



I IDEAS TO IMPACT

A COLLABORATION
BETWEEN ANNENBERG X
AND SPARK SC

The mission of Ideas to Impact.

- 1 Prepare students with a **toolbox of skills** and **problem-solving frameworks** for leading small teams and managing complex projects from ideation to execution.

- 2 Inspire students to impact their **communities** and empower them to take **iterative** approaches to impact.

Class structure

PART 1

Prepare students to tackle a problem.



DESIGN THINKING,
IMPACT METRICS,
HARD SKILLS.

PART 2

Identify a broad problem in the community.

PART 3

Scope down to something understandable.

PART 4

Validate the scoped problem.



250+ STUDENTS
SURVEYED ACROSS
7 POLLS.

PART 5

Ideate the solution and execute.

Why Ann^x?

1. Exploring New Themes in Education

We practice a hands-on, learn-by-doing approach mixed with a focus on **interdisciplinary collaboration**.

15 MAJORS WERE
REPRESENTED IN
SPRING 2017.



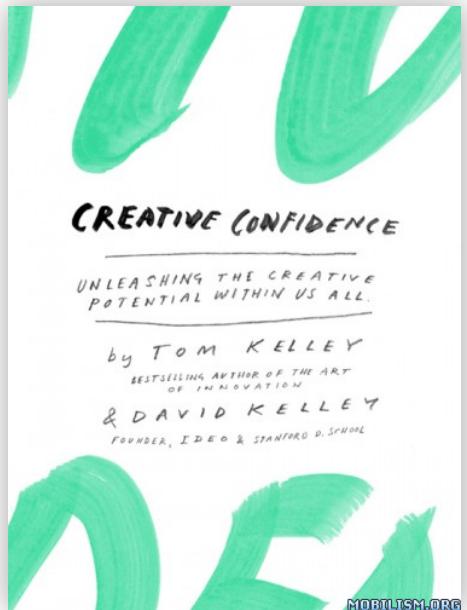
2. Novel Teaching Methods

We taught at Kerckhoff Hall and provided pizza after class. Students often stayed for over an hour beyond classtime and held group meetings.

2. Trajectory: Learning and Adapting

We kept the curriculum flexible and conducted frequent surveys to understand what the students needed most.

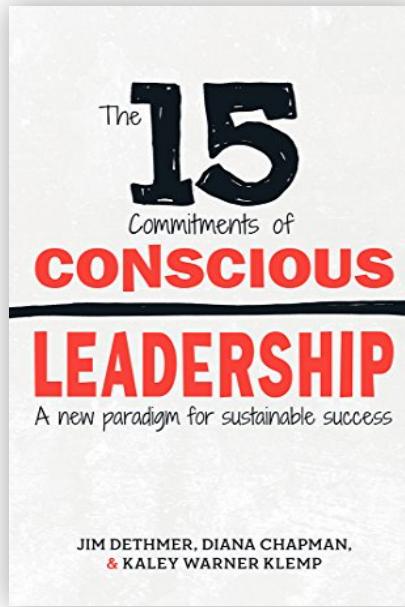
MATERIALS



ASSIGNED
CHAPTER READING

Creative Confidence

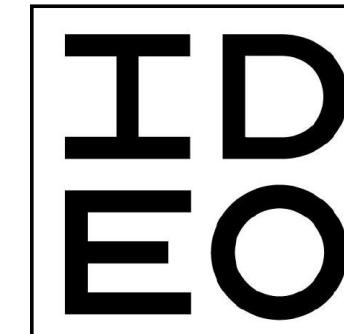
Tom & David Kelley



ASSIGNED
CHAPTER READING

Conscious Leadership

Jim Dethmer, Diana Chapman,
and Kaley Warner Klemp



METHODOLOGY &
DIGITAL TOOLS

IDEO

SF-based design firm.



CASE STUDIES

HBS

Harvard biz magazine.

19/21

ARE MORE CONFIDENT
IN STARTING NEW PROJECTS
OUTSIDE OF CLASS.

The screenshot shows a Mac OS X desktop with a browser window open to a Medium article. The title of the article is "What I learned taking USC's first ever student-run class" by Raghav Maheshwari. The article discusses the democratization of education through student-run courses at USC. Below the article, there is a section with social sharing icons and a link to the next story.

