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Current Educational Programs • Course Descriptions

Our flagship initiative is a portable suite of Entrepreneurial Reentry Programs featuring a case-based, college-level Entrepreneurship curriculum with pedagogical instructional support. Additional programs in this suite include Financial Capability and Foundations in Business, to build financial and leadership acumen for participants.

In addition to these programs, RE has a separate Math Review course that we integrate into our Entrepreneurship curriculum, as well as a shorter course called Achieving Success in Personal Finance to serve a variety of educational backgrounds - no GED/HS necessary.

All of these programs can be taught in a sequence or as stand alone programs. RE is also able to create customized programs from a case-bank of over 70 case studies to meet unique settings, audiences and client needs.

Entrepreneurship
Conceived and designed to provide offenders with an opportunity to learn about entrepreneurship, this flagship program began in the spring of 2011 with twenty inmates at the Dillwyn Correctional Center for men, Professor Fairchild and four MBA student volunteers from the Darden School. Participants complete 32 case studies to learn about the process, challenges and techniques of starting a business, leading to the culminating project: writing and presenting a business plan for their own venture. Graduates of the program receive Certificates in Entrepreneurship from Darden. Resilience Education offers this program curriculum and Socratic method instructional training to any institution interested in replication.

Financial Capability
This 20-case program was initially designed for survivors of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) who often have the challenge of establishing financial self-sufficiency. RE piloted this program in the Fluvanna Correctional Facility for women, since data show that approximately 60 percent of offenders are IPV survivors. Financial literacy is a national issue and our case-based curriculum can be easily adapted for other vulnerable populations (e.g. juveniles, veterans, returning citizens). By engaging students with practical financial challenges in a Socratic discussion, participants learn the tools, language and techniques that will aid in their personal financial success and to build a support network. Participants complete a personal financial plan before graduating with a Darden certificate in Financial Capability.

Foundations in Business
This course focuses on business basics as well as next-level entrepreneurial thinking, and leadership skills. Many participants in RE’s Entrepreneurial Reentry sequence have just months before they are released from prison. With a focus both on business and leadership challenges, RE seeks to strengthen the resolve of participants before they are released so they are more productive once they reenter society. Participants learn about a range of topics from cash flow to negotiations, interviewing skills to marketing techniques, as well as management and ethics. Students complete and present a transition plan at the end of the course to receive a Darden certificate. This 20-case program completes our suite of Entrepreneurial Reentry courses.
Entrepreneurship Program

A Resilience Education Program, in partnership with the Darden Graduate School of Business, UVa

Resilience Education, in partnership with the Darden Graduate School of Business Administration at the University of Virginia, is offering the cohort session of Entrepreneurship beginning September 2019. Successful graduates will have priority to complete Financial Capabilities and Foundations in Business classes.

Applications will be accepted through June 25.

Who can Benefit from this Program?
This is one of three-courses in the Entrepreneurial Reentry program and provides students an opportunity to learn about entrepreneurship – the process, challenges and techniques used in the field – leading to formerly incarcerated people founding and running their own businesses, and hopefully providing employment to others.

What You will Learn:

a) The basic knowledge, skills and tools to pursue a start-up venture;
b) The challenges and benefits of business ownership;
c) The financial acumen and language of business to be more knowledgeable and successful in employment; and
d) How to develop and present a business plan for a viable start-up venture.

How we Teach:
The program is delivered by a team of 2nd-year MBA student volunteer instructors from the Darden School, led by Whitney Johnson and under the supervision of Professor Gregory B. Fairchild and Tierney T. Fairchild, Ph.D. This program will use Darden's discussion-based, Socratic method instruction with relevant case studies presenting challenging situations and real-life problems faced by business owners to achieve learning objectives.

How many Meetings?
The class will meet two times per week for 18 weeks beginning in late September and ending in April 2020. Program content includes 24 case studies exploring concepts such as:

- locating a business
- product marketing
- managing distribution channels
- business growth and retraction
- financing a business
- motivating employees
- overcoming leadership challenges.

Expectations:
Participants will be expected to read and prepare case studies for analysis and discussion in the classroom. Thorough preparation, regular attendance and classroom participation is expected from all participants.

Target Participants:

- First priority will be given to graduates of Financial Capabilities and Foundations in Business.
- 24-36 months of anticipated release, so you can complete our entire two-year sequence of courses (Financial Capability, Entrepreneurship, Foundations of Business);
- Positive behavior free from infractions for at least 12 months;
- Positive recommendation from DOC staff;
- All participants have at least a GED and will have taken an introductory math exam.
- Vocational certificate required for Fluvanna applicants.
Financial Capabilities Program

A Resilience Education Program, in partnership with the Darden Graduate School of Business, UVa

Resilience Education, in partnership with the Darden Graduate School of Business Administration at the University of Virginia, is offering the spring session of Financial Capabilities beginning January 2020. Successful graduates will have priority to complete Entrepreneurship and Foundations in Business classes.

