



## Social Innovators in Training (SIIT) – Winter 2025 Schedule

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

Welcome to Social Innovators in Training Winter 2025! Here is the detailed schedule of what we will be focusing our energy on weekly.

Week	Date	Topic	Activities
1	January 15	<b>Being a Changemaker</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Winter term social 4:00-5:00 p.m. (optional)</li> <li>• Meet your fellow innovators</li> <li>• Identify your goals and values for winter 2025</li> </ul>
2	January 22	<b>Defining the Problem</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Share the problem you hope to solve</li> <li>• Mini problem pitch</li> <li>• Introduction to the Social Impact Fund</li> </ul>
3	January 29	<b>Ideation and Prototyping</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creativity techniques for solution development</li> <li>• Differentiating your idea from existing solutions</li> <li>• Prototype using social innovation principles</li> </ul>
4	February 5	<b>Stakeholder Engagement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify your stakeholders</li> <li>• Ask the right questions to identify needs</li> <li>• <a href="#">Talking to Humans, The Mom Test</a></li> </ul>
5	February 12	<b>AI Tools &amp; Testing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learn how AI can accelerate your project</li> <li>• How to test your prototype with different audiences</li> <li>• Prep for Demo Day</li> </ul>
February 19: No Session – Reading Week			
6	February 26	<b>Demo Day</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate your prototype’s functionality and value</li> <li>• Receive feedback from community members</li> <li>• Validate your problem and solution spaces</li> </ul>
7	March 5	<b>Building a Pitch Deck</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pitching for the Social Impact Fund</li> <li>• How to communicate your ideas</li> <li>• Storytelling for social impact</li> </ul>
8	March 12	<b>Leveraging Relationships</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make a strong and compelling request for funding</li> <li>• Engage with government to support your solution</li> <li>• Identify community resources and funding sources</li> </ul>
9	March 19	<b>Practice Your Pitch</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Practice delivering your pitch</li> <li>• Receive feedback to shape your pitch development</li> <li>• How to respond to judges’ questions and feedback</li> </ul>
10	March 26	<b>Social Impact Showcase</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pitch your idea to a live audience</li> <li>• Announcement of SIF recipients and Changemaker Awards</li> <li>• Network with community members</li> </ul>
	TBD	Bonus Topics?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opportunity to propose other topics that might be useful to you during week 1 programming</li> <li>• These will likely take place mid-day on Fridays</li> </ul>
Classes End April 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2025			

### Deadlines for submissions:

March 10th ,11:59pm	Deadline to submit a first draft pitch deck + script for feedback.
March 17th, 11:59pm	Deadline to submit your final draft pitch deck and script
March 21st, 12:00-1:00pm	Starter pitch (virtual)
March 21st, 2:30-4:30pm	Social Venture Creation pitch (virtual)
March 26th, 4:00-5:30pm	Social Impact Showcase, followed by community dinner

### 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 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.

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

**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:

March 2 <sup>nd</sup> 11:59pm	Deadline to submit a first draft pitch deck + script for feedback.
March 9 <sup>th</sup> , 11:59pm	Deadline to submit your final draft pitch deck and script for feedback.
March 21st, 12:00-1:00pm	Starter pitch (virtual)
March 21st, 2:30-4:30pm	Social Venture Creation pitch (virtual)
March 26 <sup>th</sup> , 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 held on March 26<sup>th</sup>,2025, 4:00-5:30 P.M.