

Austin Cupp

1. Am I an entrepreneur?

At this particular moment, I would not fully commit to calling myself an entrepreneur. This is because I do not have much experience involving the generation of ideas and the start-up of a nonprofit program, product, business, or other initiative. I unfortunately have yet to gain any experience when it comes to the creation of a business model, or even the generation of ideas relating to a business. However, I do have a lot of experience when it comes to interdisciplinary methods of solving problems or generating ideas in various topics or fields. I also like to take risks, can juggle many tasks at once, and am self-motivated. So, while in my opinion I am not officially an entrepreneur yet, I do possess many traits that entrepreneurs possess. After this course, I expect to be able to call myself an entrepreneur.

2. What is success?

To me, success varies from person to person, and it is important that each person knows what success looks like for them and what it means to them. For some people, success can be the gain of personal wealth, or the gain of knowing that you helped out for a cause. In my case, success is accomplishing my desired goals, completing my current objectives and tasks, and achieving an overall happiness from the result. For example, if I am tasked with creating a set of cybersecurity firewall rules for a business that will help save the business money, help protect employee's personal information, and will in turn earn me a raise, and I end up completing the task successfully, I consider this to be my personal form of success.

3. Am I a self-starter? How well do I follow through on my ideas?

I can confidently say that I am a self starter. When I notice that a task, project, or some other form of objective is needing to be completed, or is assigned to me, I happily take the initiative to complete it. I am able to set a personal goal or goals, identify the solutions to solve the task at hand, and I am able to do both in an efficient manner. I possess the ability to motivate myself, I am ambitious and resilient, and have confidence. I also have the ability to effectively collaborate with my colleagues as a team regarding the generation and completion of tasks and ideas.

4. How does ODU view entrepreneurship?

ODU in my opinion views entrepreneurship as a way for individuals to be innovative and creative. Entrepreneurship and innovation can apply to anyone and any discipline in ODU's terms. ODU has a business and a mission model canvas that is an excellent framework for those who plan to start up a venture or entity of any type. ODU also highlights two key forms of entrepreneurship, with them being social entrepreneurship and interdisciplinary entrepreneurship. Social Entrepreneurship is described as "the application of the core element of entrepreneurship to solve social problems, whether in a not-for-profit, government organization, or B-Corp". This means that this form of entrepreneurship aims to help society and is not necessarily geared towards making a profit. Interdisciplinary Entrepreneurship is defined as "problems are best solved, and solutions identified when multiple points of view and areas of expertise are included as collaborators". This means that this form of entrepreneurship aims to gain a variety of feedback and use different types of feedback to identify and solve the problem.

5. What is my role in this ecosystem?

My role in this ecosystem at the moment is undefined in my opinion. While I possess a vast amount of cybersecurity knowledge and skills, I am jumping into new, deep waters when it comes to the entrepreneur aspect of my life, which I am looking forward to exploring and learning more of. I currently am majoring in cybersecurity, and on the path to graduating this fall, however I have yet to find a job relating to cybersecurity. I would like for my role in this ecosystem to be a person who takes initiative, presents good and effective ideas, and completes my tasks in a very timely and effective manner using my present cybersecurity skills and the entrepreneur skills I hope to gain from this course.