – 12:15 PM

Instructors Samantha Corcoran and Nathan Smith

**Instructor Information:**

* Instructor: Samantha Corcoran, Associate Educator

Department: Engineering Technology

Office Location: P2 A126

Email: [samantha.corcoran@wichita.edu](mailto:samantha.corcoran@wichita.edu)

Telephone: Call through Microsoft Teams during working hours

Preferred Method of Contact: Email or Teams chat

Student Hours: By appointment

* Instructor: Nathan D. Smith, Assistant Educator & Applied Learning Facilities Manager

Department: Engineering Technology

Office Location: John Bardo Center 243

Email: [nathan.smith@wichita.edu](mailto:nathan.smith@wichita.edu)

Telephone: 316-978-7461

Preferred Method of Contact: Email

Student Hours: Wed/Thurs 9:30am – 10:30am in JBC-243 or via [Zoom Link](https://wichitastate.zoom.us/j/93069672287?pwd=UlY2ZHM3ZjdVbHFlblFrcGdXWGdndz09)

## How to use this syllabus

This syllabus provides you with information specific to this course, and it also provides information about important university policies. This document should be viewed as a course overview; it is not a contract and is subject to change as the semester evolves. The instructor reserves and retains the right to alter the course requirements and/or assignments based on new materials, class discussions, current events, or other legitimate pedagogical objectives. When changes need to be made the instructor will make an announcement inside Blackboard and email it to all students. Read more about [how to use a syllabus](https://www.wichita.edu/services/studentsuccess/Students/SyllabusInformation.php).

## Course Content:

**Course Description:** Students will be inspired by the book *How We Got to Now: Six Innovations that Made Our Modern World* by Steven Johnson as they uncover the stories behind the remarkable ideas and inventors that made our modern world possible. Students will see the unpredictable way that innovation works, explore the cascade of advancements throughout the centuries, and explode the myth of the “Eureka moment” in innovation.

Students will experience the innovation process themselves using the design thinking process, a human-centered design method for innovation that combines creative and analytical approaches and requires collaboration across disciplines and diverse backgrounds. It focuses on empathy as a way to understand the user and design to meet their needs.

**Course Content:** This course uses hands-on activities to guide first year students through the design thinking process in order to develop innovative and creative problem-solving skills. Students will demonstrate skills and knowledge gained throughout the course by working in a collaborative multidisciplinary team, conducting customer interviews in the community to gain empathy, defining a problem to solve and researching possible solutions, and assessing economic and societal impacts.

**Student Success Content:** First year seminar courses include student success topics which will contribute to your overall achievement in this course and throughout your college years and future career. Workshops will be offered on topics such as: time management, study skills, active listening, teamwork, communication, campus resources, information literacy, health and wellness, career development, financial literacy, and more. These topics will be offered in 1-hour workshops, called “Professional Development Workshops,” with some guest lectured by subject matter experts across campus and some offered asynchronously on LinkedIn Learning. Completions will be tracked in Blackboard and using the [Shocker 360 App](https://www.wichita.edu/academics/academic_affairs/shocker360/students.php).

**Definition of a Credit Hour:** Success in this 3-credit hour course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally 3 hours per unit per week with 1 of the hours used for lecture) for instruction and preparation/studying or course related activities for a total of 135 hours. *TRANSLATION: you will be expected to spend 6 hours each week outside of the classroom on coursework for this class.*

### **Required Texts/Readings Textbook**:

* *How We Got to Now: Six Innovations that Made the Modern World*, by Steven Johnson, ISBN 978-1594633935 ([WSU Bookstore](https://shockerstore.com/store1/SelectTermdept.aspx?noresult=1))
* Bound notebook such as a composition book
* All other course materials including videos are from free online sources, which will be provided in Blackboard.
* Various outside readings will be required, including the [Common Read](https://www.wichita.edu/services/studentsuccess/fyp/CommonRead.php): *Notes from a Young Black Chef* by Kwame Onwuachi.
* The PBS video series *How We Got to Now* will be watched in its entirety, six one-hour documentaries. They are free to students with a WSU ID and password through the Library.
* [Design Thinking](https://futureofstuffchallenge.org/page/getstarted.php) from Stanford’s d.school [free online curriculum](http://dschool.stanford.edu/use-our-methods/).

**Required Events:**

* [Academic Convocation](https://www.wichita.edu/services/studentsuccess/fyp/convocation/index.php), 9/8/2022, 9:30 AM, [Wilner Auditorium](https://map.concept3d.com/?id=1128#!m/306611)
* Class Poster Session, 12/8/2022, 12:30-1:45 PM, Location TBA

**Recommended Events to Consider:**

* [WSU Welcomefest](https://www.wichita.edu/student_life/activities/si_events/welcomefest/index.php), multiple events
* Shocker Resource Fair, TBA
* [Clash of the Colleges](https://www.wichita.edu/services/studentsuccess/fyp/wsuclashofthecolleges.php), 8/26/2022, 4 PM, Arrive at Cessna Stadium, South Gate
* Syllabus Party, TBA
* Involvement Fair, TBA
* Wellness Expo, TBA
* [Family Weekend](https://www.wichita.edu/student_life/activities/si_events/family_weekend/), TBA
* Wu’s Big Event, TBA

## Class Protocol:

Prepare: Before attending each class meeting, students are expected to review the *Weekly Prepare* content on Blackboard.

Class Attendance: Cohort meetings and workshops require active participation from students. Due to the hands-on nature of the class, in-class content and activities cannot be made up and excessive (>4) unexcused absences could result in failure of the course. If extenuating circumstances arise, contact your instructor for approval *prior* to your absence.