Applications will be accepted through December 1.

Who can Benefit from this Program?

This program is designed for anyone interested in learning key financial terms, information and tools to make sound financial decisions. After completion, you will have a firm understanding of how financial services companies make money and how you can positively access financial services and products. You will also develop a personal financial plan to establish goals, actions and a budget that will further your financial security.

What You will Learn:

a) Dealing various types of financial information;
b) The critical thinking skills necessary to make sound financial decisions;
c) The financial products that are best for you – weighing the pros and cons of a particular decision relative to personal needs, values and goals;
d) How to behave in ways that promote short-term and long-term financial health; and
e) How to develop a personal budget and financial plan to guide financial decisions.

How we Teach:

The program is delivered by a team of 2nd-year MBA student volunteer instructors from the Darden School, led by Whitney Johnson and under the supervision of Professor Gregory B. Fairchild and Tierney T. Fairchild, Ph.D. This program will use Darden’s discussion-based, Socratic method instruction with relevant case studies presenting challenging situations and real-life problems.

How many Meetings?

The class will meet two times per week for 10 weeks, starting in late January. The program content includes 18 case studies as well as worksheets and templates for the development of personal budgets and financial plans. Sample topics include:

- Cell phones and plans
- Leasing versus owning a home
- Purchasing an automobile
- Deciding on insurance (life, health)
- Challenges of building up credit
- Budgeting for educational expenses

Expectations:

Participants will be expected to read and prepare case studies for analysis and discussion in the classroom before class meetings. Thorough preparation and regular attendance and classroom participation is expected from all participants.

Target Participants:

- First priority will be given to graduates of Entrepreneurship and Foundations in Business.
- 24-36 months of anticipated release, so you can complete our entire two-year sequence of courses (Financial Capability, Entrepreneurship, Foundations of Business);
- Positive behavior free from infractions for at least 12 months;
- Positive recommendation from DOC staff;
- All participants have at least a GED.
Foundations in Business (Capstone)

A Resilience Education Program, in partnership with the Darden Graduate School of Business, UVa

Resilience Education, in partnership with the Darden Graduate School of Business Administration at the University of Virginia, is offering the Fall session of Foundations in Business beginning September 2019. Successful graduates will have priority to complete the Entrepreneurship and Financial Capabilities classes.

Applications will be accepted through June 25.

Who can Benefit from this Program?

This program is designed to delve into more detail about how businesses operate, employment concerns and business plans. After completion, you will have an improved understanding of business start-ups and will get the opportunity to update your business plan. You also will develop a personal transition plan which will bring your learning together, linking your personal finances and employment goals as you prepare for reentry.

What You will Learn:

- a) More about operating businesses, including cash flow and other financial imperatives;
- b) Marketing tools to improve revenue and customer service (with digital emphasis);
- c) The skill and art of negotiations, including contracts, salaries and leases;
- d) Successful interviewing techniques, including how to tell your story; and
- e) How to lead in the face of human resource and ethical challenges.

How we Teach:

The program is delivered by a team of 2nd-year MBA student volunteer instructors from the Darden School, led by Whitney Johnson and under the supervision of Professor Gregory B. Fairchild and Tierney T. Fairchild, Ph.D. This program will use Darden’s discussion-based, Socratic method instruction with relevant case studies presenting challenging situations and real-life problems.

How many Meetings?

The class will meet two times per week for 10 weeks, starting in late September. The program content includes 18 case studies as well as worksheets and templates for the development of personal transition plan. Sample topics include:

- • Cash flow in business operations
- • Marketing techniques
- • Negotiations skills
- • Interviewing and resume writing
- • Handling workplace challenges
- • Leading with values

Expectations:

Participants will be expected to read and prepare case studies for analysis and discussion in the classroom before class meetings. Thorough preparation and regular attendance and classroom participation is expected from all participants.

Target Participants:

- • First priority will be given to graduates of Financial Capabilities and Entrepreneurship.
- • 24-36 months of anticipated release, so you can complete our entire two-year sequence of courses (Financial Capability, Entrepreneurship, Foundations of Business);
- • Positive behavior free from infractions for at least 12 months;
- • Positive recommendation from DOC staff;
- • All participants have at least a GED.