



Service Science  
UniMiB  
F9101Q022

Course Presentation

[roberto.boselli@unimib.it](mailto:roberto.boselli@unimib.it)

[mirko.cesarini@unimib.it](mailto:mirko.cesarini@unimib.it)

# Road Map

- Two Paths (different but very related)
  - Service Science
    - Theoretical approach
    - From products to (innovative) services
    - Holistic and ex-post approach
  - Service Design - Lean Start-up
    - Ex-ante approach (how to make stuffs happen)
    - Focus on time constraint and feasibility
    - Real life experience
- Final Lab/Workshop (connection point)

# Service Science Path, Details

1. SSME: service characteristics, value co-creation, service systems, design models, service productivity
2. KIBS and Smart services
3. Business Models: servitization, new service dominant logic
4. IoT and Industry 4.0
5. Open innovation, crowdsourcing
6. Social CRM, social customer service

# Service Design - Lean Start-up Path, Details

1. Service Design in Innovative scenarios
2. Traditional Management Approach Issues
3. Validated Learning
4. Measuring Knowledge Gains
5. Pivot or Persevere
6. Sprint approach
7. Funding

# Final Lab/Workshop

- Designing/Creating a new
  - Service
  - Start-up
  - ...
- Business Model Canvas

# Evaluation

- Exams
  - Oral exam
  - No differences for attending and non-attending students
- A student, in agreement with the teacher, can replace a part of the oral exam with the discussion of a project. The project must be agreed in advance with the teacher



# Service Science

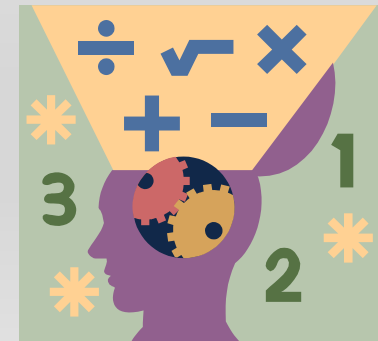
# What is SSME?

- SSME is the application of
  - Scientific, management, and engineering disciplines to tasks that one organization beneficially performs for and with another (i.e., services).
- SSME goal
  - Make productivity, quality, performance, compliance, growth, and learning improvements more predictable in (co-production) relationships.
- SSME is the study of service systems
  - Aimed at improving service systems



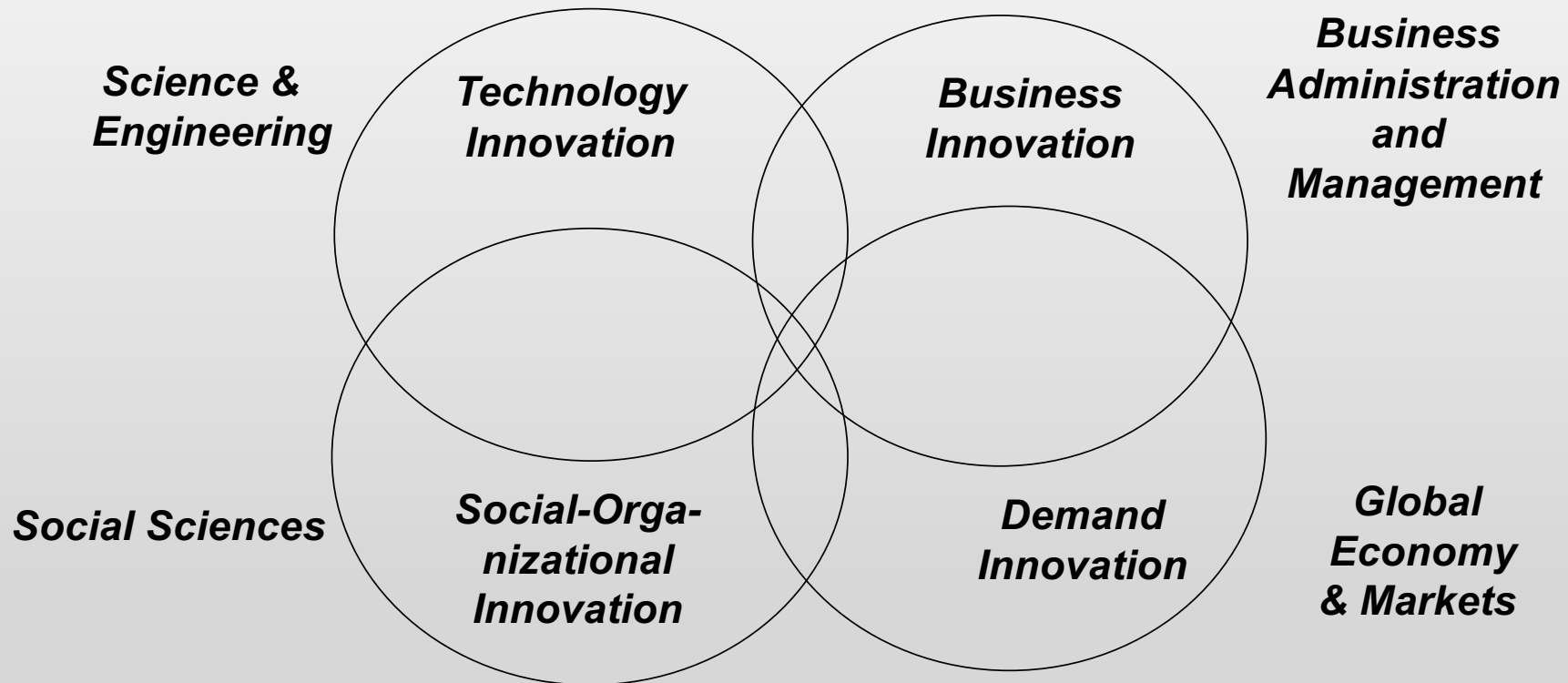
# Why is SSME important?