M What I learned taking USC's fir × Benjamin

A Medium...n [US] | http... f? Apps vatican localhost Bryant Hughes | We... http://joeharrison.c... 25 Superb Logo De... Other Bookmarks

Upgrade

Medium

Applause from you, Nathan Wallace, and 5 others

Raghav Maheshwari Follow Jul 15 · 4 min read

What I learned taking USC's first ever student-run class

There's a new movement on college campuses: democratizing education through student-run courses. With *ITP 499: From Ideas to Impact*, USC has now joined the ranks of schools such as UC Berkeley, Stanford, and Carnegie Mellon, where students have taken a lead to teach their own courses with a unique curriculum.

Last spring, I took ITP 499, which is run by members of [Spark SC](#), one of USC's main student-run entrepreneurial organizations on campus. The curriculum: identify problems at USC and beyond, work in groups to ideate and prototype various solutions to these problems, and finally measure their success over the course of the semester.

21

Q Twitter Facebook Next story Who gets to be called a mathe...

“ ”

This class is for the kind of student
who wants to play an active role in
helping the USC community.

“ ”

Ideas to Impact wants to show
you where and how to start.

“ ”

Taking ITP 499 even changed my
perception on what impact is.

We took students
to the Bay Area to meet
inspiring individuals.

David Plouffe



Kat Manalac



Grant Wedner



Justin Kao
Helix





Mike Lee

PROFESSOR AT VITERBI

Professor Lee was key in helping the Ideas to Impact team navigate the USC ecosystem as well as a great mentor in helping establish curriculum and best practices in the classroom.

Why should USC do this?



OTHER SCHOOLS ARE
PROVING IT WORKS.



OFFERS **15** STUDENT-LED
CLASSES EACH YEAR



“We've never run into a problem with the class quality. It's never a student lazily pursuing a goof-off topic with friends; it's highly accomplished students delving into topics we've yet to offer as part of the regular curriculum.”



**3,500 STUDENTS TAKE DECAL
COURSES EACH SEMESTER.**

“DeCal classes, in a nutshell, are legitimate university
classes run by students. The student that runs the
course can be viewed as the delegated instructor for
the faculty sponsor.”



SIC PROGRAM AT STANFORD SYSTEMATIZES PEER EDUCATION.



"Student initiated courses (**SICs**) are the perfect example of peer education at Stanford University.

The classes are not only more intimate and relaxed, but are also engaging, substantive, and taught by competent undergraduates."

How we filled it.

Flyering, social media ads, emails, student org connections, and an infosession.

 IDEAS TO IMPACT

ITP499: FROM IDEAS TO IMPACT
is an experimental, project-based 2 unit class

IMPACT	Work on high-impact, high-success projects that unite, inspire, and empower USC and the surrounding communities.
ENGAGE	Meet with critical members of the USC community, like Provost Michael Quick, to identify the most urgent problems on campus.
CONNECT	With students who have shaped organizations like Spark SC and have worked at companies like NASA and Snapchat.
EXPERIENCE	Visit the Bay Area's most innovative companies on a trip to Silicon Valley.



FIND IT ON WEB REG!
USC 1



Suvir Copparam ► USC Class of 2021
June 19 · 

Have a few extra units this coming semester? Check out ITP 499: From Ideas to Impact, a 2-unit, project-based course taught by students for students interested in building projects that improve USC.

...

Hey Ben,

This Spring, some students from Spark SC and I are teaching a class with professor Mike Lee. The class, titled "From Ideas to Impact," tasks students with creating a project that has an impact on USC's campus. The idea of the class is that it gives students the experience of affecting real users. I've

15 MAJORS

Biomedical Engineering
Computer Science
Fine Art
Business Administration
Computer Science/Business Administration
Arts, Technology, and the Business of Innovation
Law, History and Culture
Industrial and Systems Engineering
Undeclared
Computer Engineering
Chemical Engineering
International Relations
Psychology
Public Policy
Journalism

Understanding what students are looking for in a class.

Personalized surveys, website of top 2-unit classes, blog posts, and more.

My ideal class is a 2 unit class of 35 students that meet for 2 hours on Wednesdays at 5 PM.

The class is called Project Thought and the goal is to get students to think about starting projects at USC with support from faculty.



Thank you!

