

NFTE Exploring Careers: Introduction to Entrepreneurship and the Working World

This course activates the entrepreneurial mindset in students, introduces the principals of entrepreneurship, and teaches personal skills reflection—laying the groundwork for successful academic, career, and life-planning. Students create a business concept working together as a group, pitch during a student Startup Showcase expo, and have the opportunity to win prizes and recognition.

Program Details

Course Requirements and Recommendations

- Grades 7–10
- Full-year course implementation recommended
- Semester implementation available

NFTE Career-Readiness Measures

Student career readiness is measured on the three dimensions that the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) uses to evaluate career readiness:

- **Academic:** Content assessments from Pearson and Steve Mariotti's *Exploring Careers for the 21st Century* curriculum
- **Employability:** Entrepreneurial mindset evaluated through Startup Showcase presentations, teacher classroom rubrics, and NFTE's Entrepreneurial Mindset Index (EMI), a formative assessment of students' noncognitive skills
- **Industry:** Application of Academic Planning, Entrepreneurship, Personal Finance & Career Readiness Industry-Recognized tools through experiential activities from *Exploring Careers for the 21st Century* curriculum



Student Startup Showcase

- Students present their business ideas and marketing materials in a tradeshow-style setting, with opportunities to network with and sell to professionals from the local business community.
- Top teams selected by expert judges receive prizes.

Volunteer Support

- Volunteer Showcase expo judges use a scoring rubric to provide feedback to students and select winners.



NFTE's Entrepreneurial Teacher Corps: Professional Development and Benefits

- Intensive face-to-face curriculum training ("NFTE U"), leading to Certified Entrepreneurship Teacher (CET) certificate
- Quarterly in-person Professional Learning Communities
- Monthly Professional Development Webinars
- Annual Teacher Summit
- Online access to all instructional and training materials through NFTE Digital Classroom
- Other support services

Units of Learning

- **Careers and You**
Through exploring the world of work and various careers, students discover their personal strengths and begin to activate their entrepreneurial mindset.
- **Preparing for a Career**
Students learn a variety of skills that are vital to their success including: academic planning, communicating with others, building relationships, basic math, and technology.
- **Career Development**
Students explore all phases of managing a career including what assessing jobs fit their skills and personality, how to find a first job, how to advance in their chosen career and how to balance work and life.
- **Entrepreneurship**
Students practice the steps to starting, planning and managing their own business, including analyzing trends, assessing markets, developing strategies, and financing options.
- **Financial Management**
Students learn basic economics, personal money management and financial planning, and introductory business financial management and calculations.

Contact Us

To learn how to bring this program to your school, email ProgramInquiry@nfte.com.

