The Entrepreneurship and Innovation Program (EIP) provides UMD Honors College freshmen and sophomores with an award-winning, interdisciplinary, living and learning education. EIP helps students develop the entrepreneurial mindsets, skill sets, relationships and resources to create innovative, impactful and sustainable solutions to today’s problems.

A GREAT PLACE TO LAUNCH

A joint program of the Honors College and the Maryland Technology Enterprise Institute (Mtech), EIP has a proven pedigree of successful creativity and innovation-related education and achievement. Mtech has been a leading force in entrepreneurial education and innovation for over 30 years. EIP is based directly on Mtech’s groundbreaking Hinman CEOs program, the first undergraduate living-learning entrepreneurship program in the U.S. EIP students have access to Mtech’s venture development resources and activities as well as those specifically designated for EIP and the Honors College.

While we have a strong technology heritage, EIP is an excellent program for any student interested in entrepreneurship and innovation. Nearly half of EIP students are pursuing non-technical majors. And of course EIP is at the University of Maryland, which is consistently ranked by Kiplinger’s among top-ten public four-year institutions for providing outstanding education at an affordable price.

“EIP taught me how to think about ideas. As I walk around and progress in life, I now see problems and try to think of solutions and how to start a business out of it.”
— MICHAEL ADAMS, 2015 ALUMNUS, ACCEPTED, HARVARD AND COLUMBIA LAW

“We joined EIP my goal was to learn how to see a problem as an opportunity. I never would have dreamed a two-year program would impact me this much but it has.”
— ASHMI SHETH, DUAL FINANCE AND GOVERNMENT MAJOR

USASBE
The United States Association for Small Business and Entrepreneurship
The United States Association for Small Business and Entrepreneurship (USASBE) selected EIP as a winner of a national award for Excellence in Entrepreneurship Education.

Maryland Technology Enterprise Institute
Mtech

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Students join a unique experiential-learning program comprised of dynamic courses, seminars, workshops, competitions, volunteerism, and company creation activities. They participate in a variety of creative and innovative thinking exercises and hands-on projects. In collaboration with faculty who have launched, operated, and advised successful ventures, students develop their business ideas and create team-based product and service plans.

CHALLENGING ACADEMICS

The Honors academic program combines special classes taught by exceptional faculty with the wide range of additional education opportunities offered by a large research institution. Four courses totaling 9 credits are exclusive to EIP students. The academic program requires an additional 6 credits, options for which are shown on our website bringing the total requirement to 15 credits.

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<tr>
<th>FALL SEMESTER</th>
<th>SPRING SEMESTER</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FRESHMAN YEAR</td>
<td>HEIP 143: Foundations of Entrepreneurship &amp; Innovation (1 credit): Focuses on building the entrepreneurial mindset and introducing basic entrepreneurship principles through experiential learning and prominent guest speakers.</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOPHOMORE YEAR</td>
<td>HEIP 240: Exploring International Entrepreneurship &amp; Innovation (3 credits): Introduction to the opportunities and challenges of entrepreneurship and innovation from an international perspective.</td>
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LIVING COMMUNITY

All EIP students live together in LaPlata Hall during their time in the program, creating a rich, diverse, and dynamic atmosphere conducive to the free-flow sharing of ideas, team-building, and entrepreneurial activity. LaPlata is also close to other living-learning programs, the recreation center, athletic fields and dining hall.

COACHING AND MENTORING

EIP emphasizes coaching and mentoring. Program offices and most classes are located in the residence hall, giving students easy access to staff to discuss ideas or tackle a tough legal, financial, or ethical question.

TERP TANK

The EIP Capstone Project culminates in the “Terp Tank” competition, where EIP sophomores completing the course sequence present their projects to a panel of expert judges for the opportunity to win cash prizes from supporting sponsors.

SEED FUNDING

EIP students have access to several sources of seed funding grants and awards with no repayment or equity requirements.

“EIP took the larger Maryland community and placed me in an environment filled with the most promising leaders, competitive athletes, and talented musicians. The conglomeration of a diverse group of students ensures that any incoming EIP member will feel welcome.”

— STEPHANIE GRAF, DUAL FINANCE AND MARKETING MAJOR