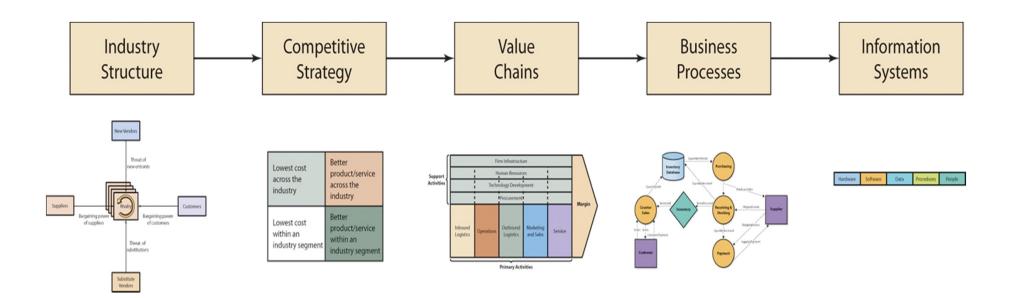
## Background

... Business 101

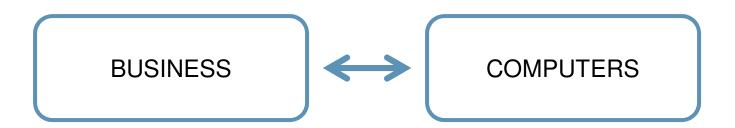
COURSE (core concepts)

# Information Systems & Competitive Advantage

## Organizational Strategy Determines Information Systems



## **COURSE**



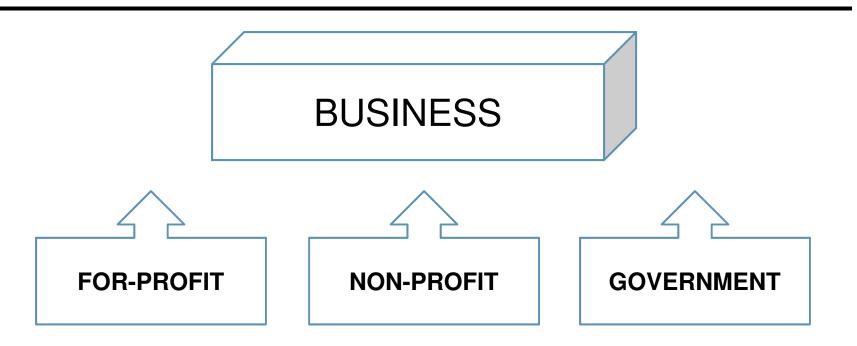
#### Define:

- what is 'business'
- how are 'computers' used in a 'business' environment

**BUSINESS** 

Any endeavor or enterprise that achieves a goal through the effort of a person or persons that involves a monetary component.





**BUSINESS** 

All business operates on the same basic principle.

## Business requires money in order to operate



## **BUSINESS**

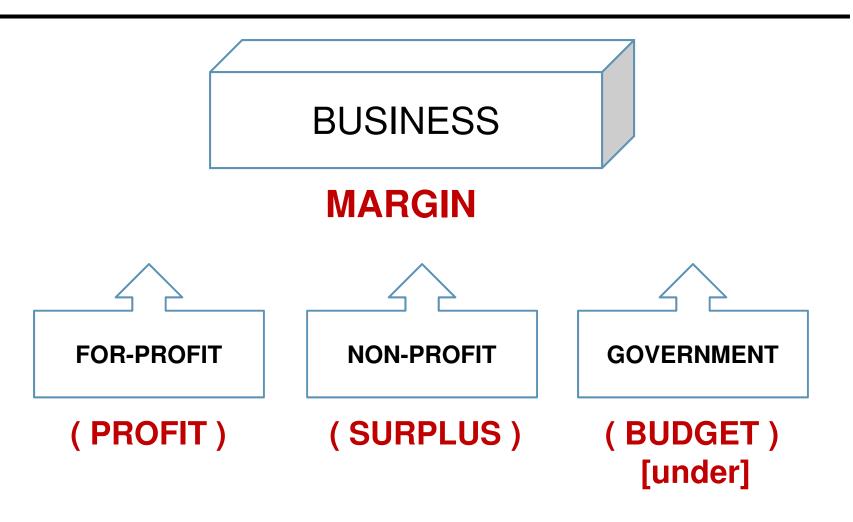
All businesses have a single goal.



## **BUSINESS**

# THIS IS KNOWN AS THE MARGIN





## **BUSINESS**

## **MARGIN**



\$\$\$

\$\$\$

LOW -or- NO MARGIN MEANS FAILURE



BUSINESS (operations)

## **MARGIN**

WHERE DOES MARGIN COME FROM?

BUSINESS (operations)

