

How to Change the World
Osher Course #147 - 002 University of Utah

Dr. Warner Woodworth
Global Social Entrepreneur

Thursdays 3:30 PM - 5:00 March 25 – April 29, 2021

Email: warnerwoodworth@gmail.com

Cell: 801.380.0333

Web: www.warnerwoodworth.com

Dear Osher Participants:

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Welcome to this course on changing and improving the world. As we move further into the 21st Century and a new millennium, we can begin to imagine a radically different future – one in which the terrible evils of extreme human poverty and suffering may be greatly alleviated, if not completely eliminated. It is up to us.

I invite you to become a social entrepreneur/change agent as we build a movement to transform the world by seeking social justice and empowering the poor. Through effective strategies such as social entrepreneurship, microfinance development and various tools of humanitarian service, we will explore creative ways to improve the quality of life with people who struggle greatly in the Third World.

The plan for this course is to strengthen one's capacity to change the world by learning and then applying Social Entrepreneurship (SE) skills to empower the poor. We will gain an understanding of the current global context of suffering, conflicts, unemployment, natural disasters, and other human struggles. Hopefully, we will explore and wrestle over tough issues with each other. Innovative methods and tools will be studied for building individual and/or family economic self-reliance in Africa, Latin America, and Asia.

We will assess and understand models for organizing, structuring, and managing effective delivery systems that provide microfinance and other interventions to those in need. Throughout the course we will be analyzing specific NGOs that operate various strategies that have broad and deep impacts, are sustainable, generate social impacts, and so forth.

Below are several suggestions for those seeking to become seriously involved in this course, above and beyond attending our weekly meeting at Osher. They include classroom participation, writing a social entrepreneur's biography, and, if desired, a final written NGO assessment project at the end.

I will email an article for your perusal each week for anyone interested in reading to prepare. More of my publications are on my website. Additional resources you may want to read on your own could include Greg Dees' *Strategic Tools for Social Entrepreneurs*, Warner Woodworth's *Small Really is Beautiful*, and Muhammad Yunus' *Banker to the Poor* on the Grameen Bank.

The overall schedule of the course will proceed per the dates indicated, subject to the speed of our learning and the depth of our understanding.

Agenda

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Assignment</i>
Mar. 25	Class Introductions; Overview of Course; Concepts such as Social Entrepreneurship; Change Agency; Participants' Questions	Jointly Explore Class Participants' Interests, Global Context of Poverty, Methodologies & Projects; W. Woodworth's Social Innovations
April 1	Microfinance; Social Capital; NGOs; Worker-owned Basque Cooperatives; ESOPs & Workplace Democracy	Grameen Bank in Bangladesh; Mentors International in Philippines, Mondragon in Spain; Muhammad Yunus; J.M. Arizmendiarieta
April 8	SLC Citizen Initiatives; Building Communities from the Ground Up Through Love & Strategic Action; Cases in Mali, Kenya, Mozambique and the Caribbean	Ouelessebougou Alliance: Mali, African Village Development for over 30 Years; Modibo Diarra; Care for Life; Brazilian Joao Bueno; Yehu and Louis Pope; Sustain Haiti
April 15	Students as Social Entrepreneurs in Times of Disaster; Practicing Real World Stewardship; Creating Social Impacts Internationally	HELP International: Honduras, Uganda, Nicaragua, Fiji, & Lisa Jones; Other Spin-offs; Wave of Hope Thailand & Sarah Carmichael
April 22	Utah Families, Friends & Businesses Making a Difference; Refugees Settling in Utah; Inner Cities; Becoming Empowered vs. Depending on Charity	CHOICE Humanitarian's Nepal Case; MicroBusiness Mentors in Utah; Long term Development Strategies for Institution-Building; James Mayfield; Bishnu Adhikari
April 29	Serving the Disenfranchised "Least of These;" Taking Action for Family Well-being & Economic Self-Reliance Globally; "Managing Oneself"	Leper Communities of Rising Star India; You as Change Agents; Course Conclusions & Commitments to Take Action; P. Drucker; Becky Douglas; Padma Venkataraman

"Live the life you have imagined."

