MiddCORE

IMMERSIVE LEARNING
REAL-WORLD CHALLENGES
INDIVIDUAL MENTORING
LEADERSHIP PREPARATION

May 30–June 27, 2020

WHAT IS MIDDCORE

MiddCORE is a four-week, mentor-powered leadership and innovation program for undergraduate students and recent graduates. As a MiddCORE participant, you’ll develop the core skills that are the basis for a successful career and a meaningful life.

THE RESULT

You’ll be uniquely prepared to bring your education and your passions into the professional world, and you’ll go from understanding what you can do to understanding who you can become.

WHAT SETS MIDDCORE APART

MiddCORE is unlike any other program or internship. Participants come from many of the country’s top colleges and universities. They work together with mentors who are leaders in industry, academia, and government, and who live among them throughout the program, engaging with them on hands-on, real-world challenges.

AN INSPIRING LOCATION

MiddCORE is based at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies in Monterey, California. Courses are held at the renowned graduate school campus and other locations around the Monterey Bay area.

• Highly motivated college and university students and recent graduates who want to build entrepreneurial, leadership, and communication skills are encouraged to apply to MiddCORE.

• All majors and areas of academic interest are appropriate for MiddCORE. Applicants should be comfortable collaborating with others and be prepared for 40 hours a week of hands-on learning in and out of classroom settings.

• MiddCORE graduates earn one college course credit or the equivalent of three semester-hour credits.

MIDD CORE FAST FACTS

• Financial aid is available. Students who are interested in financial aid are encouraged to apply early. Aid is distributed on a first-come, first-served basis.

• Apply EARLY and SAVE

  • Apply by November 17—save $500
  • Apply by February 16—save $250

• Application deadline: April 12

COST

Tuition, room, and board: $9,500
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AN INVALUABLE INVESTMENT
Why spend four weeks next summer at MiddCORE? Because our MiddCORE alumni report that their participation in the program was an invaluable investment in their career preparation. They say in a month they developed the kind of resilience, creative confidence, skills, networks, and experiences that usually take years to acquire.

94% of recent participants said that MiddCORE gave them the skills to be confident in the workplace.

95% felt more confident in public speaking.

91% declared MiddCORE to be one of their most important undergraduate experiences.

98% felt they could approach strategic challenges in new ways.

79% said MiddCORE opened their eyes to new career pathways.

BECOME A LEADER AND INNOVATOR
MiddCORE is a journey of personal discovery and professional preparation. You’ll build skills, opportunities, and connections, while learning how to safely take risks and explore areas beyond your comfort zone.

HOW
• Learn in a collaborative setting with an intensive daily schedule.
• Benefit from small classes that encourage cooperation.
• Strengthen your skills with mentor-led workshops and real-world challenges.
• Learn from more than 40 mentors who are leaders in business, government, and nonprofits.

WHERE
• Instruction takes place at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey and nearby locations.
• Student housing is on the Pacific coast at the Asilomar Conference Grounds, accessible by foot, bike, or public transportation.

WHAT
• Cultivate solutions to real-world problems guided by mentors.
• Establish a lifelong network of mentors and peers.
• Be part of teamwork, innovation, and trial-and-error exploration.
• Practice practical problem solving.
• Course credit is available.

“™m no longer afraid to take risks or put myself in uncomfortable yet growth-fostering situations. I am a stronger, more confident, more empowered version of myself.
—Sarah James, MiddCORE 2015
YOUR FOUR WEEKS AT MIDDCORE

Each week, you’ll build on the week before. You’ll practice and hone your leadership, innovation, and collaboration skills, reflect on your experiences, and explore your personal strengths and weaknesses relative to your goals and aspirations.

WEEK ONE
Week One focuses on skill building and community building. You’ll meet different mentors, professors, and students, and as a group you’ll all develop a baseline understanding of the skills you will need over the next month, from self-awareness to leadership, design thinking, persuasive communication, and financial literacy.

WEEK TWO
The First Challenge: During Week Two, you’ll be assigned to a group of 12–15 other students. Together, you’ll work over the next several days to solve the first Strategic Partner Challenge. In recent years, these Strategic Partner Challenges have included Peet’s Coffee, Google, CNote, and True Botanicals. These challenges will expose you to one-on-one learning with leaders in a wide range of fields and build your professional network. You’ll work closely with mentors to solve actual issues and use your persuasive communication skills to present your ideas back to the CEOs of these companies.

WEEK THREE
The Second Challenge: During Week Three, you’ll be paired with different teammates to take part in your second Strategic Partner Challenge and gain exposure to the nonprofit world through organizations such as High Fives Foundation or Life is Good Kids Foundation. You’ll also dive deeper into your negotiation, crisis management, collaboration, and ethical decision-making skills.

WEEK FOUR
The Individual Challenge: During Week Four, you’ll explore your entrepreneurial capabilities with the Innovation Challenge. During the Innovation Challenge, you will work independently to develop a product or service, or to identify a solution to a social problem. You continue to hone your skills of idea creation, aesthetic and visual communication, empathy, and strategic thinking.

“As a rising senior, I was feeling anxious about life after college. After MiddCORE, rather than feeling overwhelmed, I was more excited than ever to start the journey knowing what opportunities were out there.
—Jed Sass, MiddCORE 2016
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