PATHWAYS TO AN ENTREPRENEURSHIP CAREER
Looking to take active steps towards starting your own business and want guidance and support? Or maybe you just want to start training yourself to think creatively and embrace ambiguity and risk? If so, the explore and create pathway is for you.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED:

**STEP 1: TAKE A COURSE**

A journey of a thousand miles starts with one step. These courses will help you not only gain a broad understanding of the challenges, opportunities, and operations of entrepreneurship, they will assist you in planning your next steps.

**MGMT 621 – The New Enterprise**
The New Enterprise is an experiential entrepreneurship course where you form teams and work towards starting a venture.

**MGMP 626 – Financing the Startup Venture**
Explore crowdfunding, angel investing, accelerators and the venture capital industry, as well as the operation, methodology and liquidation of venture capital funds.

**MGMT 627 – Enterprise Acquisition**
Discover the needs approach to buying and selling businesses; enterprise valuation; deal and contract structuring; mergers and acquisitions; leveraged buyouts; consolidating fragmented industries.

**MGMT 641 – Entrepreneurial Strategy**
This course provides a deep understanding of the core strategic challenges facing startup innovators, and a framework for implementing an entrepreneurial strategy in dynamic environments.

**MGMT 724 – Social Entrepreneurship**
Explore entrepreneurship and its ability to create social change by applying business principles and earned income strategies to social missions.

**MGMT 725 – IP for Entrepreneurs**
This course examines the theory and logic of alliances in value creation, alliance evolution in various industries and the spectrum of alliance types from a low level of interdependence to a high.

**MGMT 765 – Ignite Entrepreneurship**
The Ignite Trek provides entrepreneurial students with a chance to meet some of the most successful and up-and-coming entrepreneurs in Silicon Valley.

**MGMT 833 – Strategy in Tech Ecosystems**
The course deals with strategic management topics of interest to ventures that operate in technological ecosystems.
Ready to keep going down the rabbit hole? While all classes at Rice Business are designed to be interactive and hands-on, these experiential offerings take things to the next level by allowing students to really dig in, create and do.

**EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING**

MGMT 740 - Student Venture Fund: Evaluation Startup Investment Opportunities
Students will identify, screen, and evaluate startups for investment by the Rice student-led venture capital fund.

MGMT 760 - E-lab: Venture Capital
Students learn by working with early-stage investors including angel groups and venture capital organizations.

MGMT 761 - E-lab: Enterprise Acquisition
Students develop selection criteria, network to connect with sellers, conduct preliminary due diligence, perform a business valuation and develop potential deal structures.

MGMT 762 - E-lab: New Enterprise
Students working on their own startup have the opportunity to apply the processes learned in the New Enterprise course to their startup.

If your interests lay in the life sciences or healthcare field then these courses can help you narrow your focus. Take them a la carte or complete all four courses to earn a Commercialization of Medical Innovation Certificate.

**CERTIFICATE IN COMMERCIALIZATION OF MEDICAL INNOVATION**

MGMT 633 - Life Science Entrepreneurship
The roles of physicians, scientists, engineers and MBAs in biotech, medical device, and other life science companies are described, and the major trends and innovations driving the creation of new products in the field are discussed.

MGMT 623 - Entrepreneurship in Biotech
This course will cover key aspects of drug development including the sharing of real-world challenges and decisions during the development process.

MGMT 799 - Healthcare Innovation and Entrepreneurship
This course is designed for students to work in interdisciplinary teams comprised of engineering students, business students and clinicians to build innovative medical technologies.

MGMT 766 - Healthcare Innovation and Entrepreneurship Lab
Students work on refining and completing the plan for the venture they created in Health Innovation and Entrepreneurship by receiving guidance and mentoring from faculty and mentors to develop the next steps of their business.

**STEP 2: ENGAGE IN THE ECOSYSTEM**

Entrepreneurship at Rice is a community and there are many avenues to meet like-minded individuals and seek out support, encouragement, and opportunities.

Founders Dinner Series
Student founders come together once a month at Lilie over dinner for an honest conversation about the challenges and victories they are experiencing as they build their ventures.

