

Brief Course Outline

Course Title: **GLE 3001 F – Special Topics (Innovation in Nation Building: Ideas, Systems, and Society)**

Course Number and Section

GLE

3001F 550

Instructor Name(s): Dr. Matt Bazely

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Disclaimer: Information in the brief course outline is subject to change. The syllabus posted on OWL Brightspace is the official and authoritative source of information for the course.

Course Description:

This course approaches innovation as a disciplined, evidence-informed process for understanding and improving complex systems. Students develop the knowledge, skills, and habits of systems innovators by applying structured approaches to problem definition, stakeholder engagement, systems analysis, leverage point identification, and innovation design in response to complex economic, political, social, environmental, and ethical challenges within the Canadian context.

Drawing upon principles from complexity science, systems thinking, and innovation, students investigate how interconnected systems shape societal outcomes and learn to identify opportunities for meaningful and lasting change. Through field-based inquiry, systems mapping, collaborative innovation sprints, and iterative evaluation, students develop evidence-informed solutions that address underlying system dynamics rather than surface-level symptoms. Emphasis is placed on analytical rigor, ethical reasoning, critical reflection, and professional communication.

Learning Outcomes: one outcome per entry

1. Apply systems thinking principles to analyze complex economic, political, social, environmental, and ethical challenges within the Canadian context, recognizing the relationships, structures, feedback loops, and mental models that influence system behaviour.
2. Conduct systems inquiry by integrating stakeholder engagement, observation, secondary research, and evidence collection to develop a comprehensive understanding of complex societal systems.
3. Develop and communicate systems maps that identify key actors, relationships, system dynamics, feedback loops, and leverage points within complex Canadian challenges.
4. Evaluate opportunities for systems change by distinguishing between symptomatic solutions and interventions that address underlying system dynamics and create long-term public value.
5. Design evidence-informed innovations that respond to identified leverage points while considering feasibility, ethics, stakeholder perspectives, unintended consequences, and potential systems impacts.

6. Communicate systems analyses and innovation proposals effectively through professional written, visual, and oral formats for both academic and public audiences.
7. Critically reflect on personal and professional growth by evaluating evidence of learning, integrating feedback, and demonstrating the development of systems innovation competencies throughout the course.

Textbooks and Course Materials:

There is no textbook required for this course, students will access course readings through the library and in OWL Brightspace.

Methods of Evaluation: one assignment per entry

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
How Do I Plan to Be Successful in This Course?	Week 1	5%
Class Contribution	Week 1-6	15%
Class Contribution	Week 7-12	15%
Systems Inquiry	Week 3	14%
Systems Diagnosis	Week 5	14%
Systems Intervention	Week 7	14%
Canada 2050: National Futures Commission	Week 12	20%
Evidence-Based Self-Assessment	Week 12	5%

Tuesday, August 11, 2026

Huron Brief Course Outline 2026/27

In-course Costs \$000.00

For Textbooks and Course Materials (below), you are required to include the cost of each textbook or other learning material.

Note whether there are any restrictions that would prevent a student from using a second-hand copy. Here is some suggested text:

- Required textbook: [author, title, edition, publisher, date]. Cost: [insert amount].
 - Or include the weblink of the textbook’s publisher site that includes the cost information.
- Students need to purchase this edition. Second-hand or older editions will not be sufficient.
- OR Students are welcome to purchase second-hand or earlier editions of this textbook.
- This course has an optional field trip that costs [insert amount].
- This course has a required field component that costs [insert amount].

In solidarity with the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton peoples on whose traditional treaty and unceded territories this course is shared.