- Henry David Thoreau

Additional Potential Learning & Action Projects

Personal Learning About Locally-based NGOs Doing Global Work

Osher participants may want to learn through analyzing NGOs by working on service-learning projects with an NGO attempting to grow in numbers and impact. Key tasks could include:

- 1) Gaining entry, establishing the relationship, and drafting a letter of engagement approved by the NGO and you;
- 2) Outline what you will do to strengthen the NGO client, identify barriers to growth and other problems;
- 3) Assess the organization's:
 - a) Vision/mission
 - b) Culture and structure
 - c) Financial system and fundraising efforts
 - d) Human resources
 - e) Organizational strategies
 - f) Impacts/results
- 4) Develop action plans by which you may strengthen the client NGO. Options might include new growth plans, web development, PR efforts, fundraising strategies, etc;
- 5) Implement action plans with the NGO;
- 6) Assess results and draft your report, critique, and impact by the end of the term.

Individual SE Biography

If interested, Osher class members may want to do research and draft a biography on social entrepreneurs in order to better understand what makes such individuals “tick:” their background and upbringing, stages of life, how and why they became a change agent, their motivations, philosophy of life, leadership skills and style, vision, access to funding and strategies for transformation. What were the results of their work or impacts? What lessons do they suggest for budding social entrepreneurs today? How do you evaluate their pluses and minuses? Bottom line: How to learn from worldwide Movers and Shakers?

Examples of Social Entrepreneurs with Utah Ties:

Esther Peterson.....America's First Consumer Activist, U.S. Labor Advocate
Timothy Evans.....Founder - Andean Children's Fund in Peru
Arturo De Hoyos..... Creator of Universidad Hispana in Utah & Cumorah School in Mexico
Steve Gibson.....Founder, Academy for Creating Enterprise, the Philippines
Gordon B. Hinckley..... LDS Prophet to the Poor: LDS Humanitarian Services, LDS Charities, Perpetual Education Fund
Pamela Atkinson.....First Presbyterian Church Elder & Homeless Advocate
Carol Gray..... Humanitarian Relief Provider, Starlight UK Refugees
Dale Tingey.....Founder - American Indian Services

Modibo Diarra.....Muslim in Mali, Executive Director of the Ouelessebouyou Alliance
 Cecile Pelous.....French Humanitarian - Founder of First Hope in Nepal
 Lowell Bennion.....Humanitarian - Revered Saint of SLC Christian Service, U of U
 Bathsheba Smith.....Pioneer Radical Feminist in Early Utah
 Frederick Njenga.....Founder of NGO for the disabled in Kenya
 Jaime Figueroa.....Peruvian Innovator, Co-Founder of Chasqui Humanitarian in Peru
 George Romney.....Visionary of American Volunteerism/Points of Light Foundation
 Helen Foster Snow.....Workers' Cooperatives Advisor from Utah who worked with Mao Tse Tung & his Communist Revolution in China

Other Global Examples & Role Models:

John Woolman.....Quaker Activist & Abolitionist
 Ben Cohen.....Founder, Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream/Corporate Gadfly Advocate of "Caring Capitalism"
 Dorothy Day.....Catholic Worker's Organization & Activist
 Nelson Mandela.....Anti-Apartheid Prisoner, Later President of South Africa
 Tom Paine.....Early American Revolutionary
 Susan B. Anthony.....Feminist & Leader of U.S. Suffragettes
 Sam Daley Harris.....Founder of Results International & the Microcredit Summit
 Anita Roddick.....Provocateur for Ethical Business/Founder of the Body Shop, UK
 Mahatma Gandhi.....Hindu Non-Violence Movement Founder in India
 Martin Luther King, Jr.....Civil Rights Crusader / Preacher Against Racism & for Justice
 Rachel Carson.....Environmental Advocate & Author
 John Hatch.....Founder - FINCA International Microfinance
 Henry David Thoreau.....Free Spirit - Advocate of Nature & Simplicity
 Mother Teresa of Calcutta.....Albanian Saint to the Global Poorest of the Poor
 Lech Walesa.....Solidarnosc Polish Trade Union Founder / Led to the Break-up of the USSR
 Bill & Melinda Gates.....Billionaire Donors to Global Causes
 Eugene V. Debs.....Co-Founder of the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW) & Social Democratic Party
 Gloria Steinem.....Modern Feminist of the 1960s-80s
 J. M. Arizmendiarieta.....Visionary Catholic Priest / Mentor to Mondragon Basque Co-ops
 Cesar Chavez.....Chicano Migrant Farmworkers' Union Founder
 Muhammad Yunus.....Father of Microcredit / Founder of the Grameen Bank, Bangladesh
 Ralph Nader.....Environmentalist & Consumer Advocate
 Mother Jones.....Working Class Rebel & Mineworkers Union Advocate Against Child Labor Endangerment & Exploitation



