

Summer School Overview

Program Details

Modality: This program is comprised of 4 full-day in-person sessions along with at least 6 elective sessions. Some electives will be offered in person and some through distance learning. In addition, students will be assigned to an Action Learning group for peer coaching and they will be provided with a mentor.

Mandatory Sessions: 4 full-day sessions (June 20/21; August 15/16).

Elective Sessions: Students must complete at least 6 elective sessions that suit their personal learning goals best.

Full-day Sessions: Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 9AM – 5PM

Elective Sessions: Offered on various dates/times; schedule will be provided.

Action Learning: Four 3 hours/session; students will be assigned a group.

Participants: up to 20 participants; all ages including youth 18+.

Designation: Students must complete 4 full-day sessions as well as at least 6 elective sessions (50 hours total) to achieve the Associate Fellow designation.

Cost: \$1999/student (financial assistance is available).

Location: Centre for Social Innovation (multiple locations); elective sessions may be held off-site.

Program Outline:

The traditional skills and knowledge that most of us gained in school have inadequately prepared us to manage the professional and personal challenges of the 21st century. Our planet is changing; technology is creating and destroying industries overnight; and our careers are evolving into a series of short gigs.

Emerging leaders of the 21st century must develop a host of entrepreneurial competencies including dealing with uncertainty, personal re-invention, critical thinking, and creativity. Equally challenging, employers must now blend their financial goals with social and environmental sustainability as consumers and employees demand responsible business practices and meaningful work.

The Summer School at The School for Social Entrepreneurs Ontario offers participants an opportunity to develop their “entrepreneurial” mindset, develop 21st century skills, and build the networks that will help them better the world through their own social venture or in their workplaces. Students choose their own social change adventure depending on the sessions they take, creating their own personal, unique learning experience.

Learning Outcomes:

Through this program, students will:

- Develop “entrepreneurial” skills to be able to lead change initiatives.
- Develop 21st century skills that will help them thrive in today’s complex world.
- Better understand social entrepreneurship and social intrapreneurship.
- Explore their identities as change makers.
- Build a support network of like-minded individuals.

Learning Approach

The SSE “Action Learning” approach supports students’ development as lifelong learners. Our award-winning programs are self-directed and experiential: students learn by applying new concepts explored in class sessions to their own ideas for social or environmental change projects. Our non-traditional classroom is a welcome place for learners of all socio-economic backgrounds and educational experiences. At SSE, students develop their abilities to think critically and creatively, take ownership of their learning, communicate their ideas, and collaborate with others to achieve their intended social impact.

For Summer School, SSE will draw on core learning methodologies including Action Learning and Witness Sessions.

- *Action Learning* – An approach to problem solving and team development carried out in small teams. With the guidance of a trained facilitator, students work to solve problems they face individually, with the support of their peers. Using non-judgmental and powerful questions, students reflect on their actions and find innovative and effective ways to move forward.
- *Witness Sessions* – During these sessions, students interact with experienced social entrepreneurs and intrapreneurs who share their hard-earned successes, the mistakes they’ve made, and the challenges they’ve faced.
- *Learning from Difference* - When students work to build bridges across societal boundaries, they learn the skills to succeed in a complex, interdependent world. With individuals hailing from different generations and from a wide array of socio-economic, cultural, and professional backgrounds, the passionate SSE Ontario community represents a veritable microcosm of Canadian society.
- *Mentorship* - SSE Ontario students are paired with seasoned mentors who offer personalized advice and guidance, contacts, and other support. These relationships often continue long past the completion of the program. Mentors act as coaches for students in areas where they are facing technical challenges. Bringing their subject matter expertise, mentors are important members of the student support team.

- *Expert Sessions* - Because social change makers need a lot of technical advice and guidance, subject matter experts in fields such as business models, design thinking, and marketing make regular appearances in the classroom.

Schedule (TBC)

Mandatory Sessions	Dates/Times	Description
1 & 2	Tuesday June 20, 9AM – 5PM Wednesday June 21, 9AM – 5PM	Group Establishment Foundations of Social Change Unlearning to Create New Value Innovation through Inquiry - Intro to Action Learning Introduction to Human Centered Design
3 & 4	Tuesday August 15, 9AM – 5PM Wednesday August 16, 9AM – 5PM	Navigating the System Influence vs. Authority Building Personal Resilience Reflective Artifacts Evening celebration
Sample Elective Sessions Business Model Canvas, Pitching Your Idea, Low-cost Tools for Social Change, Inter-personal Unlearning, Social Change Movements, Communication Skills, Creativity, Social Impact, Systems Thinking.		