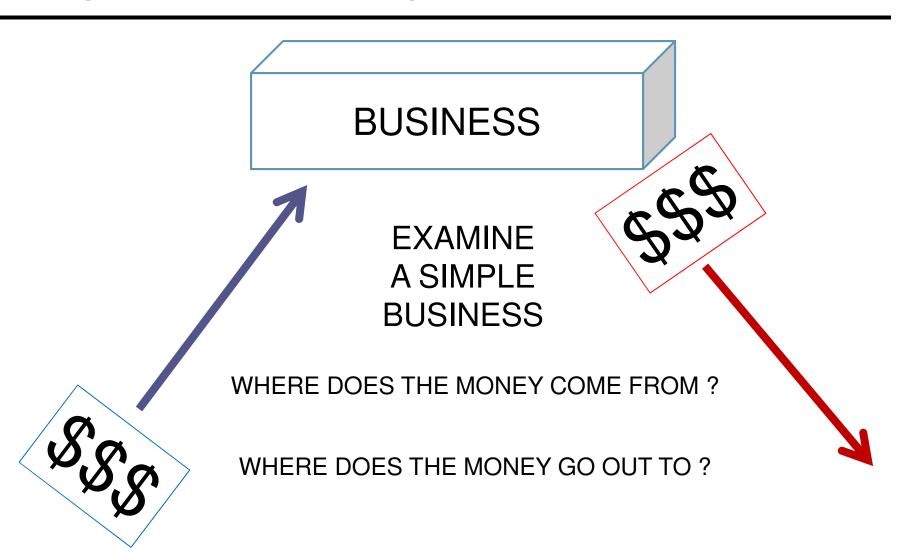
#### **OPERATIONS**

Facets of business: like a diamond

What does it take for a business to operate?

What are all the components (parts) of a business?

How does a business actually work?



**BUSINESS** 

GOAL: Create a business:

You have come up with a great idea for a business.

You are going to start small with you being the only employee.

It must be a Service!

## **BUSINESS**

GOAL: Create a business:

## Examples:

- Dog Walking
- House Sitting
- Car Transportation

## **BUSINESS**

GOAL: Create a business:

#### First Question:

- is it feasible?
- i.e. will make money
- i.e. is it worth your time and investment?

## **BUSINESS**

GOAL: Create a business:

First Question:

- is it feasible?
- How to tell?

  ( or at least, how to make an informed guess?)
  - Third Rule of Business 
    "Nobody Knows Nothing "

## **BUSINESS**

GOAL: Create a business:

First Question:

- is it feasible?

- How much money (\$\$\$) will I need to bring in in order to make this a viable entity?

#### **BUSINESS**

#### GOAL: Create a business:

- How much money (\$\$\$) will I need to bring in in order to make this a viable entity?

#### Rephrased:

- How much will be needed to run the business?
- What are my costs
   (what will I have to pay for i.e. money out)?

**BUSINESS** 

GOAL: Create a business:

- How much money (\$\$\$) will I need to bring in in order to make this a viable entity?

WHAT COSTS CAN YOU IDENTIFY?

#### **BUSINESS**

#### GOAL: Create a business:

- How much money (\$\$\$) will I need to bring in in order to make this a viable entity?

## Salary:

- this is a COST
- it is not margin it is not profit
- it is only ONE of the costs you have consider.

#### **BUSINESS**

#### GOAL: Create a business:

- How much money (\$\$\$) will I need to bring in in order to make this a viable entity?

#### **Raw Material:**

- this is a COST
- physical: cloth and ink for tie
- electronic: code and interface.

#### **BUSINESS**

#### GOAL: Create a business:

- How much money (\$\$\$) will I need to bring in in order to make this a viable entity?

## **Equipment:**

- this is a COST
- whatever required to manufacture
- platforms to create.

## **BUSINESS**

#### GOAL: Create a business:

- How much money (\$\$\$) will I need to bring in in order to make this a viable entity?

## Logistics:

- this is a COST
- location to conduct business
- infrastructure (secondary supplies computers).

#### **BUSINESS**

#### GOAL: Create a business:

- How much money (\$\$\$) will I need to bring in in order to make this a viable entity?

#### Sales:

- this is a COST
- advertising
- demonstrations display of product.

#### **BUSINESS**

#### GOAL: Create a business:

- How much money (\$\$\$) will I need to bring in in order to make this a viable entity?

#### **Distribution:**

- this is a COST
- packaging
- delivery and shipping

#### **BUSINESS**

#### GOAL: Create a business:

- How much money (\$\$\$) will I need to bring in in order to make this a viable entity?

## **Support:**

- this is a COST
- usability and instructions
- returns and defects.

## **BUSINESS**

#### GOAL: Create a business:

- costs (money out)
- Salary
- Raw Material
- Equipment
- Logistics
- Sales
- Distribution
- Support

BUSINESS (operations)

#### **RUNNING A BUSINESS**

HOW DO YOU 'RUN' A BUSINESS?

## SIMPLE TRACK EVERYTHING!

What to track?

How to track it?

BUSINESS (operations)

## TRACKING (WHY?)

**SPOILER ALERT!!** 

- DATA: what you track

- INFORMATION: derived from data

- **KNOWLEDGE**: using information

This is actually the core concept of this course ....

BUSINESS (operations)

## **TRACKING (HOW?)**

BP (before computers)

PAPER / INDEX CARDS: everything was collected

- LEDGER BOOKS: accounting

- POLICY: using the information

PURPOSE: track \$\$\$ in versus \$\$\$ out - MARGIN

BUSINESS (operations)

## **TRACKING (NOW?)**

AP (after computers)

DATABASES: everything is collected

- SPREADSHEETS: accounting

- IT SYSTEMS: using the information

PURPOSE: track \$\$\$ in versus \$\$\$ out - MARGIN

BUSINESS (operations)

## TRACKING (WHAT?)

- **EASY**: everything

- HARD: what is everything?

It is a process – build – test - adapt

BUSINESS (operations)

## TRACKING (WHERE?)

- COMPUTER: (obviously ...)

- MECHANISM: database

spreadsheets

information tools

It is a process – build – test - adapt

BUSINESS (operations)

#### **COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE**

 HOW CAN COMPUTERS BE USED TO MAKE YOUR ORGANIZATION PERFORM BETTER (BRING IN MORE MONEY) THAN YOUR COMPETITORS