AI-enabled early innovation

Unit of study - code study unit	TBC (in Karelia)
Unit of study - name	AI-enabled early innovation
Competences	1. Entrepreneurial competences 2. Research and problem-solving competences 3. Transdisciplinary competences 4. Communication and social interaction competences 5. Intercultural competence field, including cultural awareness, multilingual and internationalisation 6. Competences on self-managing, personal development, intrapersonal skills, digitalisation (including Artificial intelligence) 7. Transversal competences 8. Innovation skills
Learning outcomes	After completing this course, you will understand how to use artificial intelligence in early-stage innovation. You will learn how to assess your skills, values, and resources, and apply these in developing business ideas. You will be able to work in a team to create and refine new product or service concepts, using AI and structured problem-solving methods. You will be able to generate, evaluate, and improve innovative ideas by working with others and considering customer needs and competitive insights. Additionally, you will be skilled in explaining the unique value of your ideas, creating value propositions, and defining early prototypes.
Content	1. AI's potential for innovation 2. Evolution of technology and the economy 3. Early innovation process 4. Customer need and competitive advantage 5. Effective communication of business ideas

Teaching method(s) and student workload	The course will be implemented in two phases: Preliminary phase online and onsite phase:
	- Preliminary tasks (27.1.-20.2.2025)
	  ○ 25 hours
	  ○ Presenting yourselves online, watching recorded lectures, designing the evening activity
	  ○ Group work
	- Onsite phase (23.-28.2.2025)
	  ○ 56 hours
	  ○ Applying early innovation process focusing on local key innovator companies
	  ○ Onsite phase includes workshops, exams, coaching, excursions, presentation of results and social activities

Rating scale	The course is evaluated on a scale of 0-5, where 5 is excellent, 1 is satisfactory and 0 is failed. The evaluation of the course is based on the approved completion of all assignments:

	Preliminary assignment (15%), individual exams (35%), documentation of the work (30%), pitching (20%). To pass the course, you will have to complete all assignments. Active participation during the onsite phase can increase the assessment.
Examination	- Assessment of preliminary group assignment - Multiple choice test - Assessment of documentation and pitching - Continuous assessment
Module coordinator	Karelia University of Applied Sciences: Kaija Saramäki and Heikki Immonen
Language	English
Credits	3 ECTS (81 hours)
Period	Spring semester
Level of study	BSc and MSc
Entry requirements/prerequisites	- Minimum requirements: o English language level is B2 o For BSc students, they should have completed two years of studies
Contact persons	Kaija Saramäki (kaija.saramaki@karelia.fi) Heikki Immonen (heikki.immonen@karelia.fi)
Additional information	The course is part of the INVEST 2.0 (INnoVations of REgional Sustainability: European UniversiTy Alliance) project funded by Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union. The teaching language is English. Participating in the course is considered as consent to participate in the research carried out in the project. Assignments, online discussions and other material produced during the course can be used as research material. The identities of the participants cannot be identified from the research reports. Part of the course assignments can be published.