

Social Innovators in Training (SIIT) – Fall 2024 Schedule

Wednesdays | 5:00-6:30 pm | UTD 164

#	Date	Theme	Activities & Resources
1	Sept 11	Being a changemaker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet your fellow changemakers Share the social impact you want to create
2	Sept 18	Identifying the problem, you are seeking to solve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify social issues and needs Gather data to support your case Develop your problem brief Pitch the problem you are seeking to solve Useful tool: Impact Gap Analysis Canvas
3	Sept 25	Approaching social issues with empathy and compassion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build trust and credibility within affected communities Ask the right questions to identify individual and community needs Useful tool and references: Empathy Maps; stakeholder discovery plan; Talking to Humans and The Mom Test
4	Oct 2	Designing an impactful idea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using various creativity techniques Designing for inclusivity Differentiating your idea from existing solutions
5	Oct 9	Prototyping and testing your idea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prototype using social innovation principles Test prototypes, gather feedback and make decisions GH alumni panel: How they prototyped and tested their ideas Useful Reference: Evaluating Social Innovation Prototypes: A Guide
October 14th –18th – Reading Week			
6	Oct 23	Demo Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrate your prototype's functionality and value Receive and document feedback from community members, including areas that generated validation, confusion, opposing feedback and different perspectives
7	Oct 30	Building a team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand and prioritize who you need on your team, e.g., developers, designers, community organizers, marketers Develop roles and tasks, including what you are looking for in terms of experience, education, knowledge and skills GH alumni panel: How to recruit, build and manage an effective team
8	Nov 6	Building relationships with funders and government officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet funders and government officials Learn how to make a strong and compelling request for funding Learn how to engage with government

9	Nov 13	Practice your pitch	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How to deliver a pitch and respond to judges' questions
10	Nov 20	Social Impact Showcase *4:00-5:30pm*	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pitch your idea• Announcement of SIF recipients• Network with community members

Classes Dec 3rd/ Exams begin Dec 6th

Social Impact Fund (SIF) – Grants and Awards available

Micro grants – These grants assist with modest expenses, e.g., attending a conference, website domain, marketing materials, software, and hardware. Students can request up to \$250 to cover such expenses. Requests are made via discussion with a GreenHouse staff member and approvals are made by the GreenHouse Director.

Social Venture Creation grants – These grants assist with the expenses needed to engage with stakeholders; build and test prototypes; pilot a campaign, product, program or service; and launch a social venture. Students can pitch for funding to support the activities they have planned over a 4-month timeline. Two grants of \$1,500 and two grants of \$3,000 are available in both the fall and winter terms.

Changemaker awards - \$250 each – These awards celebrate the growth mindset and skill development of students. These awards are available in both fall and winter terms and are described below:

- **Community builder award** celebrates an individual who has fostered collaboration, inclusivity, and positive social impact within their community.
- **Inclusive designer award** celebrates an individual who has applied principles of universal design to create accessible, equitable, and user-friendly solutions that address diverse needs and promote inclusivity for all.
- **Tech for good innovator award** celebrates an individual who has harnessed technology to address a social or environmental challenge.
- **Global innovator award** celebrates an individual with far-reaching impact, addressing a global challenge and has fostered positive change on an international scale.

Pitching your idea – all students are encouraged to develop and refine their pitch deck throughout the term and there are opportunities for every student to gain experience delivering and receiving feedback on their pitch. Students will be invited to participate in the Starter pitch or the Social Venture Creation pitch.

- **Starter pitch** - deliver a 3-minute pitch for feedback from GreenHouse alumni.
- **Social Venture Creation pitch** – deliver a 3-minute pitch for funding followed by a 10-minute Q&A from a panel of judges with expertise in social innovation and entrepreneurship.

Important Dates

Oct 28 th , 11:59pm	Deadline to submit a first draft pitch deck + script for feedback.
Nov 4 th , 11:59pm	Deadline to submit your final draft pitch deck and script for feedback.
Nov 15 th , 12:00-1:00pm	Starter pitch (virtual)
Nov 15 th , 2:30-4:30pm	Social Venture Creation pitch (virtual)
Nov 20 th , 4:00-5:30pm	Social Impact Showcase, followed by community dinner

The Social Venture Creation grants and Changemaker awards are announced at the [Social Impact Showcase](#).