This course focuses on the need to validate that a market exists for a new product or service. As a project-based course, students work independently on a venture of their own choosing. They are challenged to make use of primary market research methods to identify demand determinants and test for the presence of first-time buyers. Students search available databases and gather information to estimate market size and growth potential.

**GBEN 402 Business Plan II 2 Credits**

This course focuses on the need to create a business plan to launch a new enterprise. As a project-based course, students work independently on a venture of their own choosing. Emphasis is given to all the elements needed to commercialize a new enterprise from a marketing, sales, operations, technology, facilities, and financial perspective. The presentation format of the business plan receives close attention as a tool to attract potential investors.

**Prerequisites:** GBEN 401

**GBEN 403 Anatomy of Entrepreneurship 1 Credit**

This course focuses on the personality traits and characteristics of a founder. The leadership style and management of a startup are highlighted as the venture moves through various stages of development. Real-life situations are brought into the classroom and students are challenged with decision-making in a startup environment marked by enormous uncertainty and rapid change. Students learn the critical role of the founder in attracting investors and raising capital.

**GBEN 404 Market Opportunity 1 Credit**

This course focuses on entrepreneurial marketing and the methods employed by emerging growth companies to successfully penetrate and disrupt markets. Speakers and cases illustrate branding strategies, selling approaches, pricing alternatives, and digital marketing tactics peculiar to startups who are constrained by scarce resources and saddled with expertise in the hands of a few.

**GBEN 405 Intellectual Property 1 Credit**

This course focuses on IP strategy and valuation with emphasis on the technology-driven startup. Early stage companies must demonstrate proof-of-concept to their investors, a huge milestone that verifies the potential of real-world application. Speakers and cases deal with the harsh trade-offs of IP decision-making and the constant need to raise capital to accelerate technology development.

**GBEN 406 Performing Due Diligence 1 Credit**

This course focuses on due diligence as a creative and time-sensitive process that can open or close doors for startups. Speakers and cases illustrate what potential investors or acquirers do to validate the accuracy, integrity, and completeness of information provided before finalizing an investment decision. Students learn performing due diligence is a labor-intensive investigative process that unfolds in stages where the results also speak to the credibility of the entrepreneur.

**GBEN 407 Startups & Pivots 1 Credit**

This course focuses on the need to pivot, or shift direction, when market conditions and revenue shortfalls dictate major change. Speakers and cases highlight what startups do to breathe new life into a troubled venture. Students learn how founders raise capital under adverse circumstances in order to buy time to re-configure product, transition to another market and type of customer, and test a new business model.

**GBEN 409 Financial Forecasting 1 Credit**

This course focuses on the use of pro forma financial statements and projections to value and finance an early stage company. Cases illustrate key assumptions and various scenarios that figure into a multi-year forecast. Business models are evaluated for their profit potential during a period of expansion and growth. Students learn the art and science of valuing a startup.