Inventors Notebook: Students are required to maintain a bound notebook for the class. These will be an integral part of the course to help you practice note taking skills and learn about how other inventors kept notebooks, such as Leonardo Da Vinci, Frederick Tudor, or Thomas Edison.

Outside Meetings: Students are expected to attend meetings outside of class for multiple reasons: workshops, customer interviews, instructor drop in hours, team meetings, campus activities, or peer coach meetings.

**Schedule:** For a complete listing of lessons and the learning objectives they meet, see page 7.

# Course Grading

**Assignments**

Weekly Team Assignments 30%

Student Success Workshops 30%

Written Assessments 30%

Final Oral Presentation 10%

**Extra Credit:** Extra Credit may be available for attending Campus Events beyond the required number.

**Late Assignments:** In general, late assignments are unacceptable. Please talk directly with your instructor if you know that you are in danger of missing an assignment. Each instructor has their own policy

**Missed Assignments and Exams:** Anyone missing an exam, quiz, presentation without notifying the instructor in advance will NOT be allowed to make up the missed exam, quiz or presentation. Documentation of reason for missing may be required by instructor.

**Important Academic Dates**

*For Fall semester 2022*

* Classes begin 8/22/2022
* Fall Break (no classes) 10/15/2022-10/18/2022
* Thanksgiving Break (no classes) 11/23/2022-11/27/2022
* Classes end 12/8/2022
* Study Day 12/9/2022
* The last date to drop a class and receive a W (withdrawn) instead of F (failed) is TBA
* The final exam period is 12/10/2022 – no written exam; final portfolio due on this day.

*Weather Cancellations – Call 978-6633 (select 2) to obtain information on class cancellations.*

**Grading Scale:** The grading in the class will include assignments, written papers, and the final project. The evaluation of your work is the professional judgment of your instructor and is not subject to negotiation. WSU uses a +/- grading scale for final grades and to calculate grade point averages. In this class, grades are assigned according to the chart. (Other classes might assign grades differently: be sure to understand the different grading scales in all of your classes.)

| Percent | Letter Grade | Grade Points | Interpretation |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 100-95% | A | 4.00 | WOW! |
| 94-90% | A- | 3.67 |  |
| 89-87% | B+ | 3.33 |  |
| 86-84% | B | 3.00 | Good |
| 83-80% | B- | 2.67 |  |
| 79-77% | C+ | 2.33 |  |
| 76-74% | C | 2.00 | Fair |
| 73-70% | C- | 1.67 |  |
| 69-67% | D+ | 1.33 |  |
| 66-64% | D | 1.00 | Unacceptable |
| 63-60% | D- | 0.67 |  |
| 60% &below | F | 0.00 | Fail |

## First Year Seminar Overview, Mission & Goal

This course is designed for FIRST-YEAR students who are in their first semester at WSU. This general education seminar course will be an integral part of your general education at Wichita State University. You will explore a broad topic from a variety of different disciplinary perspectives. Please submit a picture of the character Alf, from the popular ′80s sitcom ALF, for 10 points in Shocker 360. This can be submitted in an activity called Read the Syllabus. In this course you will become part of the community of academic learners whose responsibility it is to ask questions, explore and exchange ideas, and become effective critical thinkers. Additionally, you will have the opportunity to engage with your fellow students and WSU faculty and staff by participating in activities aimed to further connect you to WSU.

**General Education Mission:** The mission of general education is to provide a well-rounded education that enables you to live the fullest most meaningful life possible regardless of your particular career preparation. Embedded throughout this course and furthered in the major are the skills that enable graduates to contribute productively to society and the on-going culture.

**General Education Goal:** The goal of general education is to enable you to live a rich, meaningful life by developing an informed appreciation of the arts, humanities, and natural and social sciences; an ability to intelligently follow and participate in current events, and a sensitive and tutored appreciation of diverse cultures and ways of living.

**General Education Outcomes (GEO)**

1. Acquire knowledge in the arts, humanities, and/or natural and social sciences
2. Demonstrate the ability to think critically and independently
3. Effectively write and speak
4. Employ analytical reasoning and problem-solving techniques
5. Develop fundamentals of information literacy and library research
6. Develop an appreciation for diversity

**Student Success Outcomes (SSO)**

1. Connect to faculty and other students to develop an appreciation for others and respect for diversity of thought.
2. Develop more effective study and life skills in areas including information literacy, time management, note taking, test taking, personal finance, and learning styles.
3. Immerse yourself into the Wichita State community to understand resources, campus traditions and culture and the value of student involvement.

**Course Learning Objectives (CLO)**

1. Compare and contrast the value of specific technological innovations and their impact to society
2. Describe the design thinking process
3. Demonstrate an entrepreneurial mindset using design thinking
4. Apply the design thinking process and incorporate customer feedback
5. Participate in a multidisciplinary team and incorporate diverse points of view
6. Effectively write and orally communicate to a variety of audiences

# University Policies and Student Resources

All students should familiarize themselves with the course-related policies and student resources found at [WSU Syllabus Policies](http://www.wichita.edu/syllabuspolicies). These include, but may not be limited to:

* COVID-19 Conditions
* Important Academic Dates
* Academic Integrity
* Definition of a credit hour
* Video and Audio recording
* Shocker Alert System
* Intellectual Property
* CARE Team
* Counseling and Prevention Services
* Student Health Services
* Heskett Center and Campus Recreation
* Inclusive Excellence and Respect for Diversity
* First Generation Students
* Names and Pronouns
* Disability Services
* Title IX
* Concealed Carry Policy

# Course Schedule, Assessments, and Outcomes

The complete schedule spreadsheet will also be provided in Blackboard in Excel format.