Founder Finder Series
These events bring together engineers, artists, MBAs, scientists, designers, PhDs, writers, et al. for an evening of sharing with the goal of connecting the Rice community to form interdisciplinary teams to start new ventures.
**Genius Bar (Mentor Office Hours)**
Students and alumni have the opportunity to schedule 15 or 30-minute sessions with some of Houston’s top entrepreneurs, VCs and subject matter experts through Lilie’s Mentoring Hours program. Lilie Lecture Series
The lectures provide an opportunity for the exchange of questions and ideas between people who are innovating in many different contexts, and as such, often lead to new and shared insights.

**Napier Rice Launch Challenge**
Ready to compete in a business plan competition? The H. Albert Napier Rice Launch Challenge (NRLC) is a year-long series of workshops, networking events, ideation sessions and competitions that provide a structured approach to prep your idea for launch.

**Rice Business Plan Competition Qualifier**
The international Rice Business Plan Competition is the richest graduate student startup competition in the world Rice University team is guaranteed one berth in the competition and that team is chosen through an internal pitch event known as The Qualifier.

**Rice Alliance Energy and Clean Technology Venture Forum**
This forum is an opportunity to learn about the latest emerging technologies, meet investors to seek funding, see promising companies, learn about investment opportunities and meet individuals from the energy and clean technology industry.

**Rice Alliance Startup Roundup at the Offshore Technology Conference (OTC)**
The OTC showcases 50 promising energy companies and allows attendees to learn more about innovative technologies while providing access to potential partners and investment opportunities.

**Startup Career Fair**
The fair is a one-day event connecting local startups with entrepreneurial-minded students seeking internships and experienced professionals pursuing full-time opportunities.

**Texas Digital Summit**
In partnership with Station Houston, the summit connects the most promising tech startups in AI, automation, blockchain, and other areas with corporations and investors seeking transformative innovation and digital strategies.

**Texas Life Science Venture Forum**
The forum brings together entrepreneurs, big pharma, academics and business executives serving the life science industry to meet investors, learn about promising new companies, network and learn about opportunities for investment.

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

**MBA Entrepreneurship Association**
The student club is dedicated to fostering the innovative entrepreneurial spirit and vision at the Rice Business community through events and gatherings.

**Moody Maker Space**
The Makerspace is an interdisciplinary lab designed to support current Rice University students, faculty, and staff in creating and making. It enriches curricular innovation by providing professional-level equipment and workspace for creative projects including prototype development.

**OwlSpark**
Rice University’s summer startup accelerator provides a best-in-class opportunity for experiencing the innovation and entrepreneurial life cycle of tech-enabled startups. See your idea take off as you move through the summer program surrounded by experienced mentors and supportive colleagues.
PATHWAY TWO

Fund and Grow: Learn to Finance Entrepreneurial Ventures

Want to use your finance chops to help grow entrepreneurial ventures? Think you’ve got what it takes to be a venture capitalist? In the fund and grow pathway, you’ll learn how the early-stage venture financing industry functions and get hands-on practice using funds to help develop new businesses.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

STEP 1: TAKE A COURSE

Whether you have already had some exposure to the workings of venture capital or you have just watched a lot of Shark Tank, these classes will help you gain an overview of the field and help you explore it.

MGMT 626 - Venture Capital
Overview of the venture capital industry; the organization and operation of venture capital funds, investment methodology, monitoring, and portfolio liquidation, leveraged investing and specialized investments.

MGMP 626 - Financing the Startup Venture
Explore crowdfunding, angel investing, accelerators, and the venture capital industry, as well as the operation, methodology and liquidation of venture capital funds.

So you’ve got the foundation, now roll up your sleeves and get your hands dirty. These labs allow students to get involved, connect, and most importantly, invest.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

MGMT 740 - Student Venture Fund
Students will identify, screen and evaluate startups for investment by the Rice venture capital fund. 
*Note: MGMP 626 is a pre-requisite for this course.*

MGMT 760 - E-lab: Venture Capital
Students learn by working with early-stage investors including angel groups and venture capital organizations.

