



**SUMMER
SPRINGBOARD**
Look Inward. Go Upward.

BUSINESS + ENTREPRENEURSHIP INFOSHEET

**New student admissions for
summer 2026 are open**

1-Week Course

This course is one week long, and you can extend your experience to as many as six weeks by adding additional one-week courses.

Program Highlights

- Learn the Business Model Canvas approach to launching a startup
- Team up to build a new business venture and craft a sales and marketing plan to pitch to investors and mentors
- Discover how operations, marketing, sales and finance work together to drive a business forward
- Get real-world insight from a startup founder sharing hard-earned lessons and survival stories

2026 Dates

Yale

- Session 1: June 14 - June 20
- Session 4: July 05 - July 11



Academic Program Overview

In their first class, students break into teams to create an original business idea. Throughout the program, they develop this idea into a full startup they'll eventually pitch to investors. Along the way, teams build a marketing plan and financial projections.

Through hands-on learning, students jump into the entrepreneurial process while the instructor introduces key theories and concepts as they become relevant. On the final day, teams pitch their products to a panel of expert judges who offer professional, actionable feedback.



Excursions

At Yale, students explore New England's thriving business and entrepreneurship scene through visits to local startups, innovation hubs and established companies in the New Haven area. They'll engage with entrepreneurs and business leaders, tour the Yale Tsai Center for Innovative Thinking, and get behind-the-scenes insights into business operations, brand strategy and product development.

Past Summer Springboard students have enjoyed exclusive access to companies ranging from tech giants like Microsoft and Netflix to cutting-edge startups and small businesses, meeting CEOs and founders to hear firsthand how they built their paths to success.

Past Instructors include:

Sade Owoye

Sade Owoye is passionate about entrepreneurship, business, and innovation. She is the associate director of student programming at the Tsai Center for Innovative Thinking at Yale, where she leads the Launch Pad and Accelerator program for early- to mid-stage ventures. Previously, Sade was a business advisor at the University of Connecticut's Small Business Development Center, connecting clients with over \$3.5 million in funding opportunities, and co-founded a specialty dessert and gift boutique. She has been recognized by Pathways Academy of Technology and Design, the Urban League of Southern Connecticut and Google for her work in entrepreneurship and civic engagement. Sade holds a bachelor's degree in Economics from the University of Connecticut, a certificate in business scaling from the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton Executive Education Program, and an MBA from Boston University's Questrom School of Business.

Tuition Information:

Residential Students:

- **Includes:** all meals, lodging, excursions, academic course and weekend excursions
- **Excludes:** optional airport pickup and drop off service (available for an additional fee)
- **Price:** \$4,298 first week, \$3,298 for each additional week

Commuter Students:

- **Includes:** lunch, academic course, excursions, programming from 9am to 5pm, Monday-Friday
- **Excludes:** lodging, breakfast, dinner and weekend excursions
 - Weekend excursions can be added on for \$125 per day
- **Price:** \$2,498 first week, \$1,998 for each additional week

Supplements:

- **Application fee:** Starting at \$99 (mandatory, non-refundable)
- **Tuition Protection Plan:** Allows for cancellation for any reason up until the day of the program. Click [here](#) for more info.

Course Structure

There are five 4-hour class sessions over the one-week course. Students have class from 9am-1pm, Monday-Friday. Afternoons are dedicated to students' course-specific academic excursion, guest speaker or activity.



Typical Schedule

8AM	Breakfast	
9AM	Academic Course / Commuter Student Arrival	
11AM	15-Minute Break	
11:15AM	Academic Course	
1:15PM	Lunch/Free-Time	
3PM	Academic Excursion/Lab	
5PM	Commuter Students Depart	
6PM	Dinner	
7PM	Evening Activity	
8:30PM	Free-Time	
9:30PM	Back in Dorms	

[More info on Airport Transfer](#)

[More info on Unaccompanied Minor Service](#)

[Apply Now!](#)

Summer Springboard - 2026 is operated independently of Yale University and is not sponsored or endorsed by the University. The views expressed in connection with the program are not the official positions, statements of advice nor opinions of Yale University and should not be viewed as an endorsement by Yale of any such views or statements.

2026_V4



**SUMMER
SPRINGBOARD**
Look Inward. Go Upward.

BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP INFOSHEET

**New student admissions for
Summer 2026 are open.**

2-Week Course

This is a two-week program where you'll focus on one course for the entire duration.

