

# Stanford | Pre-Collegiate Studies

## Tips for Creating your SI Course Description

Descriptions should be one good paragraph that catches the attention of the student, explains clearly and concisely what you will cover in the course, provides example assignments, mentions a group project or final presentation, states a learning outcome, and describes how the course will benefit the student's learning journey.

1. Start your description off with a hook, e.g., from Environmental Solutions: "Too often we hear about environmental problems without solutions."
2. Tell us why the class is important and useful
  - a. This helps parents and legal guardians understand the relevance for their student's learning journey
3. Provide a description of what students will be doing in class
4. Let students know how the class will culminate
  - a. For example, final days in class usually are structured by presentations of final projects. Other examples of final days are mock trials, creative writing readings, or shark tank presentations. Most classes do a small group project the second week. This is a great way to get students to interact and students are excited to do that
5. Remind the student how the class will benefit the student's learning journey, e.g., This course is an introduction to college level study; this course is for students considering majoring in XXX in college; this course introduces students to potential career paths in the field of engineering
6. Detail the asynchronous/homework portion of the class under the course description
  - a. Each day students should have asynchronous work to prepare for the next day's class. No more than 3 hours of work should be required
7. List any prerequisites that the student needs to be successful in the course. These should be clear and easily interpreted such as: math through precalculus.

### Example Course Descriptions:

[Innovation and Entrepreneurship](#)

[Frontiers in Physics](#)

[Art, Design and Technology](#)