STEP 2: ENGAGE IN THE ECOSYSTEM

Entrepreneurship at Rice is a community. There are many avenues to meet like-minded individuals and seek out support, encouragement, and opportunities. There are events throughout the academic year that will allow you to hone your skills in financing early-stage startups including evaluating new ventures. These activities serve to complement the rigorous curriculum offered at Rice Business.

Genius Bar (Mentor Office Hours)
Students and alumni have the opportunity to schedule 15 or 30-minute sessions with some of Houston’s top entrepreneurs, VCs, and attorneys through the Lilie mentoring program.

Rice Business Plan Competition
The international Rice Business Plan Competition is the richest graduate student startup competition in the world, network with venture capitalists and other investors from around the globe who will offer $2 million in prize money to inventive startups.
Rice Alliance Energy and Clean Technology Venture Forum
This forum is an opportunity to meet investors who are seeking to provide funding in new technologies, learn more about the investment opportunities in this emerging field, and network with those in the energy and clean technology industry.

Rice Alliance Startup Roundup at the Offshore Technology Conference (OTC)
The OTC showcases 50 promising energy companies and allows attendees to learn more about innovative technologies while providing access to potential partners and investment opportunities.

Texas Life Science Venture Forum
The forum brings together investors, big pharma, academics, business executives, and entrepreneurs serving the life science industry to network and learn about investment opportunities in the field.

Venture Capital Investment Competition
Students play the role of VCs who have around $100 million to invest; they’ll assess investment opportunities and will pitch an investment strategy to the VC judges.

Veterans Business Battle
VBB is a national competition that has raised more than $3 million to support veteran-owned businesses and allows students to connect with investors and advisors.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

MBA Entrepreneurship Association
The student club is dedicated to fostering the innovative entrepreneurial spirit and vision at the Rice Business community through events and gatherings.

Private Equity and Venture Capital Association
The PEVC club focuses on financial opportunities and challenges in directly investing in both new and established companies to fund growth, new technology, make acquisitions, or to bolster a balance sheet.
PATHWAY THREE

Entrepreneurship through Acquisition:
Learn to Buy and Grow

Want to run your own business but don't have a unique idea? Want to skip the early steps of getting set up and immediately begin putting your newly honed MBA skill set to work? The entrepreneurship through acquisition pathway prepares students to assess existing business ventures, explore options for financing acquisitions, and grow and scale the venture once at the helm.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED:

STEP 1: TAKE A COURSE

How do you value a business? How can you raise money to acquire it? How do you structure the deal? Buying an existing business is complicated, but these classes are designed to help walk you through all the phases of the process.

MGMT 627 – Enterprise Acquisition
Discover the needs approach to buying and selling businesses; enterprise valuation; deal and contract structuring; mergers and acquisitions; leveraged buyouts; consolidating fragmented industries.

MGMT 641 – Entrepreneurial Strategy
This course provides a deep understanding of the core strategic challenges facing startup innovators, and a framework for implementing the entrepreneurial strategy in dynamic environments.

MGMT 725 – IP for Entrepreneurs
This course examines the theory and logic of alliances in value creation, alliance evolution in various industries, the spectrum of alliance types from a low level of interdependence to a high.

MGMT 833 – Strategy in Tech Ecosystems
The course deals with strategic management topics of interest to ventures that operate in technological ecosystems.

You've learned the theory, you've had some hands-on practice, now it's time to take the experience to the next level with E-lab course.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

MGMT 76 – E-lab: Enterprise Acquisition
Students develop selection criteria, network to connect with sellers, conduct preliminary due diligence, perform a business valuation, and develop potential deal structures.

STEP 2: ENGAGE IN THE ECOSYSTEM

Entrepreneurship at Rice is a community and we strive to create avenues for students to meet like-minded individuals and seek out support, encouragement and opportunities.

Genius Bar (Mentor Office Hours)
Students and alumni have the opportunity to schedule 15 or 30-minute sessions with some of Houston’s top entrepreneurs, VCs and attorneys through Lilie’s Mentoring Hours program.