- The world is becoming networked, dependent on information and information technology
- Science will provide tools and methods to study services and develop solutions to problems that span multiple disciplines
- Graduates may be solution designers, consultants, engineers, scientists, and managers who will grow into becoming entrepreneurs, executives, researchers, and practitioners



# Service Innovation is inherently Multidisciplinary

*Knowledge sources driving service innovations...*



**SSME = Service Sciences, Management, and Engineering**

# What are some everyday services?

- **Transportation**
  - Trains, planes, delivery
- **Hospitality**
  - Hotels, restaurants
- **Infrastructure**
  - Communications, electricity, water
- **Government**
  - Police, fire, mail
- **Financial**
  - Banking, investments
- **Entertainment**
  - Television, movies, concerts
- **Professional Services**
  - Doctors, lawyers, skilled craftspeople, project management
- ...

# Digital Services

- Dominate communication, online shopping, payments, etc.
- More and more services are offered digitally to cut cost and increase efficiency of distribution
- Services marketing research focus more attention to this area with high growth potential for businesses!
- ...but is there *anything special* about digital services compared to traditional services?



# Service Design

# What have in common ...

- Service Design
- Service Science
- Start-up(s)
- Data Science/Analysis



# Case: Suppose you are planning a new Start-up

- On-line Grocery Shopping and Delivery
  - Idea: online intermediation among existing Businesses
    - Similar to [Expedia.com/Bookings.com/Hotels](http://Expedia.com/Bookings.com/Hotels) for hotels
  - Focus: mixing products by different groceries looking for best prices
- You convinced an investor ...
- Try to sketch out a road-map to implement this business idea
  - 10 minutes open discussion
  - Focus on Value Proposition:
    - which one of our customer's problems are we helping to solve
    - which customer needs are we satisfying?
    - Are the customers willing to pay for it? How much?

# Discussion Summary

- To be written after Discussion
- (Possible example of) Discussion Topics
  - Catalogue Scraping vs direct merchant data access
  - Delivery
  - Payment



# Assumption Highlights

- What assumptions your Value Proposition is based on?
- Maybe ... (next topics written before discussion 😊)
  - Cheap prices
  - Customers are not willing to pay for a service ... but they may accept advertisements
  - ...

# The Value of Knowledge

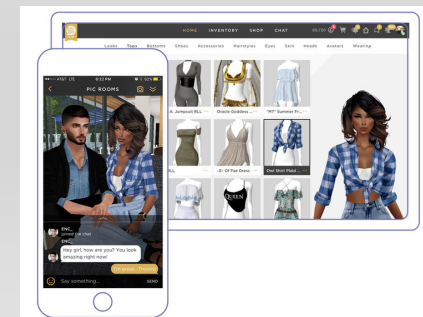
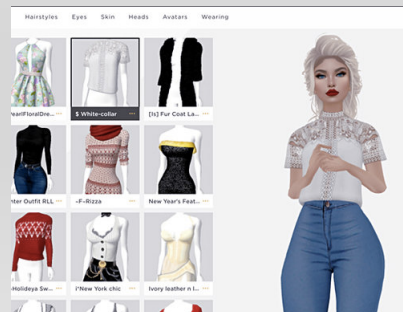
- Suppose you work for 1 year on a start-up implementing this business idea
- Then, you go operative (out of stealth mode)
- You realize something is not working as expected
- At the very end you talk with a business expert
  - Expert: have you checked the grocery on-line prices? Have you compared them with the store prices?
  - You ....
  - Expert: on-line prices are higher, on-line customers do not care (a lot) about prices, they do care about easiness of service
- You've just realized that you wasted 1 year!

# Problem Analysis

- What was wrong?
- Let's try to learn! Please ...
  - ... try to figure out how to discover the issue without prior knowledge
  - ... not an ex-post analysis, suppose you don't already know the end
- The problem was about knowledge acquisition, which is a relevant problem for both service design and start-ups
- Was the problem *only* related to ...
  - Strategy?
  - Management?
  - Design/implementation?
- There were issues in each areas
- ... but to solve them you need a holistic approach ...

# IMVU Case

- IMVU The world's largest avatar-based social network (... this is what they claim on their web site)
- <https://about.imvu.com/>



## IMVU Case (2)

- “... We build a *minimum viable product*”,
  - an **early product** that is **terrible**, full of bugs and crash-your-computer-yes-really stability problems
  - Then we **ship it to customers** way before it's ready
  - And we **charge money** for it

# IMVU Case (3)

- After securing initial customers,
  - we change the product constantly shipping (daily) new versions of our product
  - We really did have customers (true visionary early adopters) and we asked for their feedback.
  - But we did not do what they said. We viewed their input as a source of information
  - In fact, we were much more likely **to run experiments** than to cater our customer whims.

# Differences?

- “... the approach we pioneered at IMVU has become the basis for a new movement of entrepreneurs around the **world**”. Ries, Eric. The Lean Startup. The Crown Publishing Group.
- If you want to learn how to turn Case (1) into a success Case like IMVU ...

# Welcome ...

- ... to this **Service Science & Design course!**
- Course important aspect
  - Focus on uncertain scenarios
    - Mature firms creating (very) new services
    - Start-ups
  - Focus on new services related to data
  - ... we hope you will enjoy!



# Why Service Design Matters ...

- ... to data scientists?
- Introducing data science into existing organizations/processes/businesses is very similar to creating a new services or working on a start-up
  - You have a “new product”
    - to be continuously improved
  - You have to convince customers to “purchase”
    - Business Intelligence success criteria: is XYZ used by final users?
  - You work in a very uncertain scenario
    - What do my customers want?
    - Do the analysis fit their needs?
  - You have competitors ... (e.g., your old school colleagues)
  - You have limited resources

# Entrepreneurship? Why not!

- New technologies and Data Science open thousands of entrepreneurial / service development opportunities
- Bring new ideas to the market is not straightforward
- A brilliant idea, a smart team, adequate funding are not enough
- Service design methodologies are very important

# Service Science & Start-up(s)???

- How do Service Science and Start-up(s) fit together?
  - A start-up is not only creativity or ... magic
  - Start-up success is not a consequence of **good genes** or being in the **right place** at the **right time** ... Startup **success can be engineered** by following the right process, which means it can be learned, which means it can be taught. Source: Ries, Eric. The Lean Startup: How Today's Entrepreneurs Use Continuous Innovation to Create Radically Successful Businesses. The Crown Publishing Group.
- There are a lot of similarities among service and start-up design and management
- We will explore these similarities in the course