Program Highlights

- Introduce the Business Model Canvas approach to entrepreneurship
- Work in teams to create a new business venture and develop a sales and marketing plan to pitch your venture to investors and mentors
- Understand how operations, marketing, sales, and finance come together to drive businesses
- Hear the tales of survival of a startup business from an entrepreneurial founder



Academic Program Overview

In their first class, students will break into teams and come up with an original business idea. Over the course of the entire program they develop this idea into a business that they will ultimately pitch to investors. Along the way, teams need to develop a marketing plan and financial projections. By using an experiential learning approach, students will quickly engage in the topic, and the instructor introduces the underlying theory and concepts as students tackle these issues while trying to build their business. On the final day of the course the teams present their products to an expert panel of judges who provide professional and informative feedback to the students.

Excursions

At Duke, students have visited First Flight Venture Center, NC Biotech Center, American Underground Business Accelerator, and Biolabs. Students in New York embarked on an exclusive tour of fabrik, a cutting-edge company that transforms underused spaces into vibrant hubs of energy and community. At Georgetown, students visited the sleek new M.M.LaFleur store, co-founded by their instructor, where they met with fashion industry professionals to dive deep into business operations and brand strategy. In Michigan, students had a sweet experience at Molly's Cupcakes, famous for winning the first season of Food Network's Cupcake Wars. They toured the kitchen with founder and CEO Johnny Nicolaides, who shared behind-the-scenes insights into the company's operations and success. In Boston, students have visited Harvard Innovation Labs. While in Berkeley, students enjoyed exclusive visits to iconic organizations, including Autodesk Gallery, Netflix, Planet Renu, Maker Nexus, Shuggie's Pizza, and more. They had the privilege of meeting and engaging with visionary leaders and CEOs from a number of Bay Area companies. Additionally, students had the valuable opportunity to participate in a career panel featuring distinguished executives from Microsoft and Yahoo! Students at UCLA were able to visit Dr. Squatch to learn about their soap production, and students at UCSD visited a small business development center at the University of San Diego.

Instructors

UCLA - Laura Manyweather, Ph.D.

Dr. Laura Manyweather is a college professor and consultant and she specializes in program, fund, and non-profit development. With 30 years of experience with private corporations and 13 in academia, she brings systems, processes and organizational structure to small and micro businesses, in order for them to thrive in an ever-changing economic environment. Dr. Manyweather received an award and was recognized as a Women of Influence (WOI) in 2018.

UCSD - Greg Horowitt

Greg Horowitt is Founding Partner of T2 Venture Creation and a co-author of 'The Rainforest: The Secret to Building the Next Silicon Valley'. He presently serves as the Director of Innovation Design at the University of California, San Diego. He is a consultant to development organizations including the World Bank, OECD, USAID, Aspen Institute, and the National Academies of Science. In addition, he is a Kauffman Fellow and a Senior Fellow with the Global Federation of Competitiveness Councils. He previously served as an executive with a Berkshire Hathaway operating company for nearly twenty years. Greg has also been a founder, investor, and board member in many leading organizations.

Berkeley- Andre van der Bergh (S 1)

Andre van der Bergh Session 1, Prior to embarking on a career as a facilitator of Team Business programs, André had been intimately involved in the retail industry in South Africa and the Middle East for more than 25 years, specializing in process re-engineering and automation. Since 2002, André has been facilitating Team Business programs for corporate clients, teenagers (in the USA, England, Spain, India, Morocco and Switzerland) and is involved in MLT's Leadership Development Program. For many years André kicked off the Leadership In The Business World Program at Wharton, the Management and Technology Summer Institute Program at U Penn, and the Fundamentals Of Business Program at Georgetown University.

Duke University - Christopher J. Littel

Chris Littel is a Lecturer in Management, Innovation and Entrepreneurship at the Poole College of Management at NC State University in Raleigh, North Carolina. Chris holds a B.S. Engineering from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, and a Masters' Degree in International Economics, International Relations and Security Studies from the Nitze School of Advanced International Studies of the Johns Hopkins University in Washington, DC. Chris brings decades of experience in business and specializes in several different areas. We're glad to have Chris back in 2024 after leading a successful course in 2023.

Barnard College, Columbia University - Alana Cheeks-Lomax

Alana Cheeks-Lomax is the Co-Founder and CEO of Untold Impact, a strategy consulting firm dedicated to helping brands forge authentic connections with multicultural communities. Alana is also an accomplished public speaker and a distinguished recipient of several prestigious awards including the AT&T and Rolling Out Magazine Women of Power NYC Award. She is a two-time graduate of Carnegie Mellon University, where she serves on the Andrew Carnegie Society Board. She is also a trustee of INCLUDEnyc, a nonprofit dedicated to improving the lives of children and youth with disabilities in New York City.

