Q: Where can I find classes on social entrepreneurship at the University of Minnesota?

A: [In other words... all over campus, at both the undergraduate & graduate levels.]
The non-profit sector is a large, growing and increasingly-entrepreneurial part of our economy. We will focus our attention by exploring a number of issues that involve the intersection of the for-profit and the not-for-profit economies. The course will employ readings, cases and guest speakers as well as an in-depth field experience with a local nonprofit organization. We have carefully selected social entrepreneurs who are in the process of scaling up their organizations. The course has reduced common meeting times in order to provide students with the opportunity to work on the group service based learning project. This is primarily an undergraduate class, though there may be opportunities for selected graduate students.
SCOPE OF COURSE: Cooperative and mutual business forms have been widely used for purposes of economic development, workforce development and social innovation. Historic examples include agricultural cooperatives, rural electric cooperatives, insurance mutuals and fraternals, credit unions, HMOs, housing cooperatives and mutually organized non-profits with significant earned income. This will be a highly interactive seminar. In the spirit of cooperation, a framework syllabus will be provided, but students will have significant responsibility for developing and delivering a portion of the seminar's overall content.

COURSE GOALS: This seminar will:
• Illuminate public policy considerations for cooperative forms
• Explore processes related to formation, governance, operations and distribution
• Consider several common and not-so-common practices of this business model
• Discuss and debate the merits – both economic and social – of coops as a “double bottom line” business form

If you are a graduate student at the University of Minnesota outside the Law School and are interested in attending this course in the Fall of 2013, please email chriskopka[at]yahoo[dot]com. He will help you through the registration process.
OLPD 3402/PA 3971 Leadership Minor: Field Experience
Sec 003 – Social Entrepreneurship
Undergraduate

Course Description
This section of the Field Experience Practicum of the Leadership Minor provides a basic understanding of the evolving discipline and profession called 'Social Entrepreneurship’. The course focuses on key concepts in social entrepreneurship and how those concepts fit with the elements of “adaptive leadership.” The field of Social Entrepreneurship is rapidly growing around the globe from entrepreneurs, investors, educational institutions, philanthropists, foundations, philanthropic advisors, and consulting firms with the aim to achieve meaningful social returns, as well as sustainable or competitive financial returns --through their products, services and other business practices. Entrepreneurial solutions to education, global climate change, healthcare, environment, poverty alleviation, workforce development, international development, and other large societal issues are being addressed through both for-profit and non-profit ventures.

Continuing emphasis on the concepts of adaptive leadership provides a framework in which to understand examples of social entrepreneurship, and how these enterprises are created and led. This course will help you prepare for leadership in community and business enterprises, empowering you with leadership field experience in a realistic business setting. Throughout the semester you will either work on a social venture initiated in the previous semester, or a new venture to be selected by the students.

Course Objectives
Upon completion of class instruction, online activities, interactive discussion including debates, case-in-point leadership learning experiences, personal study and reflection, and multiple opportunities to apply the adaptive leadership theories to practice in the actual field experience, the participants are expected to have developed, achieved, or increased their:

• Understanding of social change and entrepreneurial leadership, and skill sets necessary to become change agents in their area of interest;
• Awareness and competency in the Student Development Outcomes, specifically Responsibility and Accountability, Independence and Interdependence, Goal Orientation, Resilience and Tolerance of Ambiguity; Leadership Minor Leadership Education and Development Undergraduate Programs (LEAD UP)
• Ability to inspire others to support their work through persuasive communication and presentation;
• Skill in understanding and applying the Student Learning Outcomes, specifically: a) Identify, define and solve problems, b) Locate and critically evaluate information, and c) Understand the role of creativity, innovation, discovery and expression across disciplines.
CE5571: Design for Sustainable Development: Innovate
*Upper level undergrads and grad students from any major*

In this four-credit course, interdisciplinary student teams develop sustainable enterprise and technical solutions for an environmental or social challenge in India. Each team consists of UMN teammates and teammates from a partner university in India. Technical and business development professionals will mentor each team. This course, known as the Acara Challenge course, will be offered in Fall 2013. Top teams from the course will be invited to pitch for funding at the Acara Challenge finals in February 2014.

Prerequisite: Instructor permission and application. An application should include: (1) resume (up to 1 page) and (2) essay (up to 2 pages) on: (i) why you wish to take the class, (ii) what your relevant background experience is, and (iii) what you will contribute to an interdisciplinary team. Email application PDF to Fred Rose [rosex122 {at} umn.edu].

CE5572: Design for Sustainable Development: Create I
*Upper level undergrads and grad students from any major*

This is an intensive one-week, two-credit course to turn an idea into a viable social business model. No prior experience with a business class (or even an interest in taking one) is needed. The course will be offered in January 2014.

Prerequisite: Instructor permission and application consisting of an essay (up to 1 page) on why you wish to take the course, or prior completion of CE 5571.

CE5573: Design for Sustainable Development: Create II
*Upper level undergrads and grad students from any major*

This one-credit course is for students from CE 5571 and CE 5572 who are pursuing their venture solutions. The course allows a defined time for students and faculty to work on plans for market research and piloting. The course is pass-fail.

Prerequisite: CE5571 or CE5572 and instructor permission.

CE4011/CE5570: Design for Sustainable Development: Discovery India
*Upper level undergrads and grad students from any major*

The three-credit study abroad course included three weeks in Delhi, India for field visits and guest lectures to learn about major challenges and solutions in one of the world’s megacities; topics included slum development, transportation, energy supply, sanitation, waste management, water supply, and rural livelihoods. This course was taught by Julian Marshall and Brian Bell from the U of MN and staff from TERI in India in January 2013.

Prerequisite: Instructor permission.

Note: Fall 2013 CE5571 and CE5572 will be cross-listed in the College of Science and Engineering, Humphrey and the College of Design.
PA 5190: Social Entrepreneurship

Graduate students

As the pace of social change has increased, the search for innovate solutions to its associated problems has intensified. Nonprofits, government agencies, and, in many cases, for-profits are being called upon to enhance their creativity and responsiveness to social issues and to re-invent themselves. In short, managers and organizations in each sector need to become social entrepreneurs and provide important social benefits through their activities. This course is designed to provide current and future managers and leaders with an overview of important topics in the emerging field of social entrepreneurship and prepare them to create, develop, and lead socially innovative organizations and initiatives.

Course assignments and discussions will expand students' management skills, analytical tools, and knowledge. Exercises and discussions allow students to test knowledge, formulate ideas and strategies, respond to management dilemmas, and get feedback from classmates, the instructor, and community leaders. Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

• Understand how social value is created through social entrepreneurship.
• Develop competencies in social opportunity recognition, feasibility analysis, and assessment and design of entrepreneurial approaches to develop socially beneficial products or services.
• Write and evaluate a venture plan for a social entrepreneurial approach to a societal issue or need.

Note: The class & section number may change for this course.