



## 2019 African Rural University, Kagadi Uganda

### Course Catalog

**Exploring Ethics (Rachel Warnick):** a two-week, interactive programme which provides students with a platform to build and refine essential communication skills while examining theories of ethics, moral development, clashes between ethical systems, and ethics in the workplace. The course will be centred on experiential learning, practical exercises and projects grounded in real-life scenarios.

**Innovation and Design Thinking (Suzanne Stein):** Design Thinking is the ability to combine: empathy for the context of the problem, creativity in the generation of insights and solutions and rationality to analyse and fit solutions into the context. In this course, students will learn how to approach traditional problem solving using Design Thinking methods to generate Desirable, Feasible and Visible solutions.

**Leading, Accelerating and Sustaining Social Change (Akbar Saeed):** As a Change Agent, the goal is to foster the conditions that will help empower people to transform their own communities. However, the challenge is often not just about enabling others to lead that change but also importantly removing hindering obstacles in order to accelerate change and finding ways to sustain that change. In this course, we will use Kotter's 8-step change model as a framework to discuss the process of social innovation. The course will be underpinned by discussions involving leadership, social entrepreneurship and social development. The focus will be more on process than theory, with many experiential classroom learning exercises anchored by real world cases describing social development initiatives. Overall, the student will learn skills that will help them better address the challenge of leading, accelerating and sustaining social change.

### Lecturer Biographies

#### Akbar Saeed



Akbar Saeed is currently Associate Professor of Information Systems in the Business Technology Management program at Wilfrid Laurier University in Brantford, Canada. He is also the current Director of the Tshepo Institute for the Study of Contemporary Africa (<https://researchcentres.wlu.ca/tshepo/index.html>) based at the same university. He teaches courses mainly related to technology and

entrepreneurship which include cyberethics, information and communication technology in the developing context and the entrepreneurial environment, specifically focused on startups. His research interests are generally centred on how technology influences both the way we understand ourselves and the way we operate in the world. He has published in the Journal of Management Studies, International Political Sociology, the Journal of Management and the Journal of Leadership Education. His current research interests involve studying entrepreneurship in technology-infused markets in the developing world. To that end, he is currently leading a project that intends to better understand the impediments to entrepreneurial success in small-scale solar markets in Ghana. He is also currently working on a book that profiles the limitations and failures of humanitarian technologies to solve large scale crisis in the developing world. Recently, he delivered a TED talk entitled “ Transformation in Africa: Global Citizenship and the Digital Divide” (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=15VTMb86eao>) in which he argues that true transformation in Africa will only be achieved when African youth have the opportunity to access knowledge and education through the internet, thereby empowering themselves to be more entrepreneurial in solving some of Africa’s major problems.

### **Suzanne Stein**



Suzanne Stein is a Foresight Analyst, Mentor, and Educator. Currently, appointed Lab Director of DMRII’s Super Ordinary, which focuses on new technologies and research methods. She is a member of OCAD U’s Digital Futures Office and the Strategic Foresight & Innovation graduate program. Stein has been an Adjunct Faculty at AHO (Norway), the CFC (Canada), and the Unfinished Business School (virtual). She comes to OCAD University from SMARTlab in the UK where she was Deputy Director and Principal Research Fellow in Technology Futures. She was formerly a member of Nokia’s Insight & Foresight group, which studied emerging trends and identified new business opportunities created by disruptive technologies and market developments. Previously at Sapient Corporation, a business and technology consultancy, Suzanne was the Discipline Lead for the Experience Modeling (XMod) group in London, where she created and managed this group of diverse social scientists. She was also a Director in the User Experience Group, overseeing Creative development and articulation as well as the Research offerings. Prior to this, she was the Director of Insights and Director of Project Management at X-corporation, a communications and design firm. Suzanne is a PhD candidate at the London School of Economics and founder of the research company, Everyday Life. She was also the Canadian juror for the UN Taskforce, the World Summit Awards and has held Mentorship positions with the Interactive Project Lab and various advisory boards.

## Rachel Warnick



Rachel Warnick specialises in short-term, intensive programmes focused on communications, essential business and academic skills, and English for Speakers of Other Languages. Her belief is that education must be exciting and relevant, and this principle is the bedrock of her curriculum design and facilitation style. Rachel has worked with a variety of institutions and private and corporate clients in Europe, Africa, the Middle East and Asia. She obtained a BA with High Distinction in East Asian Studies from the University of Toronto and an MSc in International Management at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS). She spent fifteen years in business, gaining valuable experience in the finance, energy and non-profit sectors, most notably with Goldman Sachs and the UNHCR, before returning to education. In addition, she has an extensive track record of volunteer work in the UK, Africa and, most recently, with ProWiBo in India in 2018 and in Thailand in 2019. Canadian by birth but a nomad by nature, Rachel has lived in thirteen countries on four continents, and this lifelong exploration of a vast array of cultures gives a global perspective to her life and work.