Georgetown - Lisa Francis

Lisa Francis is an entrepreneur, business strategist, and educator with an MBA from American University. She founded The Federal Lunch, a Washington, DC-based food company inspired by her great-grandfather's restaurant, blending her family's legacy with her entrepreneurial vision. Lisa has extensive experience in corporate strategy, consulting, and mentoring students, having worked with organizations in hospitality, AI, and global business expansion. She also served as Director of Graduate Admissions at American University's Kogod School of Business, building partnerships and mentoring aspiring leaders. As a member of the Veloric Center for Entrepreneurship Incubator, Lisa actively contributes to the local entrepreneurship community.

MIT Campus - TBA

Courses are taught by accomplished and passionate faculty recruited from many area colleges, universities and professional forums. Each faculty member is selected for their subject area expertise and proven ability to both challenge and captivate students.

University of Michigan - Leigh Weir

Leigh Weir is a distinguished business leader, realtor, and educator with over 20 years of experience and a robust educational background, including an MBA and MAED from the University of Phoenix. Specializing in management, servant leadership, and intercultural relations, she has successfully instructed thousands of students globally, including overseas engagements with the Abu Dhabi Education Council. Beyond academia, Leigh has made significant contributions to health and wellness programs in primary education and held notable roles in the real estate and finance sectors at Quicken Loans and Amrock. Leveraging her diverse skill set and financial acumen, she continues to drive positive change and progress as a coach and influential figure in both education and real estate.



Course Structure

There are nine 3-hour class sessions over the two-week course. During week one, students have class from 9am-12pm, Monday - Friday. During the week two students have class from 9am-12pm Monday through Thursday. Wednesday afternoons are dedicated to additional academic time (excursions, speakers).

Tuition Information:

Residential Students:

- **Includes:** all meals, lodging, excursions, academic course, weekend excursions
- **Excludes:** optional airport pickup and drop off service (available for an additional fee)
- **Price:** See prices under 2026 dates

Commuter Students:

- **Includes:** lunch, academic course, excursions, programming from 9am to 5pm, Monday-Friday
- **Excludes:** lodging, breakfast, dinner, weekend excursions
 - Weekend excursions can be added on for \$125 per day
- **Price:**
 - **\$2,998:** Georgetown, Duke, Michigan
 - **\$3,298:** Berkeley, UCLA, MIT Campus, UC San Diego

Supplements:

- **Application fee:** Starting at \$99 (mandatory, non-refundable)
- **Tuition Protection Plan:** Allows for cancellation for any reason up until the day of the program. Click [here](#) for more info.

[More info on Airport Transfer](#)

[More info on Unaccompanied Minor Service](#)

[Apply Now!](#)

2026 Dates

Georgetown (\$5,798)

- Session 1: June 21 - July 3

Barnard/Columbia (\$5,998)

- Session 1: July 5 - July 17
- Session 2: July 19 - July 31

Berkeley (\$5,998)

- Session 1: June 14 - June 26
- Session 3: June 28 - July 10
- Session 5: July 12 - July 24

UCLA (\$6,298)

- Session 1: June 21 - July 3
- Session 2: July 5 - July 17
- Session 3: July 19 - July 31

UC San Diego (\$5,998)

- Session 1: June 28 - July 10
- Session 2: July 12 - July 24
- Session 3: July 26 - August 7

Duke (\$5,798)

- Session 1: June 28 - July 10
- Session 2: July 12 - July 24

University of Michigan (\$5,698)

- Session 1: July 19 - July 31

MIT Campus (\$6,798)

- Session 1: June 21 - July 3
- Session 2: July 5 - July 17
- Session 3: July 19 - July 31



Typical Schedule

8AM	Breakfast	
9AM	Academic Course / Commuter Student Arrival	
12PM	Lunch	
1:30PM	Academic Excursions or Recreational Activity	
3:30PM	College Readiness Workshop or True You	
5PM- 6:30PM	Commuter Student Departure	
6PM	Dinner	
7PM	Clubs	
10:30PM	Night Checks	

Summer Springboard programs are not run by our campus partners (with the exception of Cal Poly, University of Washington Foster School of Business, and NYSID which are run in partnership with SSB). Universities and their affiliated departments and partners do not control and are not responsible or liable in any manner for any part of the Summer Springboard program.