

1. Am I an entrepreneur?

Yes, I am and can be an entrepreneur just like anyone else if they set their mind to it! It takes finding problems in the world that you think people or customer segment need a solution to, brainstorming, coming up with the best options from your ideas and taking into consideration of your partner(s) ideas as well. After that, depending on your ideas, if its mission based or business based, you choose the best model creation then gather and form the basis or foundation of your innovation. It is a hit or miss at times but once you get passed this and realize it can be done and there is nothing like it out on the market, then the innovation can come to light and be formed or created.

2. What is success?

Success does not come easy to anyone. Success comes with mistakes, failing, being wrong but then coming back from it is what really matters and sometimes you must fail more than once to find the solution to your problem. Success means working with others to find the answer or resolution. Entrepreneurship is not just working by yourself; it is working with others that work in an industry or field that deals with the same issues or problems as you are trying to come up with a solution for.

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

Yes, I am a self-starter just like anyone else if they set a goal for themselves and follow through with every step to accomplish that goal. I am a very detailed oriented person and believe that even the smallest things matter in a product or a service. If I want something to be done or have an idea that I feel strongly about I follow through with every step. Rushing through something is not an option for me. I will go over things more than once to make sure it sounds right and is operating well not just for me but for others.

4. How does ODU view entrepreneurship?

Old Dominion University has all kinds of resources pertaining to entrepreneurship. The Strome Entrepreneurial Center is involved with entrepreneurship and economic development as one of ODU's primary missions and works with schools/universities and the community. It is offered to everyone at the university that is interested in entrepreneurship, commercialization, and innovation. The mission offers Education, Advocacy and Outreach, Research, and Entrepreneurial "Doing". Along with ODU's mission, they provide Entrepreneurial Centers, Sponsored Programs, and Innovation Fund. ODU offers Entrepreneurship course and certificates, LeADERS Program, Entrepreneurial "Libing Learning Community, and Entsminger Fellows.

5. What is my role in this ecosystem?

My role in this ecosystem is to learn, take advantage of resources here available at ODU, network with others in the community, and fail more than once because without all these things I will not be able to succeed. With all these programs and resources, I can create an innovation with the help of others in my group and with faculty members and mentors here at the university. With patience, hard work and dedication, I believe I will succeed in this ecosystem! Becoming an entrepreneur will not be an easy task, it will become frustrating at times, and I might have to take a step or two back in the process to look at the bigger picture but giving up is not an option.