

Week 1 Journal Entries

1. Am I an entrepreneur?

I like to consider myself an entrepreneur, even though I do not own a business at this time. I believe being an entrepreneur is a mindset, and the business or passion is a result of that mindset. There is nothing like being your own boss when it comes to working. However, what many fail to mention is just exactly how much work goes into running a business, especially your own. Being an entrepreneur also allows you to reap what you sow into the business, rather than a corporation or large company taking the profits.

2. What is success?

Success can mean a lot of different things to different people. When it comes to success from a financial or business standpoint, I believe success is to gain financial freedom. Also, time is money as the old saying goes. No amount of success means anything if it takes away from your purpose in life. It is important to have balance. Being successful should also allow you to have time to do what you want to do in life. If you have dreams, chase them, because a dream won't chase you back.

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

Most of the time in life, the hardest part about doing something is actually starting it! I try to, although it does not always happen, have the motivation to get it done from start to finish. I like to complete things once I start them. Sometimes things do not work out the way we have thought they would, but following through on the work can yield good results. Being a self-starter is important, but it is still good to have people in your personal network to call on if assistance is needed, which is almost guaranteed to be needed at some point.

4. How does ODU view entrepreneurship?

ODU views entrepreneurship as a good way! So much in fact that they have a whole class (CYSE 494) on the subject. They want to empower students to be successful in their lives. Entrepreneurship is no easy task. It takes a lot of work and motivation to get the job done. What I like about ODU is that they have professors and staff that have been there and done that as the old saying goes, so there is a great wealth of knowledge here at the campus.

5. What is my role in this ecosystem?

As Professor Porcher mentioned, we will only get out of this course whatever we put into it. This also applies to life in almost all activities. A successful entrepreneur and student's role is to learn what problems exist, and offer a solution. However, making stuff is not the only goal. We also should be invested in our community and help strengthen it. At the end of the day, it all comes to making a positive difference in the world.