

# The Academy for Innovation & Entrepreneurship

**We help UMD  
students, staff and  
faculty approach  
their work in  
creative ways**



Finding ways to  
financially sustain a  
new idea or venture

## **lean startup**

Business model  
canvas

Customer  
discovery

A way of working that is  
grounded in creativity and  
being human-centered

## **design**

Experiments  
(prototypes)

Understanding the  
humans you're  
serving



## **Empowering people to be innovators**

We instill **innovation mindsets** in students, staff, **faculty** and administrators so that they can creatively address tough problems in their work – whether it be teaching, research, publishing or administering a program.



## **When might you call on us?**

>> If you want to reimagine your course or program.

>> If you want to teach students innovation mindsets in order to strengthen their work in your course.

>> If you want to find ways to connect with and collaborate with people on campus across disciplines.

# HOW TO TALK TO STRANGERS



THE GUIDEBOOK  
audio + action learning experience

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## Welcome!

Today you'll be guided by a podcast to practice striking up conversations with strangers. The audio will guide you through four different expeditions, and will give you a moment to reflect with your partner after each one. To get started, make sure you have:

- a partner
- a smartphone\*
- a notebook + pen

\*only one needed per pair

## Getting started...

Once you've gathered your materials, go outside (yes, this activity is entirely outdoors!).

Make sure the volume is turned up on your phone so that both you and your partner can hear.

Once you're ready, navigate to this URL and start the audio clip:  
<http://ter.ps/strangers>

## After Completing Expedition 1

Reflect in your notebook:

- (1) How many people did you say "Hello" to? An estimate is fine.
- (2) What happened when you greeted people? Did they smile? Did they laugh? Did they seem uneasy?
- (3) How did your behavior change from start to finish?

# ASYNCHRONOUS INNOVATION TOOLS & MINDSET TRAINING

[go.umd.edu/learntoinnovate](https://go.umd.edu/learntoinnovate)

ACADEMY FOR  
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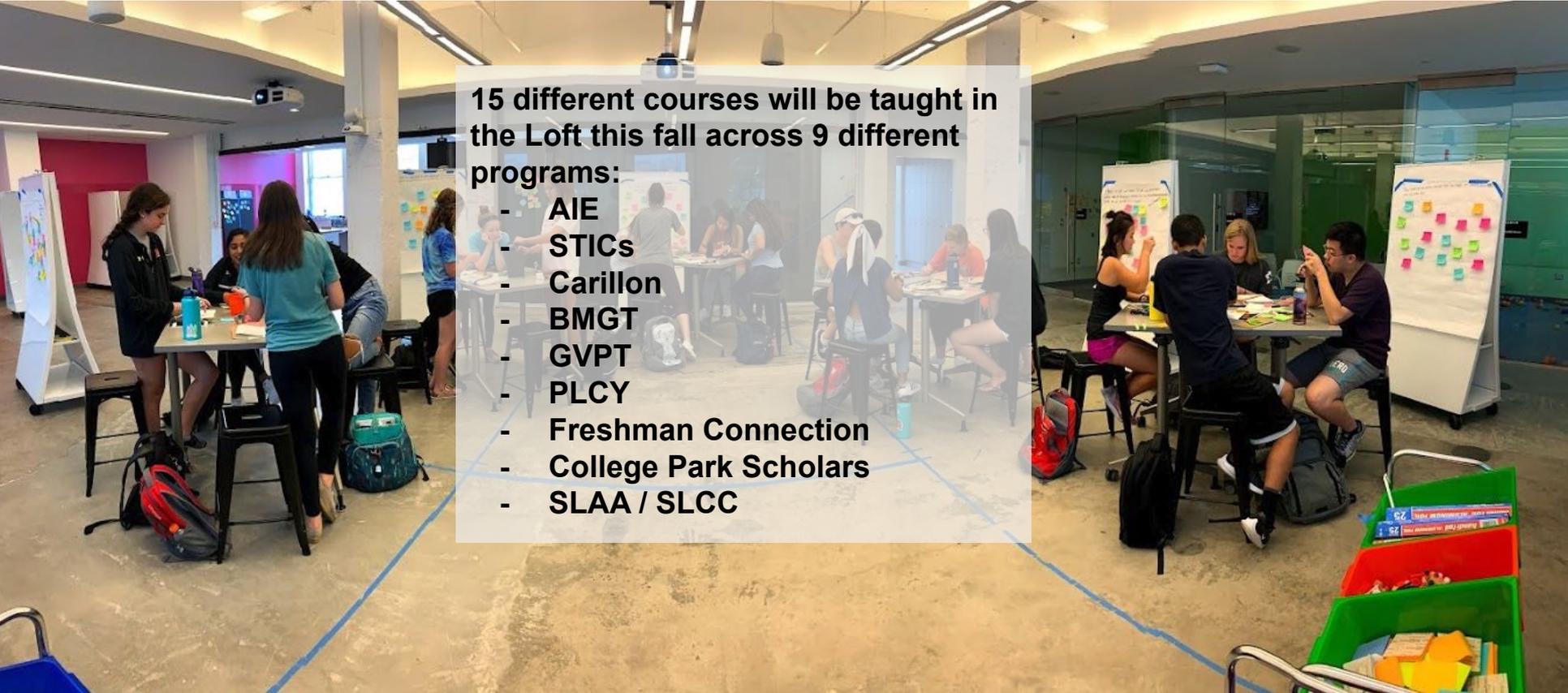
**\* Now Available  
on the UMD  
Open Learning  
Website!**

**FREE for any  
faculty or staff  
to enroll.**

# **The Loft:** A Shared Space for Innovative Learning & Learning Innovation

15 different courses will be taught in the Loft this fall across 9 different programs:

- AIE
- STICs
- Carillon
- BMGT
- GVPT
- PLCY
- Freshman Connection
- College Park Scholars
- SLAA / SLCC



# In your breakout room of 3 ...

**STEP 1:** Introduce yourselves using 3-sentence introductions:

*These should be quick—2 minutes total!*

1. My name is...
2. I'm from ... [interpret that as you'd like!]
3. I'm joining the \_\_\_\_ department.

**STEP 2:** How is everyone feeling about starting at UMD this fall?

*Discuss for about 5 minutes!*

**STEP 3:** What's a song that comes to mind that might reflect what your group has just discussed? Don't overthink it — if someone has an idea, just go with it!

*(Ex. "Don't stop believing" by Journey; "The Rains of Castamere" from Game of Thrones soundtrack)*



*Have one person in your group add your song title & artist [here](#).*

*We're bringing you back at 11:00am, so think quick!*

## If you want support in ...

>> Reimagining your course or program

>> Teaching students innovation mindsets in order to strengthen their work in your course.

>> Connecting with and collaborating with people on campus across disciplines

Contact us at [\*\*academy@umd.edu\*\*](mailto:academy@umd.edu)