

Business Fundamentals for Social Enterprise
MGT 4183 - Summer 2026
(Subject to updates)

Professor: Dr. Dori Pap
Email: dori.pap@ilsi.gatech.edu
Office Hours: after class on Tuesdays and Thursdays

Course Overview

This course is for students who wish to apply their leadership and managerial skills to address societal problems in local and global contexts.

Whether you plan to work for a social impact organization, aspire to serve on a nonprofit board, become an impact investor, or advocate for social change, this course will prepare you to apply your business acumen to advance social good.

This course will introduce students to the fundamentals of the social impact sector. Students will learn about organizational forms, funding sources, the Theory of Change, organizational metrics, and managerial best practices in this sector.

Learning Objective: to introduce the typology of social entrepreneurship, develop a working knowledge of the concepts, and understand the opportunities and challenges of social enterprises.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of the program, students should be able to:

- Categorize and evaluate social sector organizations.
- Discuss an organization's Theory of Change.
- Assess an organization's social impact.
- Understand and apply the UNSDG framework.

Instructional Method

This course uses an applied, discussion-based approach that combines readings, collaborative exercises, and conversations with frontline experts to help you build practical, transferable skills in problem discovery and systems thinking. Through case studies, real-world examples, and community-based engagement, you will explore complex social and environmental issues and learn to analyze them from multiple perspectives.

To succeed in this course, it is essential that you complete the assigned readings, think critically, and actively contribute to class discussions and group work. Your engagement with the material—and with your peers—will directly shape the quality of your learning experience. The tools and frameworks you gain here are designed to be applicable across disciplines and professional paths.

Class Materials and Schedule of Topics

For each topic, a list of materials (articles, videos, podcasts) will be assigned as pre-readings. You can find the list on the *Business Fundamentals Materials* document linked on Canvas. You should

review these materials before each class to prepare for participation in the discussions and activities.

Deliverables

UNSDG Group Presentation—each group will lead a short class discussion on how two or three of the UN Sustainable Development Goals are reflected in an organization's work.

Exam – open notes exam about the main topics examined throughout this course.

Weekly Journal Entries – weekly reflections on the most noteworthy events of the week following the *what – so what – now what* template.

Social Enterprise Evaluation Team Paper – applying the concepts from the course to the organization you are working with (one submission per internship team).

Quizzes - evaluate your knowledge of the assigned materials and class learning from guest lectures and site visits (dates will be listed on Canvas and the Program Schedule).

Class participation is an integral part of your learning journey. It includes being on time, alert, practicing active listening skills, completing the reading, making meaningful contributions to the class discussion, and asking thoughtful questions. Your active involvement is highly valued and will contribute to your understanding of the course material.

Details and due dates for each deliverable are posted in the Assignments section of the course Canvas page.

Note: being on time throughout the program for class, trips, and site visits is crucial, and I advise you to plan on being 5 minutes early rather than late. Every time you are late, you are inconveniencing the entire group. If you are late on more than three occasions, you will incur a five-point penalty on your final grade for this course.

Grading

UNSDG Presentation: 15 points

Exam: 30 points

SE Evaluation: 20 points

Quizzes (3): 15 points total

Participation: 10 points

Weekly Journal Entries: 10 points

Grading Scale

A: 90 – 100 points

B: 80 – 89.99 points

C: 70 – 79.99 points

D: 60 – 69.99 points

F: below 59.99 points

Academic Integrity

Georgia Tech aims to cultivate a community based on trust, academic integrity, and honor. Students are expected to act according to the highest ethical standards. For information on Georgia Tech's Academic Honor Code, please visit <http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/policies/honor-code/> or <http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/rules/18/>.

Any student suspected of cheating or plagiarizing on a quiz, exam, or assignment will be reported to the Office of Student Integrity, who will investigate the incident and identify the appropriate penalty for violations.

Responsible Use of AI Tools

You may use AI tools like ChatGPT to brainstorm ideas, clarify concepts, for research, or refine grammar, but not to generate full or partial essays.

If you use AI in any part of your assignment, include a brief disclosure (e.g., "Used ChatGPT to outline ideas"). Failure to disclose may be considered academic misconduct.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you are a student with learning needs that require special accommodation, contact the Office of Disability Services at (404)894-2563 or <http://disabilityservices.gatech.edu/> as soon as possible to make an appointment to discuss your special needs and obtain an accommodations letter. Please also e-mail me as soon as possible to set up a time to discuss your learning needs.