Danube Cup Conference "Entrepreneurship/Startup Education for students", April 28, 2022, at Corvinus University of Budapest

Making entrepreneurs:
Do we have the keys to success?

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Why do we change the focus of the MBA at BME?

Changing social economic environment

- Fit to new technological trends
- Need more innovation and entrepreneurship/ intrapreneurship to cope with global and local social, economic, ecological challenges

Changing students' expectations

- More practical, usable knowledge and skills in corporate world and/or starting new ventures
- Credential for career advancement

Our belief

Although you are a born entrepreneur you can develop your entrepreneurial knowledge and skills...

... if you feel like.

Although you are not a born entrepreneur you can learn to become an entrepreneur or a founding team member....

.... If you really want.

Although you are not a born entrepreneur, and you don't want to be an entrepreneur...

....You can be a fine person.

How do we build competencies in starting a new venture learning by doing at BME MBA course*?

Semester 1: Creation and validation of a new venture business concept



1. Generating business idea (Startup or Corporate)



4. Defining clear business concept (Using Business Concept Map)



2. Forming the founder's team (Self-selected)



5. Identifying assumptions (Applying Startup Fitness test)



3. Defining value proposition (Using Value Proposition Canvas)



6. Running market discovery and validation research (Using Field interviews, Digital research, Testing)



© Market – Product fit

© Business Model Fit

^{*}Designed by Pál Danyi, Viktor Borbély, and János Vecsenyi

Building competencies in starting a new venture learning by doing at BME MBA

Semester 2: Preparation for market entry strategy



Product & capacity

development
(Building and testing
MVP, Building
capacity, Make it or
buy it, Getting
compliant)



Marketing

(Defining market entry strategy, Selecting beachhead market and segment, calculating COCA, LTV, Running marketing communication)



Sales

(Defining sales strategy, Selecting sales channel, Building sales force, Creating customer service)



Finance

(Cost calculation, Pricing, Financial planning, Financing)



Leadership & Management

(team development, mission, vision, values, structuring, staffing)



How does it work for the students?

Building competencies in starting a new venture

Working with the right attitude...



...collaborating in self-selected teams...



... following the steps of the startup creation process using project management tools



... solving and integrating the subtasks of the process ...



...using the concepts and tools and learning by doing



... utilizing the knowledge and stories of the cookbook: *Start smart*!...



... applying www.vallalkozasindito.hu/
e-Mentor website to learn from
guidelines, templates, and workbooks....



... answering the questions and templates of the workbooks attached to each subtask...



... guided by teachers, mentors guests, professionals and customers...



...learning from the preparation for the DC international startup competition....



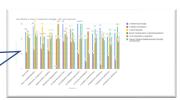
... energized and supported by the **personalized guidance** from teachers, mentors ...



...keeping in mind the selfdefined business concept as harbor to reach...



...weekly feedback assessment by students

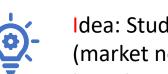


Source: BME MBA Business development course guidline (2021)

ASSUMPTIONS



Wannabes: Students are dedicated to learn and create or improve a business



Idea: Students have valid idea (market need & solution) to launch a startup business



Process: Students devote energy to go through and apply concepts and tools



Team: Students are ready to work in a competent and committed team to reach common goals



Time: Students devote time without jeopardizing family life and other obligations

REALITY

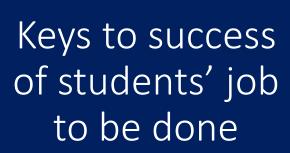
Wanted to learn 75%
Wanted to get diploma 70%
Want to start business 75 %

Partly viable nor feasible 83% Satisfied with the validated business concept

Liked guided tour with preset milestones 78%

They shared work and collaborated 72%

50% spent 1-2 hours per week 21% spent 3-5 hours per week

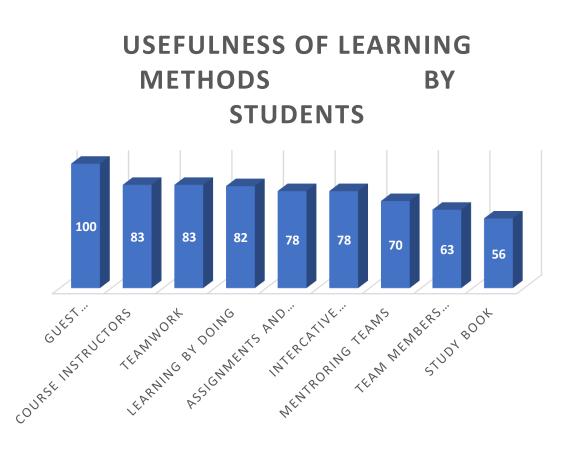


Assumptions

and reality.

Coping with validation Usefulness of the learning methods*

100
83
83
82
78
78
70
63
56



*Source: BME MBA validation research 2022

Conclusions, lessons learned

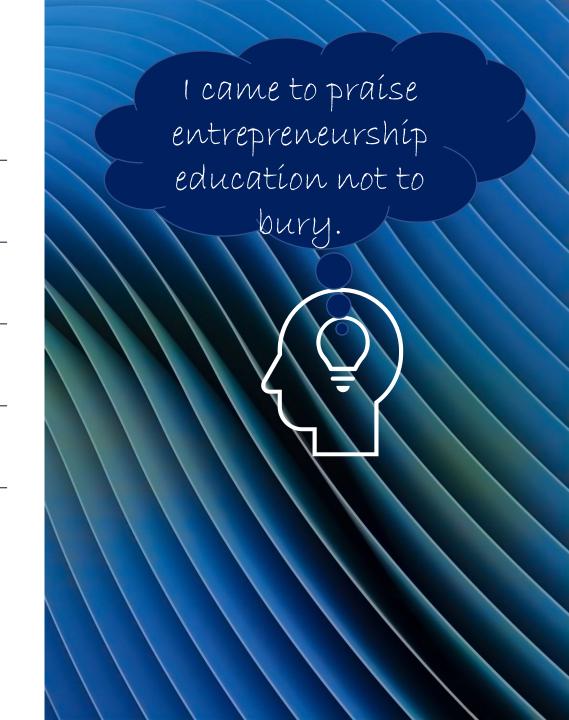
VALIDATION IS COMPULSORY

PIVOT IS OFTEN NECESSARY

CONTINUES LEARNING FROM OTHERS AND STUDENTS IS A MUST

ENTREPRENEURSHIP EDUCATION IS LIKE MANAGING CHANGE, RESISTANCE IS NATURAL

DO NOT BLAME STUDENTS, **ACCEPT**: STUDENTS HAVE DIFFERENT MOTIVATIONS, PERSONALITIES, JOBS TO BE DONE WITH DIFFERENT PAINS AND GAINS, FEELINGS AND EMOTIONS



Recommendations

Consider a new course/ program as a new business

create value proposition to fit real need

create business concept

validate and pivot

Consider an educational program as a change management program

 $E = Q \times A$

change effectiveness = quality of the course x acceptance by students

more attention on students' needs and their involvement

Consider students as different Personas and educate them as startup teams

on common, integrating goals

pay more attention on diversity of motivations, individual roles & contributions in reaching the goals

"If one does not know to which port one is sailing, no wind is favorable." – Lucius Annaeus Seneca



Find your port!

