BUERK CENTER FOR ENTREPRENUERSHIP
FOSTER SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

GRADUATE PROGRAMS

learn more at startup.uw.edu

CURRICULUM

GRADUATE ENTREPRENEURSHIP CERTIFICATE

Have a great startup idea? Want to work for an early-stage company? Interested in investing, technology commercialization, or other innovation? It's all here. The Buerk Center's entrepreneurship certificate prepares UW graduate and PhD students to launch startups and work with emerging technologies. Through cross-campus collaboration, hands-on experience, and access to local venture networks, students build skills and connections that drive real-world innovation.

CURRICULUM HIGHLIGHTS

- Software Entrepreneurship (ENTRE 532)
- Technology Commercialization (ENTRE 541)
- Venture Capital Investment (ENTRE 542)
- Environmental Innovation Practicum (ENTRE 543)
- Health Innovation Practicum (ENTRE 545)
- Grand Challenges for Entrepreneurs (ENTRE 579)
- Angel Investing (ENTRE 579)
- Creative Destruction Lab (ENTRE 579)



FELLOWSHIPS



The Buerk Center supports various internship and fellowship opportunities for graduate students to gain real-world experience while pursuing their degree.

WRF/ITHS SUMMER COMMERCIALIZATION FELLOWSHIPS

Gain technology commercialization consulting experience and assess firsthand whether a specific early-stage UW technology in the life sciences presents a start-up or out-licensing opportunity. Open to all UW graduate students.

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP FELLOWSHIPS

Fellows in this program will work directly with inventors and experts on how to best deploy social enterprise models for their innovations. Population Health Initiative in partnership with CoMotion, the Buerk Center, and the Evans School of Public Policy. Open to all UW graduate students.

PACK VENTURES VC FELLOWSHIPS

This academic year fellowship provides the opportunity to learn every aspect of the venture capital business — investing in brilliant founders, fundraising for the fund, working with entrepreneurs, and engaging the community with great events. Open to all UW graduate students.

COMPETITIONS

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SHOWCASE

The Science & Engineering Business Association (SEBA) and the Buerk Center host this event every January for students to explore the business potential of their science- and technology-based ideas. Teams pitch to industry experts, receive feedback, and win prizes.
Learn more at uwseba.com/sts

HEALTH INNOVATION CHALLENGE (HIC)

Innovations in health and healthcare are creating a paradigm shift in our approach to everyday life. Students who compete in the annual HIC in winter quarter have a passion for innovation and solving problems. Develop your idea for wellness, care and treatment, safety, etc. and make an impact!
Learn more at hic.washington.edu.

DEMPSEY STARTUP COMPETITION

Want to gain real-world startup experience? Teams who enter this multi-stage startup competition get valuable training and feedback from 400+ judges and mentors. We award more than $90,000 annually, but even if you don't win a prize, you'll come away with the skills, network and experience you need to get your startup off the ground.
Learn more at bpc.uw.edu

EXPERIENTIAL WORKSHOPS

Throughout the academic year, we host workshops and hackathon-inspired events on a variety of topics to bring together interdisciplinary students with industry leaders to ideate, discuss, and learn about solutions. Topics include digital health, climate/tech sustainability, impact investing, and more.

STUDENT NCUBATOR

The Incubator program is for student founders aiming to make significant progress on their business idea. If you are ready to invest time and energy to take your startup to the next stage, this is for you!

COMMUNITY

WOMEN'S ENTREPRENEURIAL LEADERSHIP

Our Women's Entrepreneurial Leadership program (WE Lead) promotes the advancement of women as entrepreneurs, leaders, investors, and agents of innovation. Open to students from any major or program. Annual activities include the Rising Tide community event, workshops, mentoring, the WE Lead Cohort and more. Women, non-binary persons, and allies across the gender spectrum are welcome.
Learn more at WELead.uw.edu



TEAM TUESDAY LUNCH MEETUPS

Students from all programs are welcome at the Buerk Center's Team Tuesday lunch meetups, taking place throughout the academic year. Pitch an idea, recruit for your team, or just make connections, these fun weekly meetups will give you a place in the campus startup community!
Learn more and register at startup.uw.edu

ENTREPRENEURSHIP & VENTURE CAPITAL CLUB (EVCC)

The EVCC is the gateway between the Foster MBA program, the Buerk Center, and the Seattle startup and VC community. Events include panels, start-up day, pitch competitions and more!
Learn more at uwfostermbaa.com/clubs

SCIENCE & ENGINEERING BUSINESS ASSOCIATION (SEBA)

SEBA is the premier UW student organization for developing science and engineering students into business professionals, and to which business leaders come to engage students.

CONNECT WITH THE ECOSYSTEM

It's all about connections, and the Buerk Center has them. Whether you need legal advice, feedback on your pitch, or a mentor with expertise in a particular industry, the Buerk Center can connect you to the best of Seattle's entrepreneurial community.

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