About the Course

*Design Your Life* at Berkeley Haas offers undergraduate students a unique opportunity to study innovation and philosophy. Inspired by Stanford University’s d.school class of the same name, this course is distinctly Berkeley Haas, full of potential to explore the meaning behind our defining leadership principles, and those related values that guide your own professional works and lives.

The purpose of this course is two-fold, to help you understand the importance of problem framing, and to develop a sense of agency. My hope is that you will be both confident and competent in leading good innovation work, whether that be in for-profit, non-profit, or public sector settings, and that you personally continue to develop as an innovative person and leader.

*DYL* includes seminar-style discussions, role-playing, in-class activities and short writing assignments. Small group discussions will take place often. Please be prepared to foster an inclusive and open classroom community, the nature of which will be defined by personal, respectful and generative qualities.

Faculty

Elizabeth Kovats is a faculty member at the Berkeley Haas School of Business and UC Berkeley’s College of Engineering. Her areas of focus include innovation, technology management, entrepreneurship, and philosophy, and she is interested in how products and services can be designed to advance the common good. In addition to teaching undergraduate and graduate students, she regularly collaborates with innovation executives working in Silicon Valley. She has partnered with big tech firms as well as numerous innovation labs across a variety of industries involving Fortune 500 companies. Prior to her work in the academy, she helped scale operations for a start-up in the high technology industry, from start-up through to IPO. Elizabeth studied creative writing at the University of Arizona and University of Iowa, and holds an MTS from the Jesuit School of Theology, with a